

# WHAT ARE UBUNTU-BLOX?

(RECYCLED PLASTIC BUILDING  
BLOCKS)



UBUNTU INFO PART 1

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[www.BuildSimple.org](http://www.BuildSimple.org)

# WHAT IS UBUNTU-BLOX?

## UBUNTU-BLOX INFO PART 1

Ubuntu is an African word with a rich meaning that encompasses cooperation, humanity, and group solidarity for survival in situations with scarce resources. It is a good name for a self-help technology that can turn a problem into a resource.

Inventor and welder Harvey Lacey of Dallas, Texas envisioned the press and system to build with trash in response to the housing crisis after the Haitian earthquakes. Owen Geiger designed the press and wall reinforcement. Harvey has been hard at work refining and promoting and teaching ever since.

Check out the latest developments at the Ubuntu-Blox Project on Facebook, <http://recycledplasticblockhouses.com/ubuntu-blox/> Links to videos, reports, reviews, and more information is available at BSI's Ubuntu-blox page at <http://buildsimple.org/ubuntu-blox.php> or contact Harvey at [ubuntublox@gmail.com](mailto:ubuntublox@gmail.com)

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# A STRONG & LIGHTWEIGHT BUILDING MATERIAL



**EARTHQUAKE-  
RESISTANT**

**TERMITE PROOF  
FLOOD-  
RESISTANT**

**USUALLY HIGHLY  
INSULATED**

# STRUCTURAL BUILDING WALLS 8" / 20 CM THICK

STIFFENED  
WITH WIRE  
AND REBAR



# LIGHT WALLS CAN BE SAFE ON SOFT GROUND



**LESS  
EXPENSIVE  
FOOTINGS  
NEEDED  
THAN FOR  
HEAVIER  
BUILDINGS-**

# UBUNTU-BLOX TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

A HAND-OPERATED PRESS, POLY CORD AND PLASTIC TRASH



# TRASH IS AVAILABLE

TURN NON-RECYCLABLE PLASTIC FOAM AND FILM  
PROBLEMS INTO RESOURCES



# MAKING UBUNTU-BLOX

PUT CLEAN PLASTIC  
TRASH IN BAGS OR TUBES



LOAD IN THE HAND PRESS  
BALE BLOCKS WITH CORD





# BUILD WITH UBUNTU-BLOX

ANCHOR REBAR IN FOOTING  
LAY BLOCKS



TIE BLOCKS TO WIRE  
ADD REBAR EVERY 4 COURSES



## GOOD COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH



A SINGLE BLOCK OF  
RECYCLABLE MATERIAL  
HELD UP  
APPROXIMATELY 4,000  
POUNDS

# SAFE IN AN 8.3 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE

'DID NOT  
SUSTAIN ANY  
PERMANENT  
STRUCTURAL OR  
MECHANICAL  
DAMAGE' ON THE  
NTS SHAKE  
TABLE IN  
PLANO, TX



# PROTECT FROM SUN AND FIRE WITH STUCCO OR PLASTER



## PROLONGED FIRE EXPOSURE COULD DAMAGE UBUNTU-BLOX

USE FOR A SINGLE STORY,  
FOR BEDROOMS WITH GOOD EGRESS\*



\* IN A PROLONGED  
FIRE UBUNTU-  
BLOX MATERIALS  
COULD RELEASE  
TOXIC GASES OR  
MELT

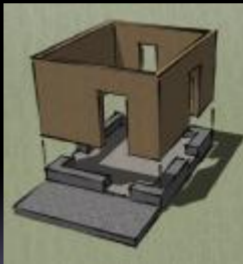
# BUILD ON A NON- FLAMMABLE BASE WALL



IF PEOPLE COOK  
INSIDE

# HEAVY BASE UNDER UBUNTU-BLOX

NON-FLAMMABLE CONCRETE  
BLOCK, CEB, EARTH BAG  
OR GRAVEL BAG CAN  
ANCHOR FOR HIGH WINDS



# UBUNTU BLOCK

COMPRESSED PLASTIC TRASH  
8x8x16 INCH / 20x20x40 cm





# UBUNTU-BLOX: A business as well as a home

LOW-COST, SIMPLE TO LEARN



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IOM

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