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# Plastic Cube Moulds

Plastic cube moulds are a one piece designed Concrete Cube Mould for the forming of concrete cubes for testing purposes.

The moulds are manufactured from rubber based nylon material to form a tough robust one piece mould which is light and easy to handle, will not break if dropped by accident, saves a huge amount of time as no stripping and re-assembling is necessary, no moving parts, produces a flat surface to crush on and will last indefinitely if used properly as per manufacturer's instructions.

Transport costs are not a major factor when sending moulds to remote sites as they are considerably lighter than cast iron moulds, they can be posted or transported via air (150mm mould weighs approx. 3kg & 100mm mould weighs approx. 1.2kg).the moulds are ideal when used on a vibrating table as perfect cues can be produced that conform t the relevant Local and International standards for tolerances.

Plastic cube moulds do not rust and are excellent for coastal applications where rust plays a major role in damaging the inside faces of cast iron moulds, thus having a shortened life span. As the mould is lubricated prior to pouring concrete in the cubes are very easy to remove.

In short, these moulds are a technological breakthrough in the Concrete Industry and the response has been overwhelming wherever offered and sold.

## Instructions for use:

i. Ensure that there are no foreign objects inside the mould, wipe if dusty
ii. Place a round sticky backed label or piece of masking tape over the centre hole on the inside of the base to prevent water escaping. A vinyl, 10mm price DOT is ideal as it is easily removed. Preferably, please use plastic plugs if available.
iii. Lubricate the inside of the mould with Mould Release Oil, Shutter Oil, very thin Lubricating Oil 20SAE (NOT Hydraulic Oil) or a generous amount of Silicone Spray. Petroleum Jelly (Vaseline) works best. It is cheap and always available. A rag or small sponge soaked with Vaseline can be used to wipe the inside surfaces of the moulds, especially the corners (more generously) and lightly on the walls.
iv. Place the concrete into the mould as specified in layers using either a tamping rod or a vibrating table. If a tamping rod is used be careful not to hit the top rim of the mould as doing this continuously will eventually damage the mould. The use of a vibrating table will lengthen the life of the mould as there is no outside force on the mould.
v. Leave to stand overnight covered with a Hessian Bag.
vi. To remove the cubes hold the mould in the centre by the lip and invert the mould so that the top of the cube mould is lying on the table. Tap gently on the base of the mould and lift upwards. If lubricated prior to moulding, the cube should slide out easily, if not, the nozzle from an ordinary air compressor or air foot pump can be inserted in the hole and the cube should be released. If an air foot pump or compressor is not available, water pressure can be used. Connect a hose to tap and insert nozzle into mould hole, open tap and allow water pressure to build. This is rather messy but will work in an emergency or when no other method of removal is available.

## Cleaning

The mould can be immersed in warm water. A nylon washing brush with a long handle is ideal to clean inside the mould. DON NOT use any solvents, scrapers or sharp metal objects. Invert the mould, allowing water to drain, dry with a soft cloth, seal the hole lubricate. The mould is now ready for use. See steps i – vi

## Storage

Store upright, on the base of mould, never on its side and keep out of direct sunlight. Keep away from naked flames e.g. Ring Burner etc.

## Lubricating (CAUTION)

Always lubricate inside of mould before use or cubes will stick. A thin layer of mould release oil, shutter oil, silicone spray or petroleum jelly is required. Vaseline works best. Ensure that the corners are well lubricated.

## Foot pump

An ordinary bicycle pump with an open rounded nozzle (not valve type) can be used. A foot pump with a duel or single cylinder with pressure gauges can be used. A minimum amount of pressure is required to release the mould if properly lubricated.

A foot pump is recommended but for larger operations an air compressor fitted with a trigger pull gun type air release nozzle which can fit snugly into the hole in the bottom of the mould is ideal.