

Baseball's First Choice For Consistent Professional Quality Pitcher's Mounds



BEAM CLAY® PITCHER'S MOUND CLAY

The Mound Clay Used By Over 100 Pro Teams!
Extra Firm • Consistent • Affordable

Comes pulverized for easy handling—just wet and compact—for truly firm mounds.

All natural ingredients available in extra firm red, orange, brown, or medium firm in orange, tan or grey.

BEAM CLAY® PITCHER'S MOUND CLAY can be worked in to firm up an existing mound or other playing surface. The amount used will depend on the firmness of the existing material and the firmness desired.

However, for truly firm, professional quality pitcher's mounds, make the top 6" of all wear areas straight **BEAM CLAY®**. While building an entire regulation mound from scratch requires 5 tons (200 bags), you can use as little as 5-10 bags to patch wear spots 6" deep, approximately 40 bags to resurface the flat top platform and front slope 6" deep, or another 60 bags to resurface the balance of the mound 2" deep. Little League mounds require approximately 1/3 as much, 13 bags for every 1" depth.

Points to remember when installing **BEAM CLAY® PITCHER'S MOUND CLAY**

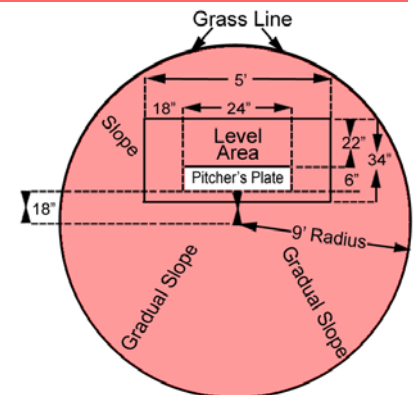
- 1) The end result you are working to achieve is for the entire mound to become one solid mass of clay without any loose (not compacted) layers within it.
- 2) When using **BEAM CLAY® PITCHER'S MOUND CLAY** for the first time on an existing mound where the new clay will be on top of another material, install a bonding layer by mixing ½" of new material into 1" of existing, then wetting and compacting, so they will adhere together. When creating this bonding layer, dry mound clay will work in easier. When the bonding layer is complete, use pre-moistened mound clay to finish mound reconstruction.
- 3) Get the right moisture content by uniformly moistening the mound clay (in a wheelbarrow, bucket, or outside pile) so that, when a handful is rolled tightly into a ball, you can just barely push your thumbnail ¼" into the ball – that's playing texture! Remember, if the mound clay is too dry, it will not compact into one solid mass; if the mound clay is too wet, it will not properly compact and will try to squeeze out the sides and will crack when dry until properly compacted.
- 4) For the mound to function properly, it must be firmly compacted – use a heavy hand tamper and slam it down!

■ NEW CONSTRUCTION

A regulation pitcher's mound is exactly 10" above home plate and the front of the rubber is exactly 60'6" from the apex (pointed end) of home plate. Drive a stake at the proper distance from home plate in line with second base and mark the correct elevation. This marks the front and top surface of the pitcher's rubber.

The mound is then constructed with a nine foot radius from a point 18" in front of the rubber. A flat top to the mound should be provided extending 18" on either side of the rubber, 22" behind, and 6" in front with a gradual slope. Thus, the mound is not cone shaped with a peak in the center of the circle. The mound has a large flat top for pitchers to stand on, steeper slopes on the back and sides, and a 6' long gradual slope (1" per foot) in the front with a flat area in front.

While an entire mound requires 5 tons of **BEAM CLAY® PITCHER'S MOUND CLAY**, it is perfectly alright to start with a firm base of local material then finish the mound with 2 tons (80 bags) or less of Mound Clay – if you follow the resurfacing instructions and take care to install at least 6" deep in all wear areas.



Layout of Pitcher's Mound
Not to Scale

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■ RESURFACING INSTRUCTIONS

When using **BEAM CLAY® PITCHER'S MOUND CLAY** for the first time, install a BONDING LAYER: first remove 6" from the wear areas of the existing mound (at the pitchers rubber and the landing areas, or better the entire flat top and front slope) to insure a good base that won't push out from underneath. Then in the areas you have dug out, mix at least ½" of dry **BEAM CLAY® PITCHER'S MOUND CLAY** into the top 1" of your existing material. This creates a bonding layer, so that the materials won't crack where they interface, which would make the mound very difficult to properly compact.

Thoroughly wet and compact the bonding layer firmly with a heavy hand tamper. Moisten again, then install straight pre-moistened **BEAM CLAY® PITCHER'S MOUND CLAY** in 2" layers, thoroughly compacting each layer. The mound clay should be moistened just enough to compact to one solid material into which you can just barely push your thumbnail ¼". If you moisten too much, work in more dry clay. If the mound clay sticks to your tamper, it's too wet. Work in more dry clay to get proper compaction. If desired, over the rest of the mound, install a 2"-6" layer, again over a bonding layer. Scarify top ¼" surface for loose top surface, or cover with ¼" of **BEAM CLAY® BASEBALL DIAMOND MIX** or **PRO'S CHOICE®** or other mound top-dressing for a quick drying and non-sticky surface when wet.

