

1

Calculate Cement, Sand, and Aggregate for M20 Grade of Concrete?



Step 1: Choose the Mix Ratio of Concrete

Let take the mix proportion in M20 grade concrete as M20 (1:1.5:3).

It means that every 1 part of cement needs 1.5 parts of sand and 3 parts of aggregate.



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2

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Step 2: Calculate the Total Dry Volume of Concrete

Assume you need to mix 1 m^3 of concrete. Increase the concrete volume to take the approx. 52 % of voids and wastage.

$$\text{Total Volume} = 1 + 0.52 = 1.52 \text{ m}^3$$

Note: Additional volume includes the volume of voids between the aggregate and the loss of volume during mixing



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3

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Step 3: Cement Calculation

Cement quantity = $1/5.5 \times 1.52 = 0.276 \text{ m}^3$

Bags of cement = $0.276 \times 1440 \div 50 = 7.94$ bags

Since 1 m^3 of cement = 1440 kg and
1 bag of cement = 50 kg, to change to bags, multiply by
1440 and divide by 50.

Bags of cement = $0.276 \times 1440 \div 50 = 7.94$ bags



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4

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Step 4: Calculate Sand Quantity

$$\text{Quantity of Sand} = (1.5 / 5.5) \times 1.52 = 0.414 \text{ m}^3$$

Convert this volume to weight, because 1 m³ of sand = 1600 kg.

$$\text{Sand in kg} = 0.414 \times 1600 = 662.4 \text{ kg}$$

Note: Always convert the volume to weight for ease during mixing.



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Step 5: Calculate the Aggregate Quantity

$$\text{Aggregate quantity} = (3/5.5) \times 1.52 = 0.828 \text{ m}^3$$

Now, convert this volume to weight since 1 m³ of aggregate = 1450 kg.

$$\text{Aggregate in kg} = 0.828 \times 1450 = 1201 \text{ kg}$$



6

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Step 6: Water-Cement Ratio

The water-cement ratio for M20 grade concrete is generally 0.5. That is to say, per 1 kg of cement, it requires 0.5 kg of water.

Water required = $0.5 \times \text{weight of cement in kg}$

Water in liters = $0.5 \times 7.94 \times 50 = 198.5$ liters

Note: Water content may vary slightly depending on site conditions and workability requirements.



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