

PROPER USE OF SANDBAGS

It's more than just filling sandbags, stacking them up and building walls and barriers.

Using sandbags which are properly filled and placed may divert water around instead of through buildings. Sandbags do not, however, guarantee a water-tight seal.

A correctly filled sandbag should only be filled 1/2 to 2/3 full, and tied near the top. This allows the sand inside the sandbag to move and mold with the ground or other sandbags when they are laid on top of each other to prevent gaps for water ingress.

Polypropylene sandbags are preferred, but burlap sandbags will also work.



Sandbags should be filled with heavy-bodied or sandy soil. Avoid fine sand and gravelly or rocky soils.

CORRECT



END VIEW

BARRIERS

For best results, lay sandbags so that the barrier is built up with all the joints between the sandbags staggered and covered by other sandbags. As each sandbag is placed, it should be well stamped down to fill any voids between the rows and layers.

WRONG



END VIEW

DOORWAYS

Sandbags can *best* be used to help protect doorways if a **waterproof layer is placed behind properly filled and stacked bags**. Use heavy plastic or waterproof canvas, about 5' x 5' and, if possible, tape to the door frame. Place sandbags firmly and stagger as shown, and wrap plastic up and over the top. The waterproof sheeting is always essential for protection of doorways.



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