

# GripRock Splitting Block DIY Kit Owner's Manual

## Assembly & Operating Instructions



**Warning:** All operators and assemblers must read this manual and completely understand all instructions and safety information before operating and assembling this splitting block. Do not allow anyone to operate this splitting block that has not read this manual. Follow the safety instructions in this manual. This splitting block can be dangerous if assembled or used improperly. If improperly assembled and/ or operated and/or maintained, there is potential for damage to your personal property or possible injury or death. Finnish Innovations LLC is not responsible for any damages or injuries caused by improper assembly and/or use. Do not assemble or use this splitting block if you have doubts or questions concerning safe assembly and operation. Please direct questions and concerns to our customer service department 1-518-300-3675.



## Important Safety Information

**GENERAL SAFETY:** Failure to follow these instructions may result in serious injury or death. **RETAIN** this "owner's manual" for future reference.

**INTENDED USE:** NEVER use this splitting block for any other purposes than for splitting wood. It is designed only for this use. Any other use can cause injury or death. **RECOMMENDED** to use a leveraxe splitting tool with your splitting block. The leveraxe will stay on top of the wood as it splits wood.

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:** BEFORE assembling and operating this splitting block, ensure that you are wearing correct safety gear such as safety glasses or goggles, steel toed shoes, sturdy pants and tight fitting gloves with no loose parts. NEVER wear loose jewelry or clothing that could be caught up in the splitting block during assembly or operation. Keep clothing and hair away during splitting block's assembly or operation.

NEVER allow children to assemble or operate this wood splitting block. NEVER allow adults lacking proper instruction and understanding to assemble or operate this wood splitting block.

**Kids' Products Choking Warning** (Ages 12 and under) Keep small parts away from children under 3 years of age. This splitting block is not to for use by people under the age of 18. **WARNING** Children can fall into the bucket and drown. Keep children away from bucket with even a small amount of liquid.

NEVER leave the splitting block right side up without the rubber tire installed. The upright steel rods can cause serious injury or death if left unprotected.

**WARNING** this product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

**WARNING** the people shown in some pictures and videos assembling and operating this splitting block are lacking proper safety gear, including proper eye protection.

**WORK AREA:** **NEVER** operate the splitting block on slippery, wet, muddy, or icy ground. Operate your splitting block **ONLY** on a hard, level surface, in daylight. **ALWAYS** keep the work area clean. Remove split wood that has fallen to the ground immediately so you don't trip over it. Never operate this splitting block near cars, houses, people, or other items that could be damaged. **KEEP** all people, pets, valuables a minimum of 15 feet (3.66 meters) away from your working area when assembling or operating this wood splitting block.

**PREPARING THE LOG:** Both ends of the log should be cut as square as possible to help ensure that the log stays upright in the splitting block. Square log ends help the axe to stay on top of the wood during operation. Do not split logs greater than 20 inches (44 cm) in length.

**ASSEMBLY OF THE SPLITTING BLOCK:** **ALWAYS** use safety glasses or goggles, gloves and dust mask when assembling the splitting block. There can be sharp edges on certain parts of the splitting block that can cause serious injury.

**WARNING** Mixing concrete can be dangerous. Follow the concrete manufacturer's instructions when mixing concrete.

**NEVER** ride, sit or stand on the splitting block. Serious injury could result if the splitting block tips over or if the steel rods are contacted.

**ALWAYS** keep the tire in place. Do not remove.

**NEVER** reach or bend over the splitting block to pick up a log or other item.

**NEVER** try to split two logs on top of each other. Keep good footing and balance at all times.

**NEVER** use improper accessories or parts with this splitting block. Check owner's manual for recommended accessories.

#### **REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE SAFETY:**

**NEVER** assemble or operate your splitting block when it is in poor mechanical condition or in need of repair. From time to time check all the steel rods, washers, hose clamps, and tire. Make sure the hose clamps are tight.

**NEVER** alter your splitting block. It may cause your splitting block to become unsafe and will void the warranty. Perform all assembly and maintenance procedures according to this owner's manual before you use your splitting block. Replace damaged or worn parts immediately. Only use original equipment manufacturer's parts. This splitting block is not safe to operate if the rubber tire has been cut, cracked, or damaged in any way.

**ALL** replacement parts must meet manufacturer's specifications.

**NEVER** leave the splitting block right side up without the rubber tire installed. The upright steel rods can cause serious injury or death if left unprotected.

