

Droplet Pebble Pool

Ebb & Flow

INSTRUCTIONS



Step 1 - Mark out the shape of the Droplet Pebble Pool on the ground. This may be done by turning it upside-down, placing it on the floor and either drawing a line around it or placing pegs or other markers on the floor around the pool's edge. Dig a hole equal to the depth of the tank (410 mm). The hole should be a similar shape to the pool to give support to the pool's planting shelf. Conceal the rim of the reservoir below the finished ground level as appropriate for the chosen surround e.g. paving, pebbles or lawn. If you have a stony or uneven ground, make the hole 25mm deeper and 50mm wider and longer than the pool. Cover the hole with a 25mm layer of the sand for support and allow for final adjustment of the pool to level. (Tip: keep a barrow or two of soil close to hand as it may be used to backfill).



Step 2 - Provide a suitable electrical supply, paying close attention to the electrical and safety advice supplied by the pump manufacturer. The pump cable should be protected by a plastic or metal conduit as far as the junction box or mains socket, especially if the cable is buried under soil. A mains plug will need to be purchased separately to connect the pump to a mains socket. A 10-30 mA residual current device (RCD) should be fitted to the electrical supply. All connections must be waterproof; if in doubt consult a qualified electrician.



Step 3 - Connect the 'pump outlet' to the 'control valve' via a short length of hose. Connect the other end of the 'control valve' to the 'inlet pipe' via a longer length of hose (approx. 1 metre). This hose should be long enough so that the pump may be lifted out of the pool for maintenance. Secure the connections by screwing tight a jubilee clip wherever hose meets pipe. Four clips should suffice. Place the pump and fittings into the base of the pool and thread the electric cable through the cable gland. Leave at least 1 metre of cable within the tank so that the pump may be lifted from the pool for maintenance. With a 19mm spanner, tighten the cable gland nut on the inside of the tank to create a watertight seal. A small overflow hole may be drilled just under the outer rim of the shelf to ensure that the water level does not exceed that point.



Step 4 - Place the reservoir in position. Check that the rim of the pool is level using a spirit level along the width and length. Backfill around the sides with soil or sand, making sure that it is well consolidated, particularly under the ledges. If you intend to pave around the sculpture or expect heavier foot traffic, the backfill should be an aggregate or concrete. An empty pool may be buoyant enough to float in the concrete backfill so we advise that the pool should be filled with water before any wet concrete is poured around its sides. Dry mix concrete may also negate this problem. Be careful not to excessively compact the backfill as this may deform the pool. Place the larger of the two lids in position on top of the reservoir. Place the sculpture on top of the lid in the position shown on the drawing overleaf. Insert the inlet pipe into the opening in the base of the sculpture and push it home. The joint may be permanently fixed with clear silicone if necessary.



Step 5 - Fill the pool with tap, rain, spring or river water. The pump will blow air bubbles if it isn't completely covered with water. If the shelf is to hold plants, the water level should be high enough that it flows into the shelf to keep the roots of the plants wet. The pool holds approx. 120 liters/26 gallons when full. Switch on the pump. If need be, use some non-perishable shims to adjust the level of the sculpture so that the water is flowing smoothly and evenly.

Step 6 - Place the smaller lid in position. Finish with pebbles or stones around the sculpture, leave space for plants or open water as desired. Since the water from the sculpture returns to the reservoir via the shelf, only the water permeable material such as small pebbles or gravel should be used. Some plants are best kept in their pots but some can root in loose stone. Contact Ebb & Flow Ltd. for advice on which plants to choose.

Tools that may come in handy: Spade, shovel, digging bar, mattock, trowel, wheel barrow, bucket, level, measuring tape, rake (for gravel), thermos, wire strippers, small screw drivers for the plug socket.

Droplet Pebble Pool

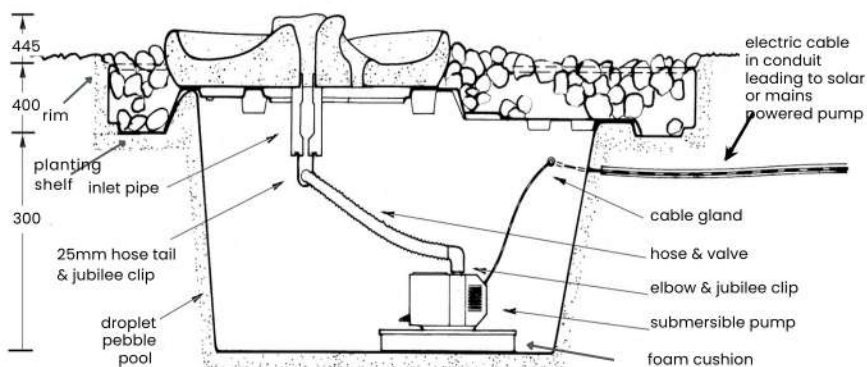
Ebb & Flow

MAINTENANCE



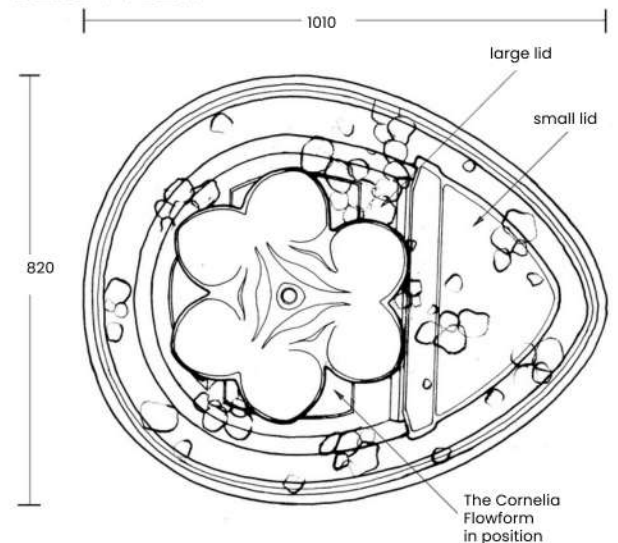
- The water sculpture requires little maintenance other than brushing off algae and topping up water.
- Water will gradually evaporate from the pool so keep it topped up to the desired level, no lower than the pump itself and no higher than the outer rim of the shelf (of course!). Due to evaporation, a pool buried at ground level and covered with pebbles will lose water far more slowly than one exposed to the sun.
- It may be necessary to clear leaves or other debris that falls on the sculpture. Cleaning algae from the surface is best done with a stiff nylon brush. We recommend that wire brushes, jet washers and acidic water are not used to clean the sculpture. Putting the pump on a timer will allow the sculpture to dry for part of the day, thus leading to less algal growth on its surface. If there is an accumulation of dust or dirt in the water, it may be necessary to change it.
- Gain access to the pump by removing the small triangular lid, unscrew the hose tail from the inlet pipe and place the hose in a bucket or container. By running the pump, water can be decanted from the pool. Any remaining water and sediment can then be sponged from the bottom of the container. Refill with fresh