



## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

AUSTRALIAN BUILDERS

# MORTAR MIX

### STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE

This product is classified as hazardous according to criteria of Worksafe Australia.

#### Company Details:

Building Products Supplies Pty Ltd  
750 Lorimer Street  
Port Melbourne  
Victoria 3207

ABN: 95 006 150 036

Telephone No.: VIC - 1800 035 046  
NSW - 1800 333 942



### IDENTIFICATION

<b>Product Name:</b>	Australian Builders Mortar Mix
<b>UN Number:</b>	None allocated.
<b>Barcode No's:</b>	20 kg: 9316061160272    30 kg: 9316061160289    40 kg: 9316061160296
<b>Dangerous goods class and subsidiary risk:</b>	None allocated.
<b>Hazchem Code:</b>	None allocated.
<b>Poisons schedule number:</b>	None allocated.
<b>Use:</b>	Australian Builders Mortar Mix is ideal for building brick walls, barbecues, cementing blocks, setting rock borders for flowerbeds, rendering over brick or concrete surfaces and bedding in paving slabs.

#### Physical Description/Properties:

<b>Packaging:</b>	<u>VICTORIA</u>	<u>NEW SOUTH WALES</u>
	20 kg bags – 56 per pallet	20 kg bags – 70 per pallet
	30 kg bags – 48 per pallet	30 kg bags – Not available
	40 kg bags – 48 per pallet	40 kg bags – 40 per pallet

<b>Appearance:</b>	Australian Builders Mortar Mix is a grey type consistent mixture of finely ground particles.
<b>Composition:</b>	Australian Builders Mortar Mix contains a combination of sand, lime and cement.
<b>Flashpoint:</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Flammability limits:</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Solubility in water:</b>	Slight - hardens on mixing with water

#### OTHER PROPERTIES:

- NOTE: may contain 0.1%-1.0% crystalline silica (CAS No. 14808-60-7) depending on the proportion and crystalline silica content of the ingredients. All ingredients may contain crystalline silica.

#### DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

Always read and follow full instructions on product packaging.

<b>Instructions:</b>	Empty contents of bag into wheelbarrow or onto a smooth surface. Add water gradually (do not over wet). Mix thoroughly until a workable mix is achieved. Use product immediately. Wash tools in water immediately after use.
<b>Coverage:</b>	Each 25 kg bag will make enough mortar to lay approx. 25 standard house bricks with a 9 mm joiner.
<b>Manual Handling:</b>	This bag contains 20, 30 or 40 kg of product. Manual handling of this bag without due care and attention could result in personal injury. Unless you have been trained in manual handling of heavy loads, it is recommended that you share the load with another person.

#### HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

<b>Acute:</b>	<i>(effects may occur immediately or shortly after a single exposure.)</i>
<b>Swallowed:</b>	May cause burning sensation and abdominal discomfort. Corrosive to mouth and throat.
<b>Eyes:</b>	Irritating and corrosive to eyes. May cause chemical conjunctivitis, redness and watering of eyes with damage to cornea.
<b>Skin:</b>	Irritating and drying of skin. May cause alkaline burns and irritant or allergic dermatitis, especially as an ingredient in plastic (unhardened) wet concrete mortar and slurry. Water soluble hexavalent chromium may sensitise individuals.
<b>Inhaled:</b>	Irritating the nose, throat and respiratory system causing coughing and sneezing.
<b>Chronic:</b>	<i>(effects may occur after repeated or prolonged exposure)</i>
<b>Inhaled:</b>	Repeated inhalation of dust containing crystalline silica can cause bronchitis, silicosis (scarring of the lung) and lung cancer. It may also increase the risk of scleroderma (a disease affecting the connective tissue of the skin, joints, blood vessels and internal organs).  Studies have shown that smoking increases the risk of bronchitis, silicosis and lung cancer in persons exposed to crystalline silica.
<b>Skin:</b>	Repeated skin contact with cement in wet concrete, mortars and slurries has been associated with both irritant dermatitis and allergic (contact) dermatitis. The latter is due to the presence of water soluble hexavalent chromium in cement.

