

Estimator Pro Overview



TECHNICAL BULLETIN . CONSTRUCTION EFFICIENCY, ESTIMATING

1.14.02

Fox Blocks Estimator Pro is a simple program to achieve a full summary of all the materials required for a Fox Blocks project, residential or multi-story commercial. Using the program provides a clear and accurate estimate to which material and labor prices may be assigned to develop precise quotes for any project. Estimator Pro also creates summaries for ordering materials.

PREPARATION FOR ESTIMATING AND USING THE PROGRAM

There is specific project information that will be required to enter in the tabs of the program. In preparation, review the construction drawings and log the following information to be ready to enter into the Estimator Pro:

- Block sizes in terms of concrete core size - 4", 6", 8", 10" or 12"
- Linear footage of walls
- Changes in block size - horizontally and/or vertically
- Calculate the vertical block coursing (wall heights) from top of bearing to top of wall top
- Variation in vertical coursing i.e. step footings, frost walls, gables, etc.
- Use of specialty blocks – taper top, corbel brick ledge, T blocks, 45 degree, etc.
- Number and size of openings – doors and windows, wood bucks or Fox Buck
- Rebar layout for each level, bar size and spacing

ACCESS

The Estimator Pro is a browser base program that does not need to be downloaded or installed. It is a web based and is compatible across all formats and all devices. Go to the Fox Blocks website and select Project Estimator and select Estimator Pro.

ASSISTANCE

Within the program there is an assistance link, highlighted in blue. Click on this blue link and a detailed information box will appear to describe the specific function or product.



**Assist Example:
Lineal Feet of Taper Top**

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OPENING SCREEN

Menu Bar

There are various options in the Project Menu Bar. For a new estimate select new, if you have previously created an estimate select 'clear saved data' to make sure previous data is erased.

This menu has various functions to open, export, import and print the estimates. It is important that when creating estimates, the Project Names are unique. Creating a new estimate, the first step is to enter the relevant information about the project and create Worksheets.

PROJECT DATA

Project Date: Will default to the current date, adjust as required

Project Name: Provide a name for the project

Client Name: Input the clients name

Project Version: Multiple versions of a project estimate may be done, input the various versions

Distributor: For reference, input the Fox Blocks distributor

CREATING WORKSHEETS

Worksheet: Worksheets are an important element to an estimate. Estimates are typically organized by breaking down the project into various stages or materials. Each Worksheet provides a clear breakdown of what is required in each of these phases.

Individual Worksheets are totaled in the Worksheet Material Summary. All Worksheets are totaled in the Project Workbook. There is no limit to the number of Worksheets in any estimate.

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Organize worksheets dependent on:

- Levels – basement, garage, main, 2nd, 3rd, gable, etc.
- If the block concrete core size changes it requires a separate worksheet
- Typically label Worksheets as per construction phase of the project – i.e basement, garage, main, 2nd, gable, etc.
- Number of worksheets is unlimited
- As you create worksheets rename them to identify the data
- Once a Worksheet is created enter all the components from each Tab for each worksheet
- Organize the worksheets and create them all at once or complete one and move on to the next

Estimator Pro is organized with tabs in a sequential manner starting with Walls. As the information is entered it starts to populate other fields within the program and create material summaries. Click on the + sign to open each tab.

WALL

For each Worksheet open the Wall tab and enter the required data for:

- Total linear foot of wall
- Wall height (use of half block or height extender to get exact wall height). Note wall heights are in full block coursing dimensions per blocks, multiples of 16", half blocks 8" or with 4" height extenders
- Block concrete core size
- Number of outside and inside corners
- Specialty block requirements

The actual wall height for this worksheet will be shown after the coursing is finalized. When a specialty block (i.e corbel brick ledge, taper top or curb block) the program subtracts only standard blocks to be replaced by these blocks.

Fox Blocks Compact – if the Compact product is used, turn the button ON and all the product calculations will be for the Compact product line. By default, this button is OFF. If the project requires a mix of standard Fox Blocks and some Compact, create a separate Worksheet just for the Compact.

FOX BLOCKS ACCESSORIES

Accessories refer to Radius Block, Energy Sticks, xlerator, tieKey. Enter requirement per each Worksheet.

OPENINGS

The Openings tab inputs all the larger openings in the wall (doors and windows) for each Worksheet. The data provides buck material calculations plus removes a volume of concrete per the opening size.

Enter the number of openings of the size same. When entering the opening size – width and height, round the dimension to whole rough opening sizes. Windows will have a sill, doors may not require a sill (buck material), this is an option. The calculations from the Openings tab are automatically populated into the Walls and Concrete tabs.

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WALL DATA

The Wall Data is automatically populated with all the information related to this Worksheet only.

WORKSHEET MATERIAL SUMMARY

The Worksheet Material Summary lists all the Fox Blocks materials required per this Worksheet. Material is rounded up to be complete bundles or packages per a Fox blocks order form.

Complete bundles may provide an allowance with extra blocks or material. There is an automatic waste factor within this tab which is set at 2%. This can be changed to suit the complexity of a project or if a contractor has material in stock.

REBAR

Enter the rebar required for this worksheet. The data from the Walls tab – linear feet and wall height will automatically be input into the rebar tab.

