



## Material Safety Data Sheet

# DRY MIX PRODUCTS

### Statement of Hazardous Nature

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

BGC Cement  
77 Vulcan Road  
Canning Vale  
Western Australia  
Telephone: (08) 9334 4555

<b>Product Name</b>	BUILDERS CHOICE® Fast Setting Concrete BUILDERS CHOICE® General Purpose Concrete BUILDERS CHOICE® Grey Mortar
Other Names	Rapid Setting Concrete, Quick Setting Concrete Concrete Mix, Handyman Concrete Mortar Mix
Manufacturer's Product Codes	FAST20, CON20, GRM20
U.N. Number	None allocated
CAS Number	<i>See Physical Description below</i>
Dangerous Goods Class	None allocated
Hazchem Code	None allocated
Poisons Schedule	Not scheduled
Uses	Dry Mix Concrete and Mortar products are pre-blended packages of cement, sand, and/or aggregates. Dry mix products are used in a wide range of small volume applications including handyman concreting, mortaring, rendering and do-it-yourself projects.

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Appearance	A mixture of fine grey powder, sand and aggregate (rock or stone).
Boiling Point / Melt Point	Not applicable
Vapour Pressure	Not applicable
Per Cent Volatiles	Not applicable
Specific Gravity	3.0 to 3.4 (cement), Various values for sand and aggregates
Flash Point	Not applicable

Flammability/Combustibility	Non-flammable; Non-combustible
Autoignition Temperature	Not applicable
Other Properties	Not explosive. No odour. Hardens on mixing with water.

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Physical characteristics of cements are that they are alkaline in nature. The pH of water solution (slurry) of cements can be as high as 13.5

COMPONENT	CAS NUMBER	PROPORTION (%)
Type GP Cement	65997-15-1	5-15
Sand	None	30-95
Aggregate	None	0-80

## HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION (these comments relate to the cement component only of dry mix products)

### HEALTH EFFECTS

**Swallowed:** Mild corrosive action.

**Eye:** Short-term exposure - irritating. Long-term exposure - irritating may cause inflammation of the cornea.

**Skin:** Short-term exposure - irritating. Long-term exposure - wet concrete or mortar, especially as an ingredient in plastic (un-hardened) concrete, mortar or slurry, is slightly caustic and can dry the skin. There are also trace amounts on water-soluble hexavalent chromium present in cement (0-20ppm) and in some individuals may cause allergic dermatitis.

**Inhaled:** Short-term exposure - irritating. Long-term exposure - repeated inhalation of cement dust containing crystalline silica can cause bronchitis or pneumoconiosis of the lungs. It is recommended that all storage and work areas should be smoke free zones. Inhalation of high levels of cement dust may result in severe inflammation of the small airways of the lung and asthma-like symptoms.

### FIRST AID

**Swallowed:** Brush dry material from face and wash with copious amounts of clean water. Do not induce vomiting; give water containing sugar or milk to drink. Seek medical attention.

**Skin:** Wash thoroughly with clean running water and mild soap. A shower may be required.

**Eyes:** Immediately irrigate with copious amounts of clean running water for at least 15 minutes. Do not rub eyes. Seek medical attention.

**Inhaled:** Move to outside fresh air area, and seek medical attention if effects persist.

**Advice to Doctor:** Contact a poisons information centre. For Western Australia, telephone 13 11 26

## **PRECAUTIONS FOR USE**

**Exposure Limits:** Cement is classified as an inert nuisance dust.

**TLV:** 5mg/m<sup>3</sup> for respirable dust and 10mg/m<sup>3</sup> for total dust.

Wet cement, particularly in plastic (un-hardened) concrete, mortar or slurry, can dry the skin and cause alkali burns. Continued exposure, for individuals who are allergic to chromium, may cause severe allergic dermatitis.

**Ventilation:** Avoid generating dust. Suitable means of dust collection or suppression should be applied as necessary in the working environment, to maintain acceptable levels of air-borne dust. For bulk deliveries, closed pumping systems are recommended. For bagged deliveries, follow personal protection instructions below if no local exhaust ventilation is available. Work areas should be cleaned regularly by vacuuming. Persons with a history of respiratory illness or reduced pulmonary function should avoid work places with high dust levels.

### **Personal Protection:**

**Skin:** - Wear loose comfortable clothing. Wash work clothes regularly. Apply barrier cream to hands or wear cotton or light duty leather gloves or equivalent (AS 2161).

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

**Respiratory:** - None required if engineering and handling controls are adequate. If dust is generated wear a suitable P1 or P2 particulate respirator (AS/NZS 1715). Use only respirators that 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, use and maintenance of respiratory protective devices.

**Flammability/Combustibility:** Cement is non-flammable and non-combustible.

## **SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION**

**Storage and Handling:** Store in a dry place. Dry Mix products should be stored away from moisture, steam, acid or acid fumes, in containers that prevent ingress of moisture as this will cause it to set and hardened in storage. Plastic-lined paper sacks are the most usual forms of storage. Transportation is usually in paper sacks on pallets.

**Spills and Disposals:** Spills may be cleaned up by any dry method such as broom, shovel or vacuum device, with care taken to minimise dust evolution into the worker environment. Clean up personnel should wear full cover clothing, gloves, boots, dust masks and goggles. Carefully dispose of excess product and packaging by collecting for disposal as a trade waste in accordance with local authority guidelines.

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**CONTACT POINT:** BGC Cement (08) 9334 4555  
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*The information in this document is believed to be accurate at the date of publication. Please check the currency of this MSDS by contacting (08) 9334 4555.*

*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.*

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