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Trade & DIY  
Welcome

# Plant & Tool Hire

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## How to Mix Concrete in a Concrete Mixer

### Instructions on how to mix concrete in a concrete mixer.

1. Make sure you have all your materials in the correct quantities on site.
2. Make sure your mixer is ready to go, fully fuelled or electric supply readily available.
3. Keep your bags of cement away from moisture and water by covering the bags with plastic.
4. Load your concrete mixer by firstly wetting the inside of the drum. This makes it easier to clean the machine after use.
5. Always add water using a bucket so you know how much water has been added to the mixture.
6. A simple general purpose mix that can be used is one part cement to four parts ballast/combined aggregate. Masonry mix, of course, has no coarse aggregate and uses a better quality of fine sand in its mixture. Start by adding the ballast, then a bit of water, then some cement, and repeat this process until the complete volume has been added.
7. Never overload the drum!
8. Make small additions of water to your first few batches of concrete until you learn what consistency you will achieve with the different amounts of water. The mixture should be thick as this will be workable when wet and strong when dry. Don't add too much water!
9. Mix only enough concrete! You should be able to use this in a short period of time. Once the cement starts setting you will be limited in the amount of time you have to work with the concrete.
10. Clean equipment directly after use, and don't leave this for later as it will become more difficult the longer you wait.

