

NeXtCrete COUNTERTOP MIX

DESCRIPTION

APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix is a dual component precast concrete bag mix that greatly reduces the materials and labor required to construct traditional precast concrete. No reinforcement steel is required, thinner precast pieces are routine, and quicker production times are accomplished. A stronger, denser and more flexible cementitious composite is created by combining cutting-edge technology with modern fiber advancements. With a wide range of coloring and texture selections along with the addition of optional aggregate loading (up to 10 lbs per bag) design considerations are nearly limitless. APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix produces concrete countertops, fireplace mantles and facades, shower surrounds, wall panels, furniture and many other architectural elements. APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix is the perfect medium for residential, commercial, and industrial applications.

TEMP/DRY/CURE

Fabrication of NeXtCrete Countertop mix should be inside a shop. Casting should take place when shop temperature and all materials are maintained between 50°F (10°C) and 90°F (32°C) throughout all fabrication and curing. Product will dry and cure slower at cool temperatures and conversely, faster at warm temperatures. Full cure is reached at approximately 30 days, like concrete. Although rare, at high altitudes and dry climates, some pieces may require covering with plastic to slow the cure and avoid curling.

MIXING

Single bag batches

1. Utilize a handheld concrete mixer with a helical (spiral) mixer blade, such as an Eibenstock model #EHR 20R or similar.
2. Thoroughly mix NeXtCrete Countertop Mix.
3. Add 1 gal (3.8 L) APC NeXtCrete Countertop Modifier to a clean 5 gal (18.9 L) pail or similar mixing vessel
4. Add APC NeXtCrete Countertop Color (color pack) to (if desired) and mix.
5. While mixing add approximately 3/4 of the NeXtCrete Countertop Mix .
6. Continue mixing until a loose, flowable consistency is achieved.
7. Scrape sides of pail with margin trowel to prevent dry fiber pockets from forming.
8. Add remaining NeXtCrete Countertop Mix and continue to mix for 2 – 3 minutes.
9. Up to an additional 16 oz. (0.5 L) water may be added for a more fluid mix.
10. With multiple single bag mixes, where color match is of concern, box multiple pails.

Packaging

50 lb (22.7 kg) bag

MIXING RATIO

1 gal (3.8 L) NeXtCrete Countertop Modifier to 1 – 50 lb (22.7 kg) bag of APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix
+ up to 16 oz. (0.5 L) water

COVERAGE

1 - 50 lb (22.7 kg) bag of NeXtCrete Countertop Mix =
approx. 9.8 ft² @ 1/2" (0.9 m² @ 12.7 mm)
7.2 ft² @ 3/4" (0.64 m² @ 19 mm)
OR 0.43 ft³ (0.01 m³)

DENSITY

126.1 lb/ft³ (2,018 kg/m³)

COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH ASTM C-109-08

3 day - 9,800 PSI (67,569 kPa)
7 day - 10,540 PSI (72,671 kPa)
28 day - 10,730 PSI (73,981 kPa)

FLEXURAL STRENGTH ASTM C-348-08

3 day - 610 PSI (4,206 kPa)
7 day - 635 PSI (4,378 kPa)
28 day - 690 PSI (4,757 kPa)

TENSILE STRENGTH ASTM C190-85

3 day - 505 PSI (3,482 kPa)
7 day - 545 PSI (3,758 kPa) 28 day - 550 PSI (3,792 kPa)

SHELF LIFE

Under normal conditions: NeXtCrete Countertop bag mix and APC NeXtCrete Countertop Modifier when the container and packaging are kept dry and moisture free, out of direct sunlight, the shelf life of an unopened product is (12) months from the date of purchase. Additionally NeXtCrete Countertop Modifier should be protected from freezing. Storage for both products must be under roof and off the floor. Rotate inventory to maintain product that is within limits.



