

# Bentonite

- Bentonite powder is usually provided in bags but can also be delivered in bulk from a tanker. When mixed the fluid is slippery but relatively harmless unless ingested in large quantities.
- When moving the bagged bentonite always follow good manual handling techniques. Only lift one bag at a time.
- Mixing plant can be noisy and creates a splash hazard. Wear the appropriate PPE including ear and eye protection..
- Bentonite slurry is usually used in connection with support to unlined excavations, either diaphragm walls or bored piles. Always ensure there is suitable edge protection for the process being constructed.
- Keep the work area clean and tidy. Wash down any bentonite spillages to maintain a good working platform.
- Ensure the excavation is adequately supervised and covered at all times.
- Make sure electric cables and boxes are protected from getting wet/damaged
- After using bentonite wash your hands, especially if eating or smoking.



**Q. What PPE should you wear when mixing bentonite?**