



Concrete Pour Planning Before the Truck

Concrete is hard to correct after it sets. Reconcile volume, delivery, strength, reinforcement, and joints before placing an order.

A good concrete order is a placement plan, not just yards on a ticket.

Worked example from the live calculator

The live concrete-order calculator turns its default slab into 1.36 cubic yards, or 62 bags. It recommends ordering 1.50 yards of ready-mix instead of hand mixing.

Order the right volume and delivery method

Calculate finished volume with a deliberate waste allowance, then compare bags against ready-mix. Delivery timing, crew capacity, and continuous placement matter as much as material price.

Match the concrete and steel to the work

Specified strength, footing dimensions, and rebar spacing each answer different structural questions. Do not use a higher PSI label as a substitute for correct depth or reinforcing.

Control cracking and placement sequence

Slab thickness and control joints manage predictable movement. Confirm access, formwork, finishing crew, and curing plan before the truck is dispatched.

Key takeaway. Before a pour, make the order, structural details, and placement sequence agree.

Assumptions

- Final mix, footing, reinforcement, and joint requirements are set by approved plans and site conditions.

Sources

- ACI and local structural requirements, verify final design

Frequently asked questions

Can more cement fix a thin slab?

No. Strength and thickness address different failure modes.

Why do joints matter?

They provide planned locations for shrinkage cracking.

Is this structural design?

No. Follow approved plans and local requirements.

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