NeXtCrete COUNTERTOP MIX

MIXING

Multiple bag batches

1. Utilize a mortar mixer (preferred with a horizontal spiral shaft) or a concrete mixer of sufficient size to allow the free fall of product while mixing.
2. Maintain the ratio of 1 gal (3.8L) NeXtCrete Modifier to 1-50lb (22.7kg) bag NeXtCrete Countertop Mix.
3. Thoroughly mix APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix.
4. Place total amount of APC Countertop Modifier for the entire mix into the mixer.
5. Add all APC NeXtCrete Countertop Color to the modifier (if desired) and start mixer.
6. Slowly add one APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix bag at a time to the mixer to prevent material from forming dry fiber pockets.
7. Additional water may be added, not to exceed 16oz. (0.5L) per bag of NeXtCrete Countertop mix.
8. After last bag is added, allow all material to thoroughly mix for 2-3 minutes. Visually inspect entire load to ensure that all fiber is blended.

APPLICATION

Although not limited to it, the most common method of placement simply involves pouring NeXtCrete Countertop Mix directly from the pail or mixing vessel into the form or mold.

DEMOLD

In warm weather 4-6 hours may be appropriate to de-mold. Cool temperature or pieces with extreme texture will require overnight drying. APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix should not be left in the mold past a 24 hour period, as curling of the piece is likely. A freshly de-molded sample should be handled similar to granite or natural stone, and should be well supported above the work surface to allow the free flow of air around the piece.

CLEANING

All APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix samples require cleaning, except those that are to be polished. Precision Clean & Etch diluted with water 3:1 (3 parts water to 1 part PCE) is recommended. For specific directions on PCE refer to its TDS.

SEALING

APC NeXtCrete Countertop pieces are completed by sealing.

SEAMING

100% silicone caulk provides an excellent seaming and adhesive fastening material, as it allows for movement of the precast piece. APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix like any other concrete will undergo slight dimensional variations based upon its environment (e.g. shrinkage or expansion). Do not use caulking or adhesive that could "bleed" through the finished surface, such as petroleum-based products. Large pieces and under-mount sinks will require mechanical fastening.

SAMPLE

Always prepare an adequate number of test samples for suitability for products' intended use.

CLEAN UP & DISPOSAL

Before APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix dries; spills and tools can be cleaned up with water. Contact your local government household hazardous waste coordinator for information on disposal of unused product.

LIMITATIONS

For use by trained professionals that have read the complete TDS and SDS.

WARRANTY

Warranty of this product, when used according to the directions, is limited to refund of purchase price, or replacement of product (if defective), at manufacturers/sellers option. Alabama Pigments Company shall not be liable for cost of labor or direct and/or incidental consequential damages.

SECONDARY COLOR

APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix accepts most concrete stains. APC Hydra-Tint adds a desirable design element to any APC NeXtCrete Countertop piece and is ecofriendly and UV stable. Staining customarily follows slurry. For specific directions on Hydra-Tint refer to its TDS.

GRIND & POLISH

If additional decorative aggregate was added to the APC NeXtCrete Countertop Mix or if the desired appearance demands it, the product may successfully be polished.

1. Grind precast sample as soon as practical. Allow a minimum of 8 hours cure time.
2. When decorative aggregate is added, begin wet grinding with 50 grit diamond pad to expose aggregate. This step may be skipped if no decorative aggregate was added.
3. Proceed to wet grind with 100 grit diamond pad.
4. Densifier may be utilized with wet 100 grit grind to densify and fill pinholes with resultant color match slurry.
5. Allow densifier and slurry to dry. Proceed with 200 grit and if any pinholes are still present add more densifier and continue grinding.
6. Remove any excess dried slurry with the 200 grit.
7. Proceed through 400 grit polish. If stain and / or sealer is to be used do not polish past 400 grit, as a measure of profile must be maintained for stain penetration and sealer adhesion.
8. If desired and sealer is not used, one can continue polishing through 800 grit and beyond, however, such a piece is subject to staining.

CAUTIONS

KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. Inhalation: Avoid prolonged breathing of airborne dust, particularly present during mixing. Use NIOSH approved respirator for nuisance if threshold limit values are unsafe. Skin Contact: Skin contact may cause irritation. Remove contaminated clothing and wash affected skin with soap and water. Launder clothing before reuse. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention. Eyes: Wear safety eye protection when applying. Contact with eyes may cause irritation. Flush eyes with water for 15 minutes. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention.