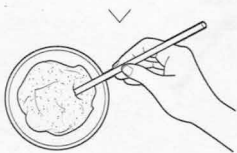


GOOD
THINGS

Cement How-to

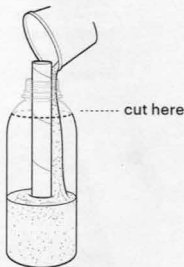
Think of this user-friendly material as Play-Doh for grown-ups—except you're *supposed* to leave it out overnight to dry.



STEP 1

STIR IT UP

Following the package directions, combine pigment powder, cement mix, and water in a large plastic container. Add more water, a spoonful at a time, stirring until cement mix dissolves and mixture has the consistency of Greek yogurt.



STEP 2

GIVE IT SHAPE

Pour cement into mold. For a paperweight, use a round ice mold. For a ring holder, roll heavy paper or contact paper into a cone and tape it shut (set it inside a cup for balance). For a bud vase, cut the top off a large water bottle and fill it partway, then insert an object to create a hollow (we used a cardboard tube sealed with tape), and add more mix. Let dry overnight.

STEP 3

SET IT FREE

Remove mold. Cardboard or paper will peel off; cut plastic with a utility knife, then pull it away.

THE DETAILS: Quikrete Countertop Mix, in White, \$12 for 80 lb., homedepot.com. Colorant cement and grout pigment, in Rose, \$6 for 3 oz. amazon.com.