

10 Things You Must Know Before Scheduling Ready Mix Concrete Delivery

By Arnold Ready Mix, Jefferson County Missouri <https://www.arnoldreadymix.com>

This is a list of 10 things you must know about arranging a ready mix concrete delivery by Arnold Ready Mix. If you have any questions, please call us and speak to a concrete expert.

Phone: (636) 464-1888

Hours: Mon - Fri, 5 am - 5- pm, Sat 5 am - Noon

Introduction

Ready mix concrete is a pre-mixed blend of cement, aggregates, water, and other additives that is prepared in a mixing plant and delivered to your project site in a large delivery truck. Ready mix concrete is ideal for DIY projects such as driveways, sidewalks, patios, walls, foundations, etc. Ready mix concrete offers consistency, quality, and time-saving benefits over mix-on-site solutions. At Arnold Ready Mix, we mix and deliver concrete by the cubic yard, with a minimum order of 2 yards.

Here are ten essential things you must know before scheduling your ready mix concrete delivery.

1. Understand Concrete Mix Considerations

Ready mix concrete mixes vary in strength, color, aggregate size and other properties. Each variation has its own specific uses and benefits. To ensure that you are receiving the right concrete for your project, confirm the mix type with the dispatcher. If you are unsure what type of concrete to use for your specific project, ask our dispatcher for assistance, as they are experts in concrete for the Jefferson County, MO region.

2. Calculate the Amount of Concrete Needed

Accurately calculating the volume of concrete required is crucial. Measure the length, width, and depth of the area to be filled and use these dimensions to calculate the cubic yards needed. Arnold Ready Mix can assist with calculations to ensure you order the correct amount, preventing waste and shortages.

As a general rule, it's better to end up with too much concrete than not enough, so order about 10% more than you think you will need. For smaller projects, we often roundup a half yard to ensure you have enough. This will account for slopes, spills, or any unexpected event, and if you end up with extra unused concrete we will take it back and recycle it.

3. Set Up Formwork Properly

Proper formwork is essential for shaping and supporting the concrete until it hardens. Ensure your formwork is sturdy, level, and well-anchored. This will help achieve a smooth and even finish, reducing the need for extensive finishing work later.

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4. Plan Concrete Placement

Consider how the concrete will be directed to your project site. You need to determine if the concrete can be placed directly from the truck or will need to be pumped. Arnold Ready Mix delivery trucks are equipped with chutes to pour the concrete where needed. For areas that are hard to reach, we offer large boom pumping trucks, providing great flexibility in placing the concrete exactly where you need it. We also have a list of contractors that provide concrete pumping services.

5. Ensure Truck Access

Ensure there is clear access for the delivery truck to reach your site. Remove any obstacles that could hinder the truck's path. Consider the weight of the loaded truck and ensure the ground can support it to avoid damage to your property.

6. Check the Weather Forecast

Weather conditions can significantly impact your concrete project. Avoid scheduling delivery during extreme temperatures, heavy rain, or high winds, as these can affect the concrete's setting and curing process. Aim for mild, dry weather for optimal results.

7. Arranging the Concrete Delivery

When scheduling your concrete delivery with Arnold Ready Mix, be prepared to provide the following information:

- Name, Address, and Phone: Your contact details and the delivery address.
- Directions to Project Site: Clear directions to ensure timely delivery.
- Job Site Phone Number: A number to reach you or the person in charge on-site.
- Date and Time Concrete is Required: Schedule the delivery at a convenient time.
- Volume of Concrete Needed: The total cubic yards required.
- Concrete Mix Desired: Specify the type of mix you need.
- Intended Use: Describe the project (e.g., driveway, patio, basement floor).
- Desired Slump: The consistency of the concrete.
- Description of Available Truck Access: Details about access to the site.
- Interval Between Loads: If more than 11 yards are needed, specify the interval.
- Concrete Placement Method: Chute, wheelbarrow, concrete pump, or other methods.
- Payment Method: Be ready to provide payment details.

8. Being Prepared on Delivery Day

Concrete is a time-sensitive building material, so you need to be prepared to go into action when the delivery truck arrives. Have your team and tools prepared, including shovels, rakes, and screeds. Once the concrete arrives, it begins to set quickly, so efficient coordination is essential.

- Delivery Time - You will usually receive a delivery time window, so ensure your project is ready for concrete between those times. You could incur additional costs if the driver has to wait for you. Also, the quality of the concrete could be impaired if the truck has to wait. If for any reason you need to cancel a concrete order, be sure to call at least 3 hours before the scheduled delivery time.
- Delivery Schedule - There are two types of concrete delivery schedules: firm and will call. A firm delivery means that you want the concrete on the date and time specified. A will call order means that you will contact the dispatcher that day and provide a time for delivery. Either way, you should schedule the concrete delivery 24-48 hours in advance.
- Unload Time - As mentioned, concrete delivery is time-sensitive and you will have a set amount of time to unload the truck. The unload time will typically vary depending on the type of concrete and the current weather conditions, so be sure to ask your dispatcher for your unload time. If you have more than one truck scheduled for delivery you will need to plan their arrival appropriately. Be sure to have plenty of help on hand to get the concrete unloaded.

9. Safety First

Safety is paramount when working with concrete. Wear appropriate protective gear, including gloves, goggles, and boots. Ensure that all participants are aware of safety protocols to prevent accidents and injuries.

10. Post-Delivery Care

After the concrete is placed and finished, proper curing is crucial to achieve the desired strength and durability. Follow curing instructions provided by Arnold Ready Mix, which may include keeping the concrete moist and protected from extreme temperatures for a specified period.

Conclusion

Scheduling ready mix concrete delivery can significantly streamline your DIY project, ensuring you get high-quality concrete delivered right to your site. By considering these ten essential factors and partnering with Arnold Ready Mix, you can achieve a successful and efficient concrete project in Jefferson County, Missouri. Plan ahead, prepare thoroughly, and enjoy the benefits of a well-executed project.

Ready to Schedule a Ready Mix Delivery?

Call: (636) 464-1888