



Directions for Using Secure Set Mix & Pour

Do You Really Need to Read These?

YES. This is one of those situations where you'll be glad you took the time to read the tips. We know this because we get the phone calls from the folks who didn't read them, or they missed a step, and things didn't turn out the way they wanted. Save yourself some frustration, read all the tips.

- 1 WATER IN THE HOLE:** Don't use Secure Set in a hole that has standing water or if the soil is "wet", saturated or muddy. The water acts as a "hyper" activator and causes Secure Set to foam up like Styrofoam. You will end up with Secure Set that is not as strong as you need it to be.
- 2 PROPER HOLE SIZE:** When determining the width and depth of the hole you need for your posts, it is determined by the size of the post you use. Generally, the width of the hole should be twice the dimension of the post. Here are some examples: 2-3/8th inch metal, (chain link fence post) the hole for that post should be 6" wide. 4x4 wood post; the hole should be 8" wide, 4x6 wood post: the hole should be 10" wide, 6x6 wood post; the hole should be 12" wide. You will find an attached hole size chart, as well as our calculator tool to help you figure your project.
- 3 MIXING PROCEDURES:** When mixing Secure Set ensure the amounts are of **equal volume**. For example: if you need 24 fluid oz. per hole, mix 12oz. of component "A" and 12oz. of component "B". Also, it is very important to be accurate on the dimensions of your hole. As an example, if you planned to set your posts in a hole 24" deep with an 8" diameter, but you end up digging a 10" diameter hole, that hole will have 62% more volume to fill than you planned for. With this increase in volume per hole, you will run out of Secure Set before you finish your project.

PLANNING TO USE POWERED AUGER? Use an auger bit 2" smaller than desired hold diameter.

In addition, if you plan to use a powered auger to dig your holes, use a 6" auger to get an 8" hole. Do not rent an 8" auger to dig an 8" hole, you may end up with a 10" hole and run short of Secure Set before you finish your project.

MIXING SECURE SET (IMPORTANT)

Mix Secure Set with the high speed mixer that is supplied in the kit. Attach the mixer to a cordless drill. Insert the mixer into a mixing container and mix Secure Set until you have a nice cream colored mixture with no streaks, swirls or marbling.

SUMMER MIXING

In SUMMERTIME temperatures this could take approximately 10 to 20 seconds. Do not over mix Secure Set, over mixing will result in Secure Set expanding up and out of the cup. **It is necessary to pour Secure Set into the hole around the post as a liquid.** Try not to pour Secure Set into the hole as foam; this may compromise Secure Set's ability to adhere properly to the soil and the post. In **HOT WEATHER, Secure Set will react very quickly, do not over mix, be mindful of quick expansion of Secure Set in the mixing container and or the shaker bottle, and pour into the hole as soon as possible after mixing.**

WINTER MIXING

During cold temperatures, mix Secure Set longer in the cup or pail. This will allow the reaction temperature to rise and help compensate for the colder ambient temperatures of your working environment. In WINTER MONTHS it is important to try to keep Secure Set at room temperatures prior to mixing and pouring into the hole. Also, if possible, during periods when the temperature is below freezing, warm the hole with a weed burner or some other method to raise the temperature of the soil in the hole. **Do not put Secure Set into a hole that is frozen solid.**

4 REACTION

After pouring Secure Set into the hole, it will sit on the bottom of the hole for approximately 15 to 20 seconds in liquid form before the expansion phase starts. This ensures that it has time to "level out" around the post, thus allowing for a more uniform rise and expansion up the hole.

5 TRUING THE POST

Make sure the post you are setting is plumb and steady. Support the post, (see below on how to make support sticks) so that it does not move at all during the curing process of Secure Set. Do not wiggle or attempt to reset the post while Secure Set is expanding in the hole. Moving the post during the expansion phase could keep the foam from adhering to the post. Allow at least 5 to 6 minutes after Secure Set has stopped expanding before removing any supports from the post.

6 MEASURING THE PRODUCT

Measuring cups are provided with your kits. You can purchase some inexpensive Styrofoam or paper 32 oz. to 64 oz. cups to actually mix the Secure Set. You can use them once or twice and then throw them away. This will ensure your measure cups always stay accurate and your measurements don't get off ratio by using cups that have residue built up in them. If you do use the measure cups to mix Secure Set, after setting 3 or 4 posts it will be difficult to read the measurement lines on the sides of the cups. Do not throw them away. Allow the residue in the cup to firm up, and in approximately 20 to 25 minutes you can remove the "stiff" residue from inside the cup by flexing the sides of the plastic cup, then remove or "pull out" the hardened residue. You then have a cleaner cup to work with.

7 PRODUCT SECURITY

After you have poured equal portions of Secure Set into your mixing container, and before you start to mix the two components together, take 5 seconds to put the caps back on the 1 gal jugs. Many customers have called saying they need just 1 gallon of either "A" or "B" component because they knocked a 1 gallon jug over with their knee or foot while they were "setting" the post.

8 CLEANLINESS

It is important to stay clean while you are using Secure Set. If you get any mixed Secure Set on you during the process of setting your posts, you will find that Secure Set is very very sticky. You can purchase and use latex or nitrile exam gloves. If you get Secure Set on the gloves, you can just throw them away and put on a clean pair. This will prevent you from getting sticky Secure Set on your clothes or tools.

If any unmixed or mixed Secure Set spills and you need to remove the residue, use acetone to clean up the mess. Acetone (fingernail polish remover) can be found in the paint department of any Lowe's or Home Depot. If mixed Secure Set gets on your clothes, don't try to wipe it off when it is wet, it will turn out to be a sticky mess, allow the Secure Set to harden, then you can pick it off with your fingernails or some type of small tool.

MAKING SUPPORT STICKS

Go to your nearest Home Depot and go to the lumber department. There you will find a pre-cut stick that is 8 feet long and is 2"x2". Buy at least two of these sticks. Cut the sticks in half so you now have 4 - 48" sticks that measure 48"x2"x2". Then you will need to find the vinyl coated hooks. The hooks are "U" shaped with a 1.5" threaded tail. Purchase 8 of these hooks. Before you screw the hooks into the ends of the sticks, it is wise to pre-drill a small pilot hole for the threaded screw. This will prevent the hook from splitting out the end of the stick. Attach a hook on each end of the stick. As for the two-sided post leveler, you can find those in the "Tool" section of the store. Buy two or three of these levels and you can support and pre-level several posts prior to mixing and using Secure Set.

***Note: If it appears that the foam will expand out of the hole, you can throw dirt on the foam, and with nitrile gloves on, press the expanding foam into the earth. This will keep you from wasting product and from having to later go back to cut away the dried foam with a saw. This method will also help to lock the post in even tighter to the soil.

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