

SoB Stackers

Note: SoBstackers are *not* toys. These are serious tools for serious sand sculptors and should only be used by adults or by older children (age 12+) with adult supervision.

Instructions

You can use your SoB-stacker on flat ground or on an elevated base. For best results, the base should be compacted and level.

STEP 1: Roll the SoBstacker into a double-layer cylinder. Wrap tightly to make sure there is no gap between layers, leaving enough overlap of ends so that they can be clamped together.



STEP 2: Secure the top and bottom with included c-clamps as shown -- with bulk of clamp *outside* the form.



STEP 3: Position the cylinder on your base. Level it by comparing it to the horizon

STEP 4: Shovel dry sand into the form until you have a layer about six inches deep.

STEP 5: Pour water into the form. If the water runs out of the bottom quickly add more dry sand to absorb the excess.

STEP 6: Mix sand and water to make sure that all the dry sand gets wet.

STEP 7: Pound the layer of formed sand. If you don't have a tamper, you can stomp it with your feet.

STEP 8: Keep tamping/stomping until there is no more "give" to the sand.

Repeat filling, mixing and tamping layers until the form is filled. More shallow layers will give you a stronger pound-up than fewer thick layers.



Tip: As an alternative to mixing the sand and water with your hands, you can use your shovel to "juke" the mix. Stick your shovel into sand that has not yet been compacted and "wiggle" it back and forth, opening up a wedge-shaped hole in the



sand's surface. Move a few inches and repeat until you have several deep holes. Pour water into those holes -- this will really saturate the sand down deep.

S★O★B Stackers

If you have a second, smaller form, place it on top of the first and fill using the same process.

When you have finished filling your forms, you can handstack towers, walls or arches on top of the formed structure. For best results, do this *before* removing the forms.



Remove the form by loosening and removing the c-clamps. You will likely have to dig out sand from around the bottom clamp.



Carefully unwrap the plastic form.



Carve your structure from the top down.



Troubleshooting

If your structures repeatedly collapse upon form removal, the problem is likely to be one of the following:

1. Dry spots - make sure all the sand in the form is completely saturated with water. Dry layers will undermine the stability of your column.

2. Lack of Compaction - All sand is not created equal. The best sand sculpture material is fine and flat-grained with plenty of natural clay or silt. Less-than-ideal sand will require more water and more compaction. If foot stomping is not doing the trick, consider investing in or making a tamper. They can be purchased at most home-improvement centers. The Sons of the Beach sell a light-weight PVC model at SOBshop.com.

3. When all else fails - try filling the form only half or two thirds full and see if that works better for you.