#### **TRANSPORTATION:**

**NEVER** carry any cargo or wood on your splitting block when transporting it.

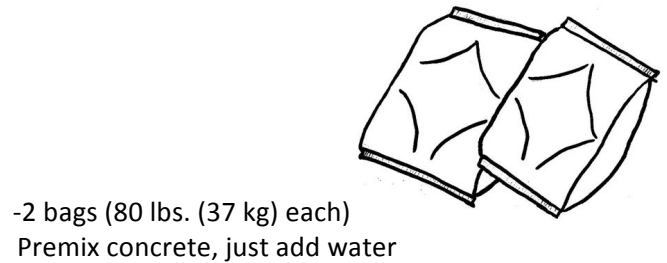
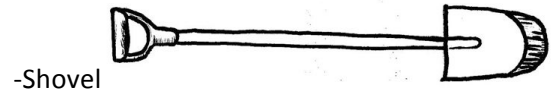
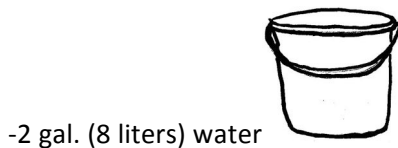
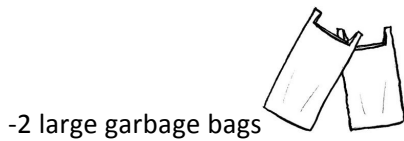
**NEVER** allow anyone to sit or ride on your splitting block.


Be careful when moving your splitting block on rugged or rough terrain. Keep it upright.

When fully assembled the splitting block is quite heavy. Make sure to have enough people to help lift it safely.

# Assembly Instructions

1. You will need the following items **before** you start the assembly of the Splitting Block. They are **not** included in the kit.



 **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT: BEFORE** assembling and operating this splitting block ensure that you are wearing safety gear such as safety glasses or goggles, steel toed shoes, sturdy pants and tight fitting gloves with no loose parts. **NEVER** wear loose jewelry or clothing that could be caught up in the splitting block during assembly or operation. Keep clothing and hair away during splitting block's assembly or operation.

2. Splitting Block Kit package includes:

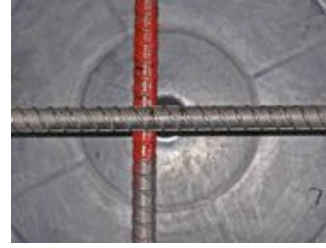
- 1 bucket
- 2 steel rods
- 1 tire
- 1 plastic bag (incl. 4 washers, 4 hose clamps, 2 zip ties)
- Assembly Instructions & warning/disclaimer



3. Press the steel rod that is painted red down through the two slits into the holes in the bucket that are painted red. Make sure that that both zip ties around the steel rod are on the inside of the bucket.



4. Press the second steel rod that is **not** painted down into the holes in the bucket that are **not** painted. Should look like this, **CORRECT**:



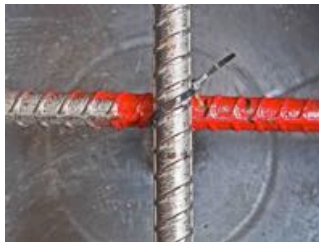
Make sure that you have **not** reversed the rebar sections.

**INCORRECT**



5. Check that both steel rods on the outside of the bucket are straight up and down. Then fasten the two steel rods together where they cross at the bottom with the two zip ties.

i.



ii.



6. One side of the tire has four predrilled holes. Mount the tire on the steel rods by putting the rods through these holes.



7. Check to make sure that the tire is properly seated on **all** the washers. If there is a large space between 2 of the washers and tire, then the tire is **not** properly seated. This means that the steel rods are in the wrong holes. Go back to Step 4 & 5 and check their locations.

**CORRECT**




**INCORRECT**





9. Place a hose clamp on the end of each steel rod on top of the washers. Tighten with a screwdriver.



10. You are ready to mix and fill the bucket with concrete.  **Before** you start make sure that the temperature where you are mixing will be warmer than 40 F (4 C) for the next seven days. You must mix and pour the two bags of concrete continuously once you have started mixing. Once the concrete is in the bucket, it cannot be used or moved for the next 7 days. Failure to follow these instructions will void the warranty.
11. Place two large garbage bags on the ground on top of which you will mix 2 bags of concrete. Choose this location close to where you will be using the splitting block. Follow the concrete manufactures instructions to mix concrete. The following are our recommendation only. Concrete is caustic, do not get any on your skin. If you get concrete on your skin, thoroughly rinse off with water. Wear gloves and safety glasses!
12. Pour one 80 lbs bag of concrete on to the garbage bags. Make a cone in the center with a shovel and pour about 1/6 of the 2 gal. of water into the cone. Turn the concrete and water over with the shovel until thoroughly mixed. Continue this process for at least **10 minutes** until ½ of the water is used.




13. After the first bag is thoroughly mixed, shovel it into the bucket. Use the shovel to tamp the concrete down to reduce air bubbles. Repeat steps 11-13 to mix the second bag of concrete.





