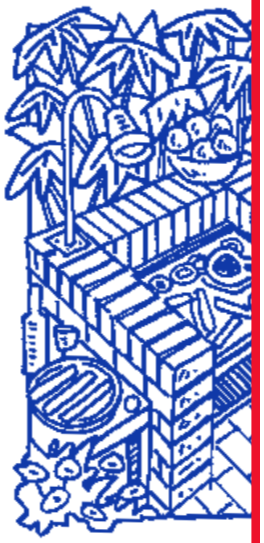
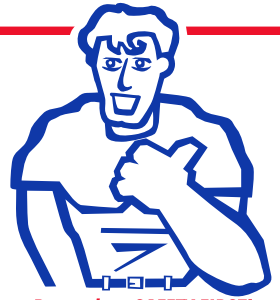
BUILDERITE TIP-BITS



You don't have to be an expert to take on some of those build-it-yourself projects around your home and garden. All it takes is the confidence to give it a go and the ability to follow some simple instructions.
When in doubt ask your local hardware department specialist for some expert advise. Don't wait until you've painted yourself into a corner. At the first signs of losing the plot, seek guidance to put you back on the right path.
Remember: The end result will always be worth the effort.



Remember: SAFETY FIRST!

TIP 1:
Plan the project well in advance. Do your research.
Ask loads of questions to friends, family, specialists who have taken on similar projects and know what it takes to *builderite the first time.*
Learn from their accumulated knowledge. Don't rush, take your time.
If you don't have the time, don't start the job. Enjoy the experience and definitely don't work when you are tired. That's when mistakes or accidents can ruin everything. The right quality tools and products will make your job a lot easier. Quality tools will last a long time.
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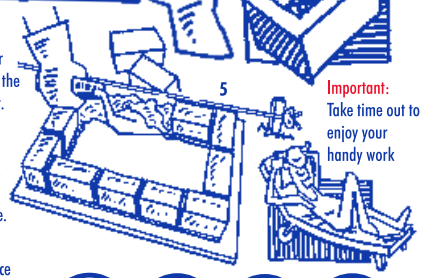
TIP 2:
When digging foundations or trenches always chop out all plant or tree roots. This will prevent the slab from cracking due to root surge. See diagram 1.

TIP 3:
When mixing small batches of concrete or mortar.
Minimize the mess and dean up time by using your wheel barrow. Form a neat heap, make a crater at the top, and pour in a little water. Now push in the walls with your builder's shovel, making sure no water escapes. Don't use too much water, as a sloppy mix results in weak concrete. See diagram 2.

Hint: To check if your mortar is the right consistency, put some mortar on your trowel and turn it upside down. The mortar should stick to it. See diagram 3.
Sloppy mortar will not hold the brick in position.
Too firm, and the brick won't bed down.
The depression in the brick is called a 'frog'.
Lay bricks with the frog face up until the final course then frog side down.
You don't want water sitting in the frog hollow.
See diagram 4.

TIP 4:
When laying a course of bricks, lay enough mortar down for 2-3 bricks at a time. "Butter" one end of the first brick with enough mortar to fill a 10mm joint. Lay it down in position. Tap the brick into place with trowel handle and on and on it goes. Getting easier & easier as you go! See diagram 5.
Make it a habit to use your spirit level constantly, vertically and horizontally. Buy a good quality one.



Important:
Take time out to enjoy your handy work

TIP 5:
Always wear gloves, some protective clothing, a face mask and goggles whenever you are working with cement or bricks. Follow user & safety directions on all product packaging. HAPPY BUILDING! BUILDERITE!

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Remember: SAFETY FIRST!

Always follow safety guide and user information displayed on all Australian Builders Products.
Enjoy the satisfaction of building-it-yourself!
Saving heaps in the process. HAPPY BUILDING!