MAKING UBUNTU-BLOX
(RECYCLED BUILDING BLOCKS)

UBUNTU INFO PART 2

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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/](http://recycledplasticblockhouses.com/ubuntu-blox/), watch a 4 minute video about Ubuntu-blox in Haiti at [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=uVE5kO5AiX8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=uVE5kO5AiX8) More files in this series available at the recycled plastic page at [www.simplestructures.net](http://www.simplestructures.net) or contact Harvey at [ubuntublox@gmail.com](mailto:ubuntublox@gmail.com)

See other files in the Ubuntu Block Info series also available online soon to learn more about building with Ubuntu blocks.

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MAKING UBUNTU BLOX

YOUR UBUNTU BLOX

CREDITS
EQUIPMENT FOR UBUNTU-BLOX
Make a press

11 GAUGE SQUARE STEEL TUBING
2x2 INCH/ 5x5 cm

STEEL PLATE
HALF x 8 INCHES/
1x20 cm
Weld or bolt

WITH CHANNELS FOR BALING WIRE
Add a strong screw

SCAFFOLDING SCREW JACKS OR AN ACME SCREW
And a wheel

CAR STEERING WHEEL OR CUSTOM-MADE
1/2" Plate for Top (not shown) 12"x36".

Notches in ram for wires, in line with spacing between bottom and end tubes.

1/2" Plate 6"x6" for drive plate.
6" nut 4TPI.

1" ACME threaded rod 4TPI 36" long.

2"x2"x8" angle for mounting.
2 needed (second not visible).

2" square tubing 11 ga 9" above floor of press, 4 required.

2"x2" angle 8" long for bracing of end behind tubing (not visible).

2"x2" angle 48-1/2" long for top of sides.
Secures lid and prevents bowing of sides.

1/4" spacing between tubing to allow for tie wires to pass through.

1/4" plate 6"x48-1/2" 2 required.

1/4"x2" bar for securing base together under base pieces, 3 required (not visible).

2" square tubing 11 ga, 52" long.
4 required for floor.

15/16" bolt head welded to threaded rod for driving with socket and ratchet.
Make the right tools

A jig for making loops in the baling wire will save a lot of time.
MAKE UBUNTU-BLOX
Gather supplies

**GET TRASH AND CLEAN IN A CHLORINE DIP**
Break up stiff packing foam by hand or use a mechanical chopper.
Cut wire and loop 1 end long enough for the finished block
Lay wires in grooves of press
Put clean trash in bags

Mesh bags are easiest to plaster
Some plastics should be shredded
Load recyclable trash without a bag

But this block may be worth $5
5 bags for each block
Close the door (if it has one)
Turn the wheel to compress

It does not take a lot of strength
Twist baling wire through the loops
YOUR UBUNTU-BLOX
Weigh 2 - 5 lb./ 1- 2.5 kg

FOR 8x8x16 INCH/ 20x20x40 cm BLOCKS
Easiest to build with neat blocks
Different kinds of blocks

- **RECYCLABLE BLOCKS**
  - Very strong
  - But not insulating

- **FOAM AND FILM BLOCKS**
  - Highly insulating and strong enough for 1 story walls
Mesh makes plastering easy

Bunched garbage or rice bags will not hold plaster well.

Add cheap mesh tubing to block to hold plaster or cover wall with mesh.
BUILD THE ECONOMY AS WELL AS HOMES

AVAILABLE MATERIALS, EASY TO LEARN
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