

# GFRC Concrete Worktop Mix Instructions



## HOW TO CREATE A SELF-COMPACTING MIX

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### Introduction

These instructions will show you how to mix the Concrete Lab GFRC Worktop Mix so that it flows into your mould producing a virtually blemish free concrete surface. A free-flowing concrete mix is often called a self-compacting mix.

It's advised that these instructions are read in conjunction with our "Basic Concrete Moulding & Casting" Instructions which can be found in the [Help Section](#) of our website.

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### Equipment Required

1. Forced Action Mixer or Paddle Mixer
  2. Suitably sized mixing vessel (40-50Litre Builders Tub recommended)
  3. PPE Listed below
  4. Bucket trowel or similar
  5. Clean bucket to weigh out water
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### Personal Protective Equipment

The following Personal Protective Equipment is advised during the mixing and use of the Premix Kit;

- a. Gloves or Nitrile Gauntlets
  - b. Eye Protection (goggles or glasses)
  - c. Disposable Overalls
  - d. FFP3 Dust Mask
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### What Is In The Box?

You will receive the following as part of each kit;

- a. 1 bag of Base Mix
  - b. 1 pouch of Superplasticizer
  - c. 1 pouch of Glass Fibres
  - d. 1 pouch of Powdered Dye (except for Off-White)
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### Mixing Instructions

1. Empty the contents of the base mix into your mixer/mixing vessel. **DO NOT ADD THE FIBRES**
2. Weigh out 3.12Kg or 3.12 litres of water

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3. Mix the dry powered ingredients without adding the water. DO THIS ON A SLOW SETTING to reduce dust dispersion. Mix for 2 minutes.
4. Add approximately 2.5 litres (approx 4/5ths) of the water
5. Mix for 10 minutes
6. After 10 minutes of mixing check the consistency of the mix. Signs that the mix is ready are as follows;
  - A. Air is bubbling up through the mix and bubbles are popping at the surface
  - B. When a trowel is run through the mix, the mix self-levels and closes up within seconds
7. Add more water in small quantities as necessary until the desire consistency is reached.
8. Once mixing is complete, leave the concrete to rest for 10 minutes after which it will be ready to pour into the mould.

## FACECOAT

The facecoat is called this because it is the surface of the concrete that you see once the concrete is demoulded. The facecoat contains no fibres because they would show up in the finished and polished surface. The facecoat is approximately 3mm in thickness.

9. Pour the FACECOAT into the mould. Refer to the **Basic Concrete Moulding & Casting Instructions PDF** for more information (available to download on our website).

## BACKCOAT

The backcoat, named so because it sits behind the facecoat is the fibre-reinforced layer that give the concrete its strength, flexibility and ability to be very thin. The backcoat can be as thin as 15mm with an overall thickness of the facecoat and backcoat being 18mm combined.

10. Add the glass fibres to the remaining mix (or subsequent full mixes) and mix until the fibres are blended through the mix and are entirely covered in concrete. This should take no more than 1 to 2 minutes as a maximum. DO NOT OVER MIX because the fibres will begin to degrade and cause the mix to go "fluffy".
11. Provided the facecoat has been in the mould for a few minutes, the BACKCOAT can now be poured into the mould.