

the sure way to do bricklaying & plastering



PPC
CEMENT

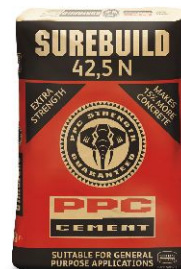


SUREBUILD



What materials do I need?

1. **PPC Surebuild Cement 42,5 N**
It is ideal for mortar and plaster and complies with SANS 50197-1. It meets the NHBRC requirements. **PPC Surebuild Cement 42,5 N** with extra strength makes 15 % more concrete than regular 32,5 general purpose cements.*



2. **Plaster Sand**
Ask your supplier for a clean plaster sand. The sand should be free of twigs roots or other foreign matter.
3. **Building Sand (for bricklaying)**
Remove any twigs, roots or foreign matter.
4. **Clean water**
If you can drink it, it is suitable for building.

To determine how much material to order, refer to PPC "The sure Way to Estimate Quantities" leaflet.

How do I mix Mortar & Plaster?

1. Remove any lumps, stones or foreign objects from the sand.
2. Measure out the sand and place it in a long thin heap on a flat, clean, hard surface (or mix in a wheelbarrow if making a small batch).



*For more details on comparative mixes, see the Affordable Housing brochure.

3. Pour out **PPC Surebuild Cement 42,5 N** on top of the sand.



4. Mix **PPC Surebuild Cement 42,5 N** and sand together until uniform in colour.
5. Create a hollow in the centre and slowly add clean water while mixing. The mix is correct when it is like a thick paste, able to stand by itself without collapsing, yet wet enough to be spread easily with a trowel, like margarine.



IMPORTANT: Mix only as much mortar or plaster as you can use in 2 hours. Should your mix stiffen slightly in this period, some water may be added to regain workability. After 2 hours the unused mortar or plaster should be discarded.

How do I lay bricks?

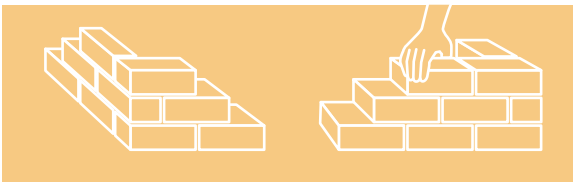
1. Bricks must be laid on a concrete slab or foundation (See

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the **PPC Cement** "The Sure Way to Make Concrete" Leaflet).

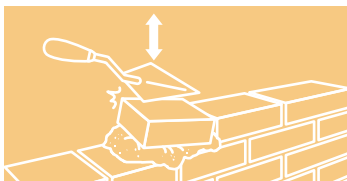
2. Start by building the corners. To lay the first course of bricks, use your trowel to spread mortar onto the concrete surface. Use a fishing line stretched tight between the corners to lay the first row of bricks. The back top edge of every brick laid must be exactly in line with the fishing line.



3. Place enough mortar to lay 2-3 bricks at a time.

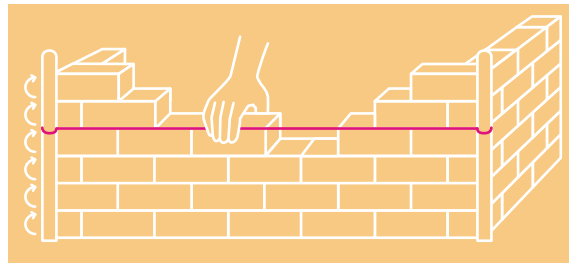


4. Place a brick onto the fresh mortar and tap it into place until the top edge of the brick lines up exactly with the fishing line guide.



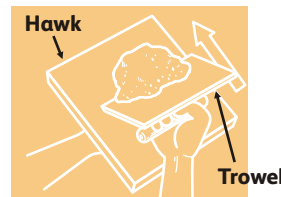
5. 'Butter' each new brick by slapping mortar onto the end of the brick before placing it hard up against the preceding brick.
6. Scrape away any excess mortar that has been squeezed out from between the bricks as you go before it dries and hardens. Ensure that you remove the mortar before it hardens.

7. Use a spirit level to check that the row is level and to ensure that the corners are vertical (i.e. straight up and not leaning in or out).
8. Once the corners are built, simply move the fishing line up, row by row, and fill in the spaces between the corners. Because your bottom row is level and your corners are vertical, your whole wall will be level and vertical.

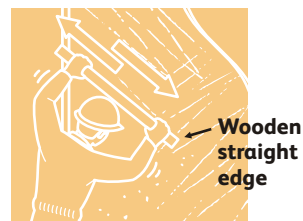


How do I plaster?

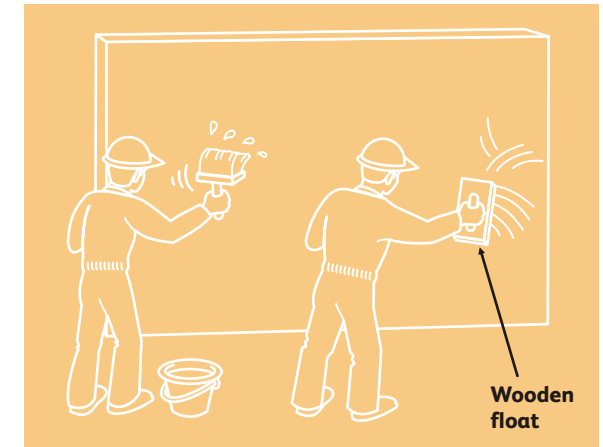
1. Try to avoid working in the direct sun or drying winds, as plaster needs to retain its moisture as long as possible.
2. Load your hawk with plaster mix and scoop it onto the steel trowel. Apply to the wall with pressure.
3. Plaster small areas at a time. A whole wall should be completed in one operation.



4. Once the plaster starts to stiffen, level the surface by pulling a straight edge over the plaster with a sawing motion.



5. Wet the levelled plaster with water (flicked off a brush), then use a float to smooth the surface.



6. Cover the plaster area with plastic or use a fine spray of water to keep it damp for as long as possible. (i.e. up to 7 days)

Making bricks and blocks

See the **PPC Cement** 'The sureway to make bricks and blocks' leaflet instore or downloadable at www.ppc.co.za



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Visit our website at: <http://www.ppc.co.za>

For more advice on cement please ask your PPC Cement stockist or call the PPC toll-free help line 0800 023 470 (SA only).

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