Select the reinforcement size and spacing. Reinforcement splice lengths are generally 60 times the diameter or the rebar, i.e. ½" rebar #4 (10M) the splice distance is 30 inches. Rebar size and spacing must follow the project engineering and/or code requirements.

CONCRETE

This tab will automatically calculate the concrete volume for the walls from this Worksheets data. Select the 'Remove Square Feet of Opening' to remove the volume of concrete for the openings specified on this Worksheet. The concrete tab also provides the options for the concrete volumes for footings, slabs, and piers.

TRUEGRID

The TRUEGRID tabs allows for calculation of the TRUEGRID products, accessories, and gravel base material.

COMPACT TILT

This tab is specifically for commercial tilt-up applications using the Fox Blocks Compact product line.

MAN HOURS

Man Hours tab provides input on all the variables related to man-hour labor rates for this Worksheet. After entering all the data, labor rate cost may be applied to provide a labor cost estimate and square foot costs guideline. The summary also provides project completion time guidelines per the crew size and the other variables.

PROJECT WORKBOOK

Project Workbook provides material and cost totals entered from ALL the Worksheets. This tab also provides an entry field to add addition project materials and services to the overall estimate. Cost templates may be created and inserted to simplify future estimates or provide various price sheets as required.

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Finalization of the Estimate

Once the estimate is complete or at various stages go to the Project Menu tab at the top, and select Print Worksheet.

The following dialog box will appear with selection options for what sheets to print. The reports will be printed to your default printer or can be printed as a PDF file.

Print Worksheet

By default, the print function will print your selected print items from all worksheets, where you have entered data. Click the checkbox below to print only this worksheet:

☐ Print Open Worksheet Only

Select worksheet print items:

- ☒ Wall
- ☒ Openings
- ☐ Rebar
- ☐ Concrete
- ☐ TRUEGRID
- ☐ Compact Tilt
- ☐ Man Hours

Select summary print items:

- ☒ Fox Blocks Parts Summary
- ☐ Job Summary

Print

Dialog Box for Printed Report

4710021 Project Summary

Well Data Version: 1.0
Project: Green job
Client: Fred Contributor: Gail H. Dene
Date: 2021-04-01
Worksheet: Basement

Worksheet Info:

Concrete Thickness (Block Size)	8"
Total Wall Height	9' 4"
Number of Rows (Not including 1/2 Block)	7
Wall Length (Total Linear Feet)	234' 0"
Number of Inside 90° Corner Locations	1 1/2 of Wall: 2' 0"
Number of Outside 90° Corner Locations	5 1/2 of Wall: 29' 4"
Number of 45° Angle Locations	0 1/2 of Wall: 3' 0"
Number of T-Block Locations	0 1/2 of Wall: 0' 0"
Linear Feet of Straight Curb Block	0' 0"
Number of 90° Curb Block Locations	0' 0"
Linear Feet of 12" Radius Block	0' 0"
Linear Feet of 24" Radius Block	0' 0"
Square Feet of Block	0' 0"
Rebar per Block	2.8
Linear Feet of Tapered Block	200' 0"
Total L.F. Taken up by Corners and Ts	19' 10"
Total L.F. Taken up by Straight Block	202' 3"
Total Square Feet of Openings	48' 00"
Total Linear Feet of Fox Blocks	52' 1"
Openings in Block Count	7
Gross Square Feet of Wall Area	2,189
Net Square Feet of Wall Area	2,135

Weight

Straight Block	350	2,520.00
Straight 1/2 Block	0	0.00
90° Corner Block	45	401.84
90° Corner 1/2 Block	0	0.00
45° Angle Block	0	0.00
Straight Curb Block	0	0.00
90° Corner Curb Block	0	0.00
T-Block	0	0.00
Radius Block	0	0.00
Tapered Block	30	408.00
Compact Tapered Panels	0	0.00
Radius Block	0	0.00
Fox Blocks	14	\$0.00
Extend	0	0.00
Fox Block 1/4 Clips	1,000	71.00
HD Energy Blocks	0	0.00
4-Layer	0	0.00
Rebar	0	0.00
Total Approximate Weight		3,040.84 lbs

Approximate Number of 32" Thick Loads Required: 9.87
Concrete (5' x 8' x 4', less openings, no pump allowance): 52 bags/40 sq ft
Bracing Needed @ 8' On Center: 28

Note: Takeoffs are courtesy and budgetary only. Accuracy is neither implied nor warranted. All quantities must be verified by either draw, existing contractor or similar.
Please call toll free: 877-369-2562 or visit www.foxblocks.com for more information.

FOX BLOCKS
SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Example of Printed Summary

ESTIMATOR PRO TIPS

- Calculate the block coursing for the full wall height (footing to roof) then divide it into the required Worksheets, i.e. footing to roof 19 courses, Basement 7 course, 1st floor 6 courses, 2nd floor 6 courses
- Always double check the plan dimensions on each Worksheet, count inside and outside the corners
- The Estimator Pro provides a percentage for a waste factor which may be adjusted, also know that Fox Blocks materials are rounded up into the bundled quantities.
- Worksheets allow for material estimates for each phase or level of a project
- Unlimited Worksheets, organize sequentially and apply identifiable names
- Ensure that all the required tabs have been completed on each Worksheet
- Develop cost, project material and services templates to add to estimates
- Track estimates for accuracy

Review the EstimatorPro Instructional Video on the Fox Blocks ILC website www.foxblocks/training.com