

SET A POST



Stop putting off all those little jobs around the house, because you thought you had to be an expert to do them. Honestly with the products available these days, everyone's an expert! Trust me, a simple job like putting in a mail box post, cloths hoist or fence post is made even easier when you use the right products. Concrete that sets solid in 15 minutes... the jobs done in no time flat. Best of all you've saved a buck and you've done it yourself! With each little job you take on you will improve your skills in no time, your confidence will grow and you will be ready to take on some larger projects. **HAPPY BUILDING!**



REMEMBER: BUILDERITE THE FIRST TIME.

STEP 1:

Once you've decided on where your post is going to be erected, You can start digging the hole. See diagram 1.

Hint: If you've got lots of holes to dig, why not hire a post hole digger they are available in motorised or manual models. Takes the back work out of the job. More time for the footy. Don't make your hole too wide or you'll end up using more concrete than needed to firmly secure your post.

Important: Do make certain your hole is deep enough to secure your post. As a guide only, 20% - 25% of the total post height should be concreted into the ground.

STEP 2:

Now, (before you do anything else), is the time to treat and protect the end of the post that you are about to concrete into the ground. You can do this in a number of ways, two of which are as follows; Mix up a solution of creosote and old sump or engine oil or make up a paste like consistency of Hydrated Lime and water. Brush the end of your post with a very liberal coating of either configuration. This will help protect it from wet rot and guard against possible termite attack. See diagram 2.

Hint: When choosing your post consider all options, ie: galvanized iron, treated rot resistant timbers or aluminium.

STEP 3:

Next, place a brick in the hole you've dug or a shovel full of half inch stone screenings, this will ensure good drainage around post area at all times.

Now position the treated end of your post into the prepared hole. See diagram 3.

STEP 4:

Important: Make sure your post is vertical. You will require your spirit level for this.

Hint: It is worth investing in a good quality spirit level, Should last you a life time.

With the use of some timber remnants secure to post and ground with timber pegs. Re-check post for vertical alignment. See diagram 4.

STEP 5:

Now, using your garden hose, thoroughly soak the hole so that none of the water in the concrete mix you're about to put in will be absorbed by any prevailing dry soil. Following the user and safety directions on the back of the bag, pour in your Australian Builders Quick Set Concrete.

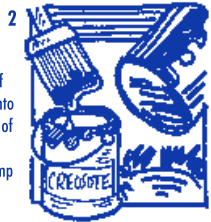
This stuff sets rock hard in 15 minutes, just perfect for this job. See diagrams 5 & 6.

Hint: For a clean neat finish, Fill to just below the surface, 50mm approximately. No need to finish the concrete surface, simply back fill with dirt. Your done, go put your feet up, relax and plan your next project!



This has got to be the easiest build-it-yourself project you can do... trust Australian Builders... Builderite!

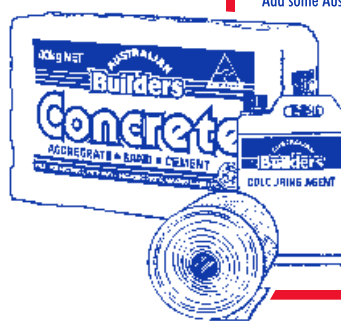
Tip: As an alternative you can erect your posts using metal stirrups. Using this method the stirrups (not the posts) are concreted into specially constructed holes. The stirrups themselves sit up above ground level while the posts are bolted to them. If you choose to use this method you will need to use Australian Builders General Purpose Concrete to secure them. Use in accordance to user and safety directions displayed on packaging.



CONCRETE EDGES



Give your garden that winning edge. Keep your garden neat and tidy stop the intrusion of weeds and retain garden soil and mulch. If you've ever wanted to try your hand at concreting this is the perfect project to start with. Concrete really is a versatile building product. Formal or In formal results are easily achieved with a little planning and a keen able body. Follow some simple step by step guidelines and your on your way to creating eye catching, practical garden features. Guaranteed to impress your friends and add value to your home. But best of all you've Built-it-yourself! **HAPPY BUILDING!**



STEP 1:

Begin by deciding what kind of garden feature you are trying to achieve. (formal/informal). See diagram 1.

Draw up a plan, marking out the area you want to create or to separate from another area.

Hint: Make it look interesting, create some curves to soften hard straight lines.

STEP 2:

Once you've decided the layout you wish to achieve. Mark it out in the garden. **Hint:** Use a string line or garden hose as a guide line. See diagram 2.

Use your spade to carefully cut a guide line around the desired edge guide line.

You don't want to finish up with a shortened hose pipe. Ideally you should plan for your edging to be around 15cm wide.

Hint: Use the width of the blade on your spade to determine the width of edging. It will save a lot of time. See diagram 3.

It should allow for the extra width required to lay your timber form work.

STEP 3:

Dig your trenches to a depth of 100mm. Ensure they are level and the bottom of trench is even and well compacted.

Use your spirit level for this stage. See diagrams 4 & 5.

STEP 4:

Now begin to box in the sides of the trenches using a timber that doesn't warp when wet. Ask your hardware supplier for a suitable timber and pre-made timber securing pegs.

Hint: If you're making curved concrete edging you will require bendable framing timber. Make sure the tops of these boards are level with and are at your desired finished height of 100mm. See diagrams 5 & 6.

STEP 5:

Frame your work in stages of approximately 2 metres. See diagram 5. Place end caps in trench to stop concrete from spilling out during filling.

Hint: Before commencing to pour concrete for next 2 metre section place some Australian Builders Joint expansion material between the areas. See diagram 7.

This enables the concrete to expand and contract without cracking.

STEP 6:

Mix your Australian Builders Concrete according to user and safety directions on packaging. Add some Australian Builders Colouring Agent or Oxide to spice things up... it's easy!

STEP 7:

Shovel the fresh concrete mix into the boxed section, compacting it down with your spade as you go along. Slightly overfilling it. Using a sturdy, straight level timber edge, wider than the frame, level off the entire surface using a sawing action. Working the cement towards you. See diagram 8.

STEP 8:

Using a wet timber float trowel in a circular motion, apply a smooth surface to the top of the edging or for a textured appearance use a stiff brush. See diagram 8 & 9. **Hint:** Want something a bit more personalised? Place smooth river pebbles into concrete surface when still wet. Let your imagination run wild... the hard work is all behind you.