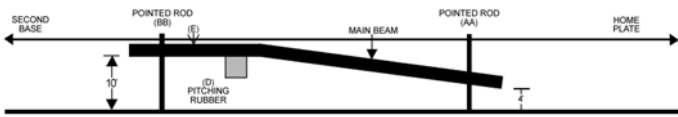
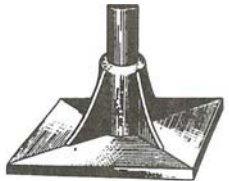
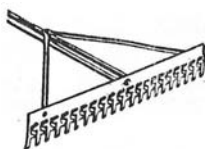
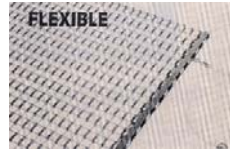





■ MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

For repairing wear areas, sweep out dry material, moisten wear spots, sweep back dry material, moisten as necessary, or add pre-moistened mound clay and tamp in. With an entire mound surface of **BEAM CLAY®** you can keep recycling the clay, otherwise add additional mound clay as needed for repairs.

It's best to cover a mound when not being used to keep excess moisture off and some moisture in; but, if that's not possible, for a quicker drying surface, the pitcher's mound clay can be covered with any of our **PITCHER'S MOUND TOP-DRESSINGS**. However, take care when doing repairs to not mix these or sandier materials into the mound; because, if worked in, these will weaken the mound clay and cause it to wear faster.

BEAM CLAY® does not eliminate maintenance, but properly installed it does reduce maintenance while giving pitchers the firm footing of a professional quality pitcher's mound.

Mound Building and Maintaining Tools

<p>Mound Building Templates Build the perfect slope every time, whether reworking existing mounds or building new ones.</p> 	<p>Tampers Heavy Duty Hand Tampers for Pitcher's Mounds.</p>  <p>Available with metal or wooden handles.</p>
<p>Aluminum Rakes Light Yet Sturdy with Sifting Teeth and Leveling Edge.</p> 	<p>Flexible Drag Mats For Mounds</p>  <p>Flexible 2' wide x 3-1/2' long drag mats for finishing mounds.</p>
<p>Rain Covers For Mounds Keep excess rain off and playing moisture in! 7 oz. woven polyethylene or 18 oz. vinyl with banded hems, brass grommets and tent stakes.</p> 	<p>Professional 4-Way Pitcher's Boxes</p>  <p>Step Down Pitcher's Rubbers</p>  <p>Econo Pitcher's Plates</p> <p>Moveable Pitching Rubbers</p>  

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■ MAINTAINING PITCHER'S MOUNDS

Maintaining a professional quality pitcher's mound takes more than just sprinkling some clay on the mound, raking it out, and forgetting about it. Properly maintaining a mound is an art and there are probably as many techniques as there are good groundskeepers.

Here are 12 points that will work for you:

1. **If your mound is too soft, recondition it.** You can recondition as little as the wear spots at the pitcher's rubber and landing areas, or the front triangle, or the entire mound.
2. **Don't use the same material on your infield and mound.** What provides a well draining and easily scarified infield, won't be firm enough for the mound. Use a firm clay.
3. **Remember, the end result** you are working to accomplish is for the entire mound to become one solid mound of clay without any loose (not compacted) layers within it. Otherwise the mound will continue to crack until properly compacted.
4. **When reconditioning a sandy mound for the first time,** remove 6" from the area to be worked to ensure a good base that won't push out from underneath.
5. **Create a bonding layer,** by mixing at least ½" of mound clay into at least the top 1" of old base; without mixing, the two materials may crack where they interface and the mound will be difficult to properly compact.
6. **Wet and compact.** Add mound clay up to grade, wetting and compacting each layer. Use a heavy mound tamper and slam it down! If you get the mound clay too wet, and it sticks to your tamper, tamp in more dry mound clay to get to proper compaction.
7. **Get the right moisture content** by moistening mound clay in wheelbarrow, bucket or outside pile, so that when a handful is rolled into a ball you can just barely push your thumb 1/4" into the ball. That's playing consistency, with cleats able to grab yet come off cleanly.
8. **Scarify** the top surface so that you have 1/4" of loose material over the very firm base.
9. **For patching,** sweep aside dry material, moisten wear spots, tamp mound clay back in.
10. **For a quicker drying surface,** the mound can be covered with 1/4" of calcined clay, sandy infield mix, or other mound top-dressing. But when doing repairs be careful to sweep these aside – do not mix them into the mound clay as they will weaken the clay and cause it to dig out faster. After finishing the repair, top-dressing can be swept back over top.
11. **Properly locate and contour the mound.** For regulation infields, the pitcher's mound is exactly 10" above home plate and the front of the rubber is exactly 60'6" from the apex (pointed end) of home plate. Drive a stake at the proper distance from home plate in line with 2nd base and, using a transit or level, mark the correct elevation. This marks the front and top surface of the pitcher's rubber.

The mound is then constructed with a nine foot radius from a point 18" in front of the rubber. A flat top to the mound should be provided extending 18" on either side of the rubber, 12-24" behind, and 6" in front with a gradual slope. Thus, the mound is not cone shaped with a peak in the center of the circle. The mound has a large flat top for pitchers to stand on, steeper slopes on the back and sides, and a 6' long gradual slope (1" per foot) in front with a flat area in front.

For other levels of baseball, please check infield layouts on our website www.BEAMCLAY.com.
12. **Maintaining proper moisture and resilience.** After repairing mound, if necessary, water the mound giving sufficient time for water to soak in. If possible, cover your mound when not in use to keep excess moisture off and some moisture and resilience in. Uncover enough time before game so that the surface is not sticky.

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