



WaterBoost

WB – Inground Tank Installation Guide

Non-trafficable buried polyethylene storage tank

Installation & Warranty Guide

Get in touch



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EXPERT SUPPORT · SINCE 1975

Install it right, first time.

This guide covers burying the polyethylene storage tank supplied with a WaterBoost Inground system. Follow it step by step to protect the tank and keep your warranty valid.

The tank is **non-trafficable and not load bearing**. It must never carry vehicle or structural loads directly.

The tank is approved for **clean water only**. Any other liquid needs written approval from WaterBoost first.



C20 20 MPa

Concrete grade

200 mm

Min base (groundwater)

600 mm

Min tank base to inlet

50 mm

Water to float empty tank

Hand only

Compaction method

FLOTATION RISK

An empty tank will float on as little as **50 mm (2")** of water. A submerged tank pushes upward with considerable force. Where groundwater can reach the excavation, anchor the tank in concrete so it cannot lift out of the ground. Keep water in the tank throughout installation. Never leave it empty in an open or freshly backfilled hole.

BEFORE YOU START

- ☐ Check site maps and plans for buried pipes, cables, ducting or other obstructions.
- ☐ Survey ground suitability and subsoil drainage.
- ☐ Establish the highest groundwater level, including after heavy rain.
- ☐ Check flood risk from run-off, storm saturation or tides.
- ☐ Confirm the loads the area around the tank will see.
- ☐ Inspect the tank for transport or off-loading damage.
- ☐ Check with Building Control if in any doubt.

CHOOSE YOUR METHOD

Groundwater present

Survey shows groundwater can reach the excavation. Tank fully encased in concrete — **page 2, left**.

No groundwater

Survey confirms no water ingress or flood risk. Concrete to first rib — **page 2, right**.

Not sure

Treat the site as groundwater present.

Installation must be carried out only by suitably qualified and experienced personnel.

WITH GROUNDWATER PRESENT

Tank fully encased in concrete

- 1 Set the excavation depth from the invert of the incoming supply pipe.
- 2 Dig the hole **500 mm** wider than the tank on every side, with a level base able to carry the load.
- 3 Pump out any water during installation. Line the walls with heavy-duty sheeting as a waterproof membrane.
- 4 Lay a level base of at least **200 mm (8")** of C20 (20 MPa) concrete.
- 5 Once the base has hardened, lower the tank onto it with suitable lifting gear. Keep stones and sharp objects out of the hole.
- 6 Fill the tank at least **one quarter** with water as ballast.
- 7 Check level and position, then backfill with concrete at least **250 mm** thick, finishing **200 mm** over the top.
- 8 Tamp the concrete in by hand. No mechanical compactors.
- 9 Raise the water in the tank as the backfill rises, keeping the two levels matched.
- 10 Leave the water in until the concrete has fully cured.

WITH NO GROUNDWATER PRESENT

Wet concrete bed, concrete to first rib

- 1 Set the excavation depth from the inlet invert. Allow at least **600 mm (24")** from tank base to underside of the inlet pipe.
- 2 Dig the hole **300 mm (12")** wider than the tank's outside diameter.
- 3 Lay a base of at least **100 mm (4")** of C20 (20 MPa) concrete.
- 4 While the base is still wet, lower the tank onto it with suitable lifting gear. Keep stones and sharp objects out.
- 5 Check level and position, prop if needed, and let the base set. Cover the hole with a tarpaulin or PE sheet.
- 6 Fill the tank with water up to and over the first rib, at least **300–400 mm (12–16")** deep.
- 7 With the tank secure and unable to move sideways, pour concrete up to at least the **first reinforcing rib**.
- 8 Above the rib, backfill with concrete or sand / pea shingle, as local regulations and site conditions require.

QUICK REFERENCE

	Groundwater present	No groundwater
Excavation oversize	500 mm each side	300 mm over tank diameter
Concrete base	200 mm min, C20, hardened first	100 mm min, C20, tank placed wet
Water in tank	¼ full, raised with backfill	Over first rib, 300–400 mm min
Surround	Concrete 250 mm, 200 mm over top	Concrete to first rib, then backfill
Compaction	Hand tamping only	Hand tamping only

FINISHING, COVERS & LOADING

- Don't backfill until Building Control has approved the installation, where required.
- Cut off unused inlet spigots to suit the supply direction.
- Bring backfill or concrete up flush with the access cover.
- Protect the tank top from vehicles and animals, e.g. secure fencing. Check the cover's load rating.
- Build any covering so no weight transfers onto the tank.
- Near a driveway: surround in concrete and spread the load with a reinforced slab at least **200 mm** thick.

WARRANTY CONDITIONS

- Tank inspected and free of damage before installation.
- On groundwater or flood-risk sites, tank surrounded in concrete to the top.
- Installed to this guide by qualified, experienced personnel.



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