

# Plastube Column Formwork

## DESCRIPTION

Plastube is a light weight plastic column formwork used for forming round concrete columns, supporting pier holes and creating soakwells. It is manufactured by spirally winding a continuous strip of plastic profile, locking the edges together to form a tube.

## FEATURES

- Light weight and easy to use
- Easy to strip column once formed
- No sharp edges exposed when stripping
- Durable - not affected by knocks, weather, etc
- Can be custom made to exact diameter and length
- Can be lined for high class finish
- Can be wound "inside out" to make it easy to slide into pier holes in sub grade applications
- Can be used in flooded conditions

## APPLICATIONS

- Forming round concrete columns and foundations
- Supporting pier holes in soft ground

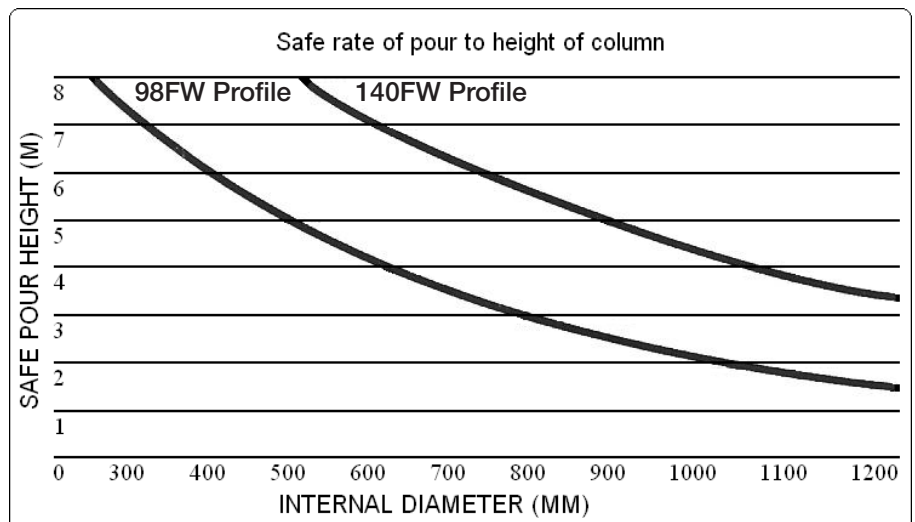
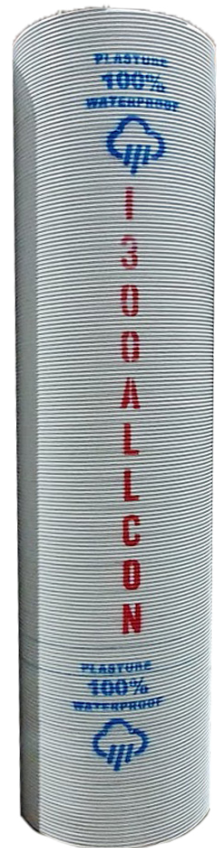
## ESTIMATING & SIZES

Plastube is custom made to length and diameter so there are no standard sizes or diameters. For estimating purposes, we have provided lineal meter prices from 250 to 1000mm diameter in 50mm increments.

Plastube is available in two different profiles depending on the diameter and height of the column. Use the below chart to determine the profile required.

98 Profile - Standard Duty

140 Profile - Heavy Duty



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## FINISHES

Plastube is available in two finishes:

**Structural: (Unlined)** The finished column will have a spiral texture on the column from the formwork

**Architectural: (Lined)** Column are lined with a rigid plastic sheet providing a smooth finish to the concrete column.

## INSTALLATION

For above ground applications, plastubes must be braced to ensure they are plumb and secure.

The top and bottom of the column must be fixed in their designated positions.

- At the bottom, typically the column is held in place by 4 equally spaced timbers fixed to the floor slab or blinding
- At the top, the column is usually held in place by soffit formwork. (Where there is no soffit formwork such as a final floor to a roof, props must be placed on the vertical bracing to position the column.)

A hole cut in a piece of plywood to suit the OD of the column and to the vertical bracing will help resist damage from equipment used during pouring.

Note: Plastube should be placed with the arrow facing upwards.

## BRACING

Bracing is recommended for columns:

- 3.5 meters and longer with diameters larger than 450mm
- 3.0 meters and longer with diameters less than 450mm

Plastube columns are should be braced according to accepted industry practice. Bracing ensures the column remains straight and reduces the chances of bowing or moving during pouring. It is especially important with tall, small diameter columns.

Cross bracing is typically placed at intervals of between 4 and 6 times the column diameter.

Vertical bracing assists in ensuring the column remains plumb and in the correct position.

Commonly 4 timbers (100mm x 75mm) for diameters below 600mm or 6 timbers (100mm x 75mm) for larger diameters are equally spaced around the circumference of the column, running the full height of the column.

Props should not be placed directly onto the plastube column formwork.



Column supported by Soffit formwork



Freestanding column braced and propped

# TECHNICAL DATA SHEET



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### STRIPPING

Two methods of stripping plastube columns are commonly used:

**Unwinding:** Use a strong knife and pliers to break the spiral lock at the top of the column and begin unwinding, pulling away from the column. Once started, the unwinding process can be continued by hand.

**Slab Stripping:** Using an angle grinder or similar, the plastic column may be cut from top to bottom and sprung free from the concrete. This method is typically quicker than unwinding but may leave score marks on the finished column.

### STORAGE AND HANDLING

Column formwork should not be stored in direct sunlight for long periods of time. Where possible, columns should be stored vertically. Where columns are stored horizontally:

- Ground must be flat, even and clear of debris
- Formwork stacks should not exceed 1.5 meters high
- Formwork made from the heavy profile should not be stored on top of formwork made from light profile.

Allcon products are manufactured to the highest quality, and if used in the correct applications and in accordance with all directions, will produce quality and consistent results. However Allcon Group Pty Ltd accepts no responsibility for inappropriate usage or faulty workmanship by the end user.

Product: Plastube  
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