

# Pre-Cast Concrete Piling

With this type of piling, precast-concrete columns are driven into the ground using a piling hammer.

- Precast concrete piles are called “displacement” piles as when they are driven into the ground, the ground is displaced sideways.
- The piling rig winch can be used to off load piles from a lorry or lift the piles up into the helmet. But you are not allowed to drag piles sideways, as this can pull the rig over.
- The piles are typically square in section and measure between 200 – 300mm wide and 6-12m long.
- The piles can be jointed so that their overall length is much more than 12m. Over 30m is not uncommon. The method of joining can involve twisting the pile or driving in locking pins or wedges. Protect your back when carrying out this operation.
- The piling hammer is usually driven by hydraulic power and strikes the pile about twice a second. This can produce high noise levels that can damage your hearing if you do not wear protection.



**Q. What is the danger of using the winch to drag piles??**

**Q. Why is it important to wear hearing protection when driving piles.?**

**Q. When piles are joined by twisting, what injury can be caused?**