

Technical information

Quality Assured Mortar
PRODUCT DATA SHEET

Blue Circle **QUALITY ASSURED MORTAR**

Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar is a general purpose, premixed, CE marked, quality-assured mortar comprising cement, specially-graded sand, lime and admixtures.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar provides a weatherresistant and durable cement:lime:sand mix mortar, and is suitable for most brick and block applications. Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar is highly workable and cohesive, with a long board life. Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar is prebagged ready for use and only requires the addition of clean water. Selected sands, lime, cement and admixtures have been blended together to produce the product.

PACKAGING

Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar is available in waterproof and tear-resistant 20kg plastic packaging.

APPLICATION

Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar can be used in very exposed conditions or for most general-purpose brickwork. It should not be used if sulfate conditions are present.

MIXING

Preferably mix by machine until required workability and consistency is achieved. This can be normally obtained by the addition of 4 litres of water per 20 kg bag and a machine mixing time of approximately 3 to 5 minutes.

The use of additional cement, sand, lime or admixtures is not recommended. Only mix enough material for a maximum of 2 hours usage and do not retemper after setting.

COLD WEATHER WORK

Mortar should not be mixed below 3°C while the temperature is falling, or below 1°C while rising. Do not lay mortar on frozen surfaces and protect mortar from potential rain and frost damage.

HOT WEATHER WORK

Care should be taken to reduce water loss by evaporation during hot weather and drying winds. This may require the masonry units to be damped prior to application. Mortar joints should be protected from premature drying especially prior to setting and bonding with the masonry units.

LIME BLOOM

Lime bloom is a natural, temporary phenomenon that does not affect the strength or durability of the mortar. It can be minimised by not applying the mortar in cold, damp weather or onto saturated bricks or blocks. Mortar is most susceptible to lime bloom in the early stages of setting and as such requires to be protected from adverse weather and any other sources of water.

CLEANING

Spillage and staining should be removed immediately with clean water. Clean all equipment after use. Waste material should not be flushed down drains.

RELEVANT STANDARDS AND INFORMATION SOURCES

Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar is manufactured in accordance with BS EN ISO 9001: Quality management systems. All stages of the project should comply with the relevant sections of BS 5628 Part 3: *Code of practice for use of masonry. Materials and components, design and workmanship.* Workmanship should comply with the relevant sections of BS 8000 Part 3: *Workmanship on building sites. Code of practice for masonry.*

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AVAILABILITY

Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar is available in 20 kg plastic bags throughout the United Kingdom at Tarmac Cement stockists.

YIELD

Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar will yield approximately 0.0135m³ per 20kg bag.

As a guide 1m³ (75 x 20kg bag) of Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar will allow the following quantities to be placed

Brickwork

1800-2000 bricks, 10mm joint, frog up, 102.5mm wall thickness

1400-1600 bricks, 10mm joint, frog up, 215.0 mm wall thickness

Blockwork Single leaf wall

2000 blocks, 10mm joint, 450mm x 225mm x 75mm

1500 blocks, 10mm joint, 450mm x 225mm x 100mm

1000 blocks, 10mm joint, 450mm x 225mm x 150mm

STORAGE AND SHELF LIFE

Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar is a cement-based material, and should be handled and stored with care. This product may be stored in either indoor or outdoor conditions. Information on the maximum storage period can be found on the bag.

- Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar may only be used for bedding or re-pointing bricks and blocks
- Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar may not be used for general concreting, screeds, grout or render
- It is essential that Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar is prevented from drying out too rapidly. Generally, adequate curing is achieved by protecting the material from adverse weather conditions until fully hardened, and thereafter allowing to dry slowly over several days
- The final finish quality of this material will depend upon the operative having the required skills and familiarity with the material and its application methods
- Normal site practice to the relevant British and European Standards should always apply. Tarmac Cement cannot be held responsible where workmanship has not been carried out in accordance with good practice
- Manual handling should comply with The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Contact between Blue Circle Quality Assured Mortar and body fluids may cause irritation, dermatitis or burns. For further information, including control of soluble hexavalent chromium, refer to the appropriate Tarmac Cement Health and Safety Information Sheets.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Further information and advice on this product and the full range of Tarmac Cement products can be obtained through the contact listed below.

For more details contact:
customerservice@tarmac.com

The information given in this technical data sheet is based on our current knowledge and is intended to provide general notes on our products and their uses. Tarmac endeavour to ensure that the information given is accurate, but accept no liability for its use or its suitability for particular application because of the product being used by the third party without our supervision. Any existing intellectual property right must be observed.