

# COHILLS® PRO SERIES COUNTERTOP MIX

**Cohills Pro Series Countertop Mix** is an economical and versatile building material. It allows for personal design applications that are unique and specific to particular circumstances that are not possible for any other material. It is because of their characteristics that concrete has been utilized in the construction of countertops. Almost any shape or surface can be formed and can be integrally colored, acid stained or polished depending on individual desires. The specific gradation, of the highest quality silica aggregates, allows for a mix that consolidates extremely well, and has a low water demand that is critical in minimizing shrinkage cracks and curling.

## Product Availability & Coverage

- Cohills Pro Series Countertop Mix is available in 50 lb bags
- Coverage for per 50 lb bag is approximately 3 square feet at 1-1/2" thick and approximately 2.25 square feet at 2" thick.

## Directions for Use

The quality of any concrete job is only as good as the care given to preparing the site and following proven concrete practices. This mix has no large aggregate in it, yet can reach strengths of over 6,000psi. The countertop mix is normally placed at between 1½"-2" thick, weighs approximately 19-25 lbs per square foot and in most cases does not require an additional support for standard cabinets. Plywood or concrete backer board are two of the most commonly used substrates. One bag of countertop mix will require 132-148 ozs. of water. The water requirement will vary depending on temperature, humidity and consistency of the mix required. If a powder or liquid color is used, mix the color with water before adding the bag mix. It is recommended that you do not exceed the maximum water, as this will reduce overall strength, increase curling, and increase the potential for shrinkage cracks. If additional fluidity is desired, the use of an admixture is recommended.

Use 4x4x6 welded wire mesh on the center of the countertop for reinforcement. Additionally, to reduce the potential for cracking, place #3 bar (6-8" long) at 1/4-1/2" below the surface at all reentrant corners and in areas of high stress. These areas would normally be in the narrow strips in front of sinks and stove top/range. Mono filament synthetic fibers can also be used to minimize cracking. Consult with the fiber manufacturer for dosage rate. Place the countertop mix and level off the surface. To make sure there is proper movement of the mix into the countertop edge and to minimize any bug holes, consolidate the mix along the form edges by using a vibrator or by attaching a palm sander to the form board. After the concrete has been leveled, immediately float the surface and level out any imperfections. Steel trowel the mix after it has achieved final set. Do not burnish the surface.

Curing is a very important step in the manufacturing of the countertop. Cover the countertop completely with poly for a minimum of 24-36 hours depending on temperature and humidity. Do not allow the poly to lay on the surface as this will cause discoloration of the surface. Allow the countertop to dry slowly. This will ensure optimal strength gain as well as minimizing curling (warping). Once concrete is fully cured you will need to choose a sealer. Cohills offers many products depending upon the finish of the countertop you desire, epoxies, clear acrylic sealers, or bees wax are some choices. Acid staining can be done 4-5 days after pouring. **Dilute stains with water to prevent burning the surface.** After 5 days, the mix should be sufficiently hard enough to be polished.

**Apply food grade beeswax on a regular basis to maintain. Protect the surface by using cutting boards and hot pads.**

***It is strongly recommend that you make samples of the countertop so you are comfortable with how to achieve the specific color (s), texture, and inserts that you wish to incorporate before you cast your final product.***

Thoroughly clean skin with soap and water. Clean all tools immediately after application with a mild soap or detergent and rinse thoroughly with water.

**EYE CONTACT:** Flush eyes with water, lifting eyelids periodically. Remove contact lenses. Continue flushing for 15 minutes or until eyes return to normal. Get medical attention if irritation persists.

**SKIN CONTACT:** Wash with soap and water. Get medical attention if irritation develops or persists. Wash clothing before re-use.

**INHALATION:** Move from dusty area to fresh air and get medical attention for breathing difficulty. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. Get immediate medical attention.

**INGESTION:** Swallowing less than an ounce (less than 30 grams) will not cause harm. For larger amounts, do not induce vomiting, but give one or two glasses of water to drink and contact medical personnel or poison control center immediately. Do not give anything by mouth to an unconscious person.

**HANDLING:** Wear NIOSH/MSHA dust mask respirator, safety glasses, body-covering clothing and rubber or leather gloves when handling this product. Avoid breathing dust.

**DO NOT TAKE INTERNALLY. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN**

Refer to Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for safe handling and storage instructions.

**WARRANTY:** Because the conditions of the use and application of our products are beyond our control, **CO-HILLS BUILDING SPECIALTIES, INC. MAKES NO WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR ANY PARTICULAR PURPOSE** and expressly disclaims liability for consequential or incidental damages whether based on warranty or negligence. Buyer's sole remedy shall be refund of purchase price from point of purchase.

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