

# Re: Scientist Says Concrete Was Used in Pyramids

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- *From:* prd <X\_header@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Sat, 16 Dec 2006 00:25:01 GMT
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In sci.archaeology message [news:Xns9899CA1284EB8trolleyfan@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:Xns9899CA1284EB8trolleyfan@xxxxxxxxxxxx)  
by David Johnson <trolleyfan\_nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxx> . . . :

firstname@xxxxxxxxxxxx (Florian) wrote in  
[news:1hq3io.seic7y1ciyvlkN%firstname@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:1hq3io.seic7y1ciyvlkN%firstname@xxxxxxxxxxxx):

David Johnson <trolleyfan\_nospam@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Which of course makes using it rather than just real stone  
block  
rather stupid and a waste of time and effort.

Why?

Have you in fact not been reading what others have been posting? Or  
are you just so wedded to this idea, that you refuse to let it sink  
through?

So, why:

1) Probably 95% of the (physical) effort involved in building the  
pyramid is moving the material around. Two-and-a-half ton blocks or  
two-and-a-half tons of "concrete" mix, it doesn't matter – it takes the  
same effort. Unfortunately for "concrete", you not only have to move the  
"mix", but the water to mix it as well – around 15–20% of freshly mixed  
concrete is water. That means for every two-and-a-half tons of mix you  
now have to also move half a ton of water.

Or, IOW, you've just increased the amount of material needed to be moved  
by 20% or so. When that's all being moved by man–power without so much  
as a wheelbarrow, this is so less than good.

2) If you had been reading the past posts to you on the subject, you  
would know by now that the limestone doesn't just "dissolve" in water

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(or "disaggregate" or dis–anything else – it just gets wet). That means you have to go in there and break it up by hand.

And breaking up two–and–a–half tons of limestone into little concreteable–sized bits is a lot more work than simply splitting out single two–and–a–half ton blocks. A lot more work. Oh, it isn't anywhere near as precision work – but it's still work.

3) And after having put all the work into making your mix, and hauling water, and mixing it up, and making a mold, and pouring the mold, and waiting four hours or whatever for it to set up, the result is a block that could have been made the same way as all the other limestone blocks in the pyramid! That's right! You've probably doubled or tripled the effort require to make a block and are left with a block with no advantages over one simply cut out of stone...by stonemasons who have had a couple of million blocks to get really good at it.

I won't say they could cut out a block faster than it would take yours to dry...but I wouldn't bet against it, either.\*

So, like I said – a stupid waste of time and effort for no benefit.

David

\* A very rough calculation shows them cutting 20–30 blocks an hour. How many individual groups each cutting out a block this is, I don't know – but if it's under 80 or so...yes, they can cut a block faster than yours can dry.

They can cut them off site, not interfering with each other and then amassing them quickly in the structure. Whereas pouring 80 blocks at a time on site would create complete chaos.

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