Earthworks series - erosion and sediment control factsheet

Silt sock/filter log



DEFINITION

A temporary barrier of woven geotextile fabric with mulch/bark filling used to intercept run off, reduce its velocity and impound sediment laden run off from small areas of disturbed soil.

PURPOSE

To detain flows from run off so that deposition of transported sediment can occur through settlement. Are a suitable alternative to silt fences in small/limited spaces.

Can be used to contain and filter discharges from pumped water or concrete wash water (turkeys nest).

Can be used for clean water diversions in small areas and to assist with catch pit protection.

Do not place silt socks in channels or use them where they will intercept concentrated flows.

APPLICATION

- On low gradient sites or for confined areas where the contributing catchment is small, such as short steep batter fills, around watercourses and small building sites.
- Around stockpiles, berms and silt edges where run off is imminent.
- In kerbs and channels, and around catch pits to divert water and retain sediment.
- · Can be effective check dams.
- As a turkeys nest to treat pumped dirty water and concrete wash water.
- Can be doubled and secured down to increase capacity.





DESIGN

- Place directly onto the ground.
- Can be secured in place with twine and stakes to keep firmly in place to prevent water undercutting the sock and causing erosion at the edge of the site.
- · Always install silt socks along the contour.
- Join lengths of silt sock by overlapping and securing the ends and securing with pegs and twine.

CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS

- Use product appropriate to the site conditions and in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.
- Can be secured with pegs and twine to reduce movement and possible erosion.

MAINTENANCE

- Inspect silt socks at least once a week and after each rainfall.
 Make any necessary repairs or when sediment accumulation reaches 50 per cent of the sock height.
- Any areas of underscoring, decomposition or ineffectiveness need to be immediately replaced.
- Remove sediment deposits as necessary to continue to allow for adequate sediment storage and reduce pressure on the silt sock. Ensure that the sediment is removed to a secure area.
- Do not remove silt socks until the catchment area has been appropriately stabilised.

