



DIY PROJECT:

HOW TO LAY BRICKS & BLOCKS

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. LAY THE FOOTING:

Identify where you want the footing and dig a trench 400mm deep x 300mm wide x length of proposed stone wall. Box up the trench with boards constructed from timber, which is 25mm thick, and as wide and deep as the trench. Hold the timber frame in place with 50mm square stakes that are level with the timber frame when knocked in. Paint Cemix® CFRA on the timber - as a form release agent so that concrete does not stick to the timber boxing.

Calculate how much concrete you will require (one 40kg bag of Cemix® Multicrete will produce the equivalent of 500mm x 500mm x 76.8mm of concrete) use the Quantity Calculator on this website to calculate other quantities. Empty contents of Cemix® Multicrete into a wheelbarrow, mechanical mixer or onto a smooth non-porous surface. Add water gradually mixing thoroughly until a smooth mix is achieved. Under ideal conditions one 40kg bag of Cemix® Multicrete would require 4 litres of water. Fill the timber frame with concrete all the time working the concrete so that it is compact and air voids are removed. Level the top and allow to cure for three days.

2. MIX THE MORTAR:

Calculate how much mortar you will require (one 20kg bag of Cemix® Masonry Mortar Mix is enough to lay 30-35 standard bricks, or 20-25 concrete blocks). Empty contents of Cemix®

Masonry Mortar Mix into a wheelbarrow, mechanical mixer, or onto a smooth non-porous surface. Add water gradually, mixing thoroughly until a smooth mix is achieved. Under ideal conditions a 20kg bag of Cemix® Masonry Mortar Mix would require 3 litres of water.

3. LAY BRICKS & BLOCKS:

Dampen clay bricks before laying them, however concrete blocks should be laid dry. Trowel a layer of mortar 15-20mm thick between the concrete foundation and the first row of bricks. Leave small gaps in the mortar of the first layer of bricks for drainage.

Once placed tap the bricks or blocks firmly into position. Trowel mortar vertically on the next brick or block 10-15mm thick and position it against the first. Continuously check with a spirit level and your string level as you progress. Adjust the string level to the right height as more rows of bricks are added. Pointing bricks is easier after the mortar has initially set.

4. FINISH BRICKS & BLOCKS:

Use the trowel to remove any excess mortar between rows. Later use a stiff brush to remove any smears from the bricks or blocks.

Once the mortar starts hardening, a round bar or tubing, can be pressed into the mortar to ensure it has a professional and even finish. After the wall is cured, spray apply Cemix® Brick & Block sealer.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:



SPADE



STAKES



HOSE



WATER



WHEEL BARROW



MECHANICAL MIXER



SPIRIT LEVEL