#### FIRST AID

<b>Swallowed:</b>	Rinse mouth and lips with water. Do not induce vomiting. Give water to drink to dilute stomach contents. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention.
<b>Eyes:</b>	Flush thoroughly with flowing water for at least 15 minutes. Seek medical attention if symptoms persist.
<b>Skin:</b>	Wash thoroughly with water. A shower may be required.
<b>Inhaled:</b>	Remove from dusty area to fresh air. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention.

**First Aid Facilities:** Eye Wash Station  
**Advice to Doctor:** Treat symptomatically

**Exposure standards:** **Worksafe Australia Exposure Standard:**  
Crystalline silica (quartz): 0.2mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA (time-weighted average) as respirable dust (up to 7µm particle size).  
Dust (NOS – not otherwise specified): 10mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA as inspirable dust (up to 10µm particle size).  
However, where a State or Territory prescribes a lower exposure standard, the lower exposure standard applies.

**Manufacturers' Recommendations:** Keep exposure of dust as low as practicable.  
If inspirable dust levels are kept below 2mg/m<sup>3</sup>, health problems such as skin, eye and respiratory irritation will be minimised. Respirable crystalline silica (quartz) exposure levels should be kept to below 0.1mg/m<sup>3</sup> TWA.  
Avoid repeated skin contact with plastic concrete and dry and wet cement.

**Engineering controls:** Avoid generating dust. All work with cement should be carried out in such a way as to minimise exposure to dust and repeated skin contact. Where dust could be generated whilst handling cement, use local mechanical ventilation or extraction in areas where dust could escape into the work environment. For bulk deliveries, closed pumping systems are recommended. For handling of individual bags, follow personal protection instructions below if no local exhaust ventilation is available.  
Work areas should be cleaned regularly by wet sweeping or vacuuming. If generating dust can not be avoided, see personal protection recommendations below.

## SAFETY HANDLING INFORMATION

### **Personal protection:**

**Skin:** Wear loose comfortable protective clothing and impervious boots. Apply barrier cream to hands or wear gloves (AS 2161). Wash thoroughly after handling. Wash work clothes regularly.

**Eyes:** Safety spectacles with side shields or safety goggles (dust resistant AS/NZS 1336) should be worn if dust is likely to be generated.

**Respiratory:** If dust is generated wear a class P1 or P2 particulate respirator (AS/NZS 1715 and 1716). Use only respirators which bear the Australian Standards mark and are fitted correctly. Note that persons with facial hair will have difficulty in obtaining a satisfactory face seal. For alternatives see *AS/NZS 1715: Selection and use of respiratory protective devices*.

**Flammability:** Not flammable. Does not support combustion of other materials.

**Storage and transport:** Transportation is by rail, road or ship in bulk or bag form.  
Keep in moisture-proof containers/silos to prevent hardening.  
Concrete or steel bins and silos or plastic lined paper sacks are the recommended forms of storage.

**Spills and disposal:** Follow safety requirements for personal protection under "Precautions for Use" on skin, eye and respiratory protection and sweep, vacuum or shovel whilst trying to minimise dust generation. Collect in containers and dispose of as trade waste in accordance with local authority guidelines.

Keep out of sewer and storm water drains.

**Fire/explosive hazard:**

Not flammable. Does not cause dust explosions.

<b>OTHER INFORMATION</b>
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In June 1997 crystalline silica was evaluated by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC): "Crystalline silica in the form of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources is carcinogenic to humans (Group 1)".

**Smoking:**

Cigarette smoking increases the risk of occupational respiratory diseases. It is recommended that all storage and work areas should be smoke-free zones.

<b>CONTACT POINT</b>
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For further information on this product, contact:

Technical Services Manager

750 Lorimer St  
Port Melbourne  
Victoria, 3207.

VIC - Ph: (03) 9676 0000 Fax: (03) 9646 4954  
NSW - Ph: (02) 4964 4208 Fax: (02)4964 4328

Website: [www.independencement.com.au](http://www.independencement.com.au)

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**Advice Note:**

The information in this document is believed to be accurate. Please check the currency of this MSDS by contacting: (03) 9676 0000

The provision of this information should not be construed as a recommendation to use this product in violation of any patent rights or in breach of any statute or regulation. Users are advised to make their own determination as to the suitability of this information in relation to their particular purposes and specific circumstances. Users should read this MSDS and consider the information in the context of how the product will be handled and used in the workplace and in conjunction with other substances or products.