14. You will need all the concrete to fill the bucket. Don't waste any! When you finish adding concrete to the bucket it should be level with the top of the bucket, otherwise the warranty is voided. Do not move the splitting block after you have leveled off the concrete with the top of the bucket. Place the plastic bags over the fresh concrete to protect the concrete from rain and debris.



15.  Do not use or move the splitting block for the next 7 days. Temperature during these **7 days** must be continuously warmer than 40 F (4 C). Failure to follow these instructions will void the product warranty.

## Operating Instructions

 This splitting block is intended only for homeowners and non-commercial users to split firewood as detailed in the instructions and not for any other purpose. If you use excessive strength your axe may hit the concrete, avoid this! Splitting wood can be dangerous. Be sure to take all proper precautions to prevent injury to yourself and others.

 **PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT: BEFORE** operating this splitting block, ensure that you are wearing safety gear such as safety glasses or goggles, steel toed shoes, sturdy pants and tight fitting gloves with no loose parts. **NEVER** wear loose jewelry or clothing that could be caught up in the splitting block during assembly or operation. Keep clothing and hair away during splitting block's assembly or operation. Keep hands and feet clear of splitting block during operation.

1. ALWAYS check for damaged parts before operation. Do not operate until any necessary repairs have been made. If the tire is damaged, contact the manufacturer for a replacement. ALWAYS split wood in the direction of the grain. Hold the sides of the log when loading it into the splitting block.
2. Place splitting block on a firm, level surface. The surroundings should also be level, firm and free of obstructions. Never operate this splitting block near cars, houses, people, or other items that could be damaged.
3. Lift a squarely cut log by it's sides, no longer than 20 inch (44cm) and no bigger than 14 inches in diameter. Gently place it on top of the concrete block and inside the tire. NEVER force or push logs into the splitting block. There must be free space around the log when you put it into the splitting block. The size of the log will increase as it is split.



4. Split the wood into desired size pieces. **If you use excessive strength your axe may hit the concrete, avoid this!** If any pieces of wood happen to fall out of the splitting block pick them up immediately and place them outside the working area far enough so no one trips on them.
5. After the log has been split to the desired size, remove all split pieces from the splitting block and place them outside the working area far enough so no one trips on them. Clean off the concrete surface to ensure good contact with the next piece of wood being place into the splitting block.

**NEVER** place hands, feet or any body part between the log and the concrete base or the log and the axe during operation. Serious injury or death could result.

**KEEP** all people, pets, valuables a minimum of 15 feet (3.66 meters) away from your working area when assembling or operating this wood splitting block. Only the operator is near the splitting block during use. If a helper is assisting in loading logs, NEVER operate the splitting block until the helper is 15 feet (3.66 meters) away.

**NEVER** operate the log splitter when under the influence of alcohol, drug or medication. **NEVER** allow a person who is tired or otherwise impaired to use the splitting block.

## Storage Instructions

1. Store this splitting block away from where children play.
2. It is recommended to keep this splitting block covered with something waterproof. This will protect the tire from UV light, the concrete from absorbing water and weakening in the freeze thaw cycle, and the steel rods from rusting.

## Maintenance

1. If your rubber tire is cut or cracked during operation, replace it as soon as possible. It is not safe to operate this splitting block if the tire is damaged. Removal of the tire is the reverse of installation. To install a new tire follow steps 6 -9 starting on page 5.
2. Make sure to remove any tools and accessories from the work area after maintenance.
3. See also "Repair and Maintenance Safety" in the safety information section on page 3 of this manual.
4. **ALL** replacement parts must meet manufacture's specifications.
5. Contact manufacture below to order accessories and replacement parts for this splitting block:

Finnish Innovations LLC, [sales@leverax.com](mailto:sales@leverax.com), leverax.com, p. 1-518-300-3675

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

We, the manufacture, reserve the right to change the product and/or specifications in the owner's manual without notification. This manual is for information only and the picture, drawing, video, and links appearing in this manual are for reference only.

## Warranty

This wood splitting block is guaranteed to be free of manufacturing defects for 90 days on the items that came with your kit. Warranty does not include defects that have occurred by wrongful assembly by the owner and/or failure to follow the owner's manual.

## Technical Specifications

- Base Height: 10"
- Total weight w/concrete: 185 lbs
- Parts guaranteed: 90 days
- Made in: USA
- Recommended only for LeverAxe
- Tire inner diameter: 17.5"
- Largest diameter wood splittable: 14"
- Shipping package: (22x17x12), 28lbs
- DIY kit: minimal customer assembly
- Does not include 2-80lbs bags of concrete needed to cast the base