



Frequently Asked Questions

Design and Details

What sizes do the panels come in? The currently available panel sizes are 1.7x0.9m (for General Purpose) and 1.5x1.3m (for Water Tanks).

Where can I buy the panels from? The General Purpose Panels are available from all resellers listed on our website, and our Water Tank Panels are available from National Poly Industries, Clark Tanks, Team Poly and Poly Tanks.

Can I reduce the size of the panels if I wanted a smaller sized slab? Yes, you can reduce the size of the slab by 200mm intervals (according to the mesh dimensions).

How do I cut the components down so that I can make the panel smaller? Make sure you measure the side form and accurately cut it down by 200mm for each reinforcement section you would like to remove. Make sure that the final mesh dimension ends in 74mm, for example 874mm, 1074mm, 1274mm, etc. to ensure the clips connect properly. When cutting the reinforcement mesh, make sure that you leave a reinforcement overhang of approximately 15mm for the clip to insert into.

If you cut off a little too much sideform and the corner is loose by a few millimetres, use tape (which stretches well beyond the corner on both sides) to securely hold the corner together while the concrete is curing. Once it has dried you can patch the gap up by using silicone or left-over concrete.

Can I buy the plastic components only? No. The product is sold as a package.

How heavy is the panel? The 1.7x0.9m panel weighs ~8kg when assembled. The 1.5x1.3m panel weighs ~9kg when assembled.

Do you need to strip the formwork when it is complete? No. The great thing about our product is that there is no need to strip the formwork, so once the concrete panel is complete the formwork simply stays in place.

What building codes does the Conquik Panel comply to? The system has been certified by an engineer as being compliant to Australian standards, AS2870, AS4727 & AS2940.

What are the concrete cover tolerances of the panel? The concrete cover from the mesh to the top of the slab is 35mm, and from the edge of the side form to the end of the clip is 43mm. The depth of the panel is 100mm.

What type of mesh is used with the panel? The type of mesh used is 6.3mm thick, galvanised wire mesh.

*I opened my package, went through the Component Checklist and found that a plastic part is **broken**. What do I do?* If a plastic component has broken during transportation, follow the Warranty instructions within the instruction booklet to get a replacement component.

*What do I do if a **clip wing snaps** when I am twist locking them into position?* If you have used pliers or have overtwisted the clip, the wings of the clip may snap. If this happens, it's not a problem because the wings are just there to make the clips easier to turn, and they are not needed for the clip to function properly.

*The reinforcing **mesh is bent**, what can I do to straighten it?* The mesh can be straightened out by standing on it whilst on top of a flat and level surface.

*What do I do if one of the **corner pieces breaks**?*

- a) Broken in transport: If a corner piece has broken during transport, follow the Warranty Instructions inside the Instruction Manual to get a replacement.
- b) A saw-tooth wing is accidentally broken off: you can still use it. Assemble the panel as per the instructions and insert the main part of the broken corner piece as normal. Where the wing has broken off, secure the formwork using sticky tape to hold the corner together (ensure the formwork surface is dry before applying the sticky tape). Once the concrete has settled and cured you can then remove the tape.

INSTALLATION

*What **grade of concrete** should I use when installing the slab?* Before purchasing concrete you should check with the concrete manufacture for the concrete strength you need for the slab's purpose. Typically for household applications, general purpose ready mix concrete or sand and cement is sufficient.

*How many **bags of concrete** do I need when installing the slab?* Each water tank panel (1.5x1.3m) is 0.195 cubic meters, requiring 23 bags of 20kg concrete mix. Each general purpose panel (1.7x0.9m) is 0.153 cubic meters, requiring 18 bags of 20kg concrete mix.

*Can I **stand on the middle of the mesh** once the panel is assembled and in place?* No, it is not advised to stand on the mesh when assembled, as this would void warranty if a breakage occurs.

*Can I **join two or more panels** together?* Yes. When joining panels together we recommend firstly, screwing the adjoining sides together using screws on the top and bottom every 200-300mm. Secondly, you should drill 10mm (or larger) holes between the panels every 300-350mm (starting 300-350mm from the panel corner), and through each hole place a 10mm (or larger) dowel which extends ~300mm on both sides (past two reinforcement bars).

*Can I **paint the sideform** a different colour?* Yes. A benefit of our system is that once the slab is complete, you can paint the sideforms using any colour of **acrylic paint** to match the surrounding aesthetic.

*How do I **remove the top strip** so I can have a seamless join between adjacent panels?* There is a tear off strip on the top side, just underneath the curved section of the sideform. If you start in one corner of a sideform length, use both hands to push the top curved portion from the inside-out, which will expose an indented white line. Keep pushing this portion until it separates from the main body of the sideform. Continue peeling this strip off the rest of the side form until it completely separates. Make sure you tear off the top portion of the correct sideforms – they should be the same length!

Can I add oxide powder to the surface of the concrete while wet to change the colour of it? Yes, you can add different oxide colours to change the colour of the concrete surface. See oxide powder manufacturer details for installation instructions.

AFTER INSTALLATION

What can I use the panel for? When complete and dry, the concrete panel can be used for multiple concrete applications including: garden sheds (Z-flashing recommended for waterproofing), footpaths, air conditioning units & hot water tanks, BBQ & wheelie bin pads, pump pads, park bench pads, bus stops, water tank slabs, front entries, dog kennels, etc.

The concrete has a crack in it, is this ok? Do I need to replace the slab? Cracking will often occur in a concrete slab as concrete expands and contracts due to changes in moisture and temperature, or if the concrete dries out too quickly in sunlight. Cracks are common and generally do not affect the integrity of the concrete. If you are concerned, you can fill the cracks with cement or refer to suggestions from the concrete association.

Why does my slab crack even though I have welded mesh in it? The welded mesh helps to minimise & control cracking, but it does not prevent or eliminate cracking.

The slab has separated from the plastic edging. How do I fix this? As the concrete dries it can shrink back from the plastic edging. This can result from not having enough concrete on the surface to completely fill the pad, or from not tamping the edges of the formwork. If water is sitting on the surface it can give the appearance of being concrete but when it dries it can leave hollows in the surface. Any gaps in the concrete can be patched up later, using a small amount of concrete mix.

How long do I have to wait for the concrete to cure before I can use it or connect a fixture to it? Concrete should be left to cure for at least 3-7 days before general light use. For further detail on curing times, please visit the concrete manufacturer's website.

Should I install the panel below or above the ground? You can do both. The panel has been designed to be installed either below or above the ground.

Are the sideforms UV stabilised, or will they degrade under extreme sunlight conditions? The sideforms are UV stabilised and are made out of rigid PVC, so if the panel is installed above the ground it will not degrade over time. If the side form colour fades or becomes scratched, simply apply a coat of UV stabilised paint to add extra protection and cover up the scratches.

Can I use an edge trimmer against the side form? Using a plastic trimmer cord will not damage the side form however, repeated impact may scratch the surface.