LOKSAND

Small-Area Mixing Guide

How to Mix Loksand for Small Areas

A practical field guide for portable-mixer batches. Keep the ratio. Watch the moisture. Mix until even.

Standard rate	**Working batch**	**Why this size**
6 lb of Loksand fiber per 1 ton (2,000 lb) of sand	1 lb fiber 333 lb sand	Fits a portable mixer Easy to load mixer

Equipment

Gather everything before you start. A level, clean pad (concrete is ideal) keeps weights accurate and the mix clean.

- Portable concrete mixer
- Bale of Loksand fiber
- 4 × 5-gallon buckets
- 1 × 1-gallon bucket
- Kitchen scale (0–5 lb)
- Handheld hanging scale
- 2 × leaf rakes
- 3 × long-handled pitch forks
- Water hose with easy shutoff
- Skid steer with bucket
- Tractor and trailer for haul-off
- Clean, level work area

Step-by-step

1

Open and tease the fiber

Open the bale. With leaf rakes, pull fibers apart so they separate instead of coming off in clumps. Finish by pulling as much of the fiber clumps apart until the fibers are separated as much as possible. This is the single best way to prevent clumps in the finished mix.

2

Weigh 1 lb of fiber

Use the kitchen scale and the 1-gallon bucket. Weigh **1 lb of prepared fiber** and set it aside. That 1 lb pairs with one 333lb batch of sand.

3

Calibrate the sand bucket

Hang a 5-gallon bucket on the hanging scale. Add sand until the bucket weighs **60 lb**. Mark that fill line on the side of the bucket so later loads do not need the scale.

4

Start the mixer — then add sand

The mixer must already be turning before any sand goes in. Empty five marked 60 lb buckets into the running mixer (300 lb). Weigh a final **33 lb** of sand, mark that lower line on a bucket, and add it. You now have about **333lb of sand** in the drum — one batch for 1 lb of fiber.

Moisture is the make-or-break step. Dry sand will not grab fiber and the fiber will remain separated. Too much water turns the batch into a slurry that will not mix and must be then be discarded. Add only a light spray if the sand is dry, then watch the mix as fiber goes in. Adjust with small amounts of water only.

5

Add fiber while the drum is turning

With the mixer running and sand slightly damp, feed the 1 lb of fiber in gradually — do not dump it in one handful. The water, sand, and mixer bars will further tease and distribute the crimped fibers. Add water if and as required.

6

Mix about 20 minutes

Run the mixer about 20 minutes, or until a handful of material shows fibers spread evenly through the sand with no clumps or dry pockets.

7

Discharge and move

Empty the drum. Use pitch forks to move the mix onto the skid-steer bucket or trailer. Keep the next batch's work area clear so you can repeat without tracking debris into the drum.

Scaling up

Once the small batch feels routine, increase mixer loads — but keep the same ratio.

Field check. Grab a handful. You should see individual crimped fibers throughout the sand, not mats, ropes, or bald patches. If it looks uneven, mix longer before you add water. If it is soupy, stop — that batch cannot be saved.

Quick batch chart

Use this to scale up the amount without recalculating.

Sand	Fiber	How to load the sand
333 lb	1.0 lb	Five 60 lb buckets + one 33 lb bucket
500 lb	1.5 lb	Eight 60 lb buckets + one 20 lb bucket
666 lb	2.0 lb	Eleven 60 lb buckets + one 6 lb bucket

This guide is for small portable-mixer work. Larger production mixing uses the same 6 lb per ton rate with equipment sized to the job.

