

D.I.Y. Guide

When tackling any DIY project planning is paramount. Using readymixed concrete need not be difficult if a few simple guidelines are followed

- Measurements are vitally important so measure carefully. You can use the volume calculator on our website or call the office, but remember calculations are only as good as the measurements so do double check.
- Make sure you have all the equipment you need for laying the concrete to hand. If you need a method of transporting it from the truck mixer to the job site because of difficult access, ensure this is available before the truck arrives.
- The easiest method of placing wet concrete is to tip it directly into the trench or slab, if this is not possible there are various methods commonly used on smaller sites. A temporary chute could be constructed if there is sufficient fall, concretes can be pumped (the mix may need to be adjusted so be sure to tell us if you intend to use this method). We can provide a quote for a pump, however on most small projects this would not be cost effective. Most plant hire centres stock a range of mini dumpers, which are ideal for small sites.
- A full 6m³ load of concrete can be discharged from a mixer in around 6 minutes but drivers will expect to take up to 40 min to unload this amount, smaller loads delivered on our Minimixers should be unloaded in under 30 minutes.
- The wheelbarrow is still widely used to transport concrete into difficult areas. 1m³ of concrete is equal to around 20-25 barrow loads and weighs approximately 2.2 tonnes.
- One of the main things to remember when laying slabs of concrete is the concrete is supported by the ground so a good sound base is important to give a lasting slab, ensure you use a good clean well compacted stone to form the base under your slab
- Protect the concrete from extreme weather conditions and cure concrete where possible.