



Instructions

SHELL PLANTER / CORTONA SAUCER



General Preparations

Items Needed:

- *History Stones half Shell mold(s)
- *60 lb bag concrete mix (will create one planter using the 12" half ball to create the cavity)
- *mixing tub or wheelbarrow
- *mixing tool, i.e. small shovel or garden hoe
- *lubricant) or a mold release

- Prepare the molds using a lubricant or a mold release. This will help in removing the casting from the mold later and may extend the life of the mold itself. We recommend the use of any concrete release agent, cooking spray or motor oil (use sparingly or you will see more surface bubbles).
- Mix the concrete according to the instructions from the concrete manufacturer, mixing a small amount of water at a time until you achieve a consistency that is well mixed, and is thick, not runny; similar to the consistency of crunchy peanut butter.

Casting The Bowl

- Fill the mold in quarters, bouncing and taping in between to spread the concrete inside the mold and to drive out all the air bubbles. Leave room 2" from the top to compensate for the displacement of the concrete with the insert.
- We recommend using the 12" half round to create the inside cavity, or any 12" ball ext. Push down the 12" mold and fill with sand or any other material to keep it down. You can remove the inside mold after 2 hours of casting or wait to remove it after is fully cured. It will help if you twist the inside mold after one hour from casting this will make it easier to remove later.
- You can use a pencil or a nail to create a hole in the center of the bowl while the concrete still wet.
- Place the molds in a dry place out of direct sun for at least 24 hours or longer if the conditions are humid.
- Once concrete is set, remove the castings by turning the molds upside down over 2 pieces of wood, pull and lift on the end of the mold and the casting will slip out. If you have any difficulty removing your casting, place the mold with the plastic facing the sun for one hour. The sun will warm up the plastic and it will be easier to remove your items, (or use a blow dryer to warm the plastic a bit).
- The concrete will continue to set up for 5 more days so be gentle with handling until it is fully cured.
- Clean the mold immediately after use and store the molds out of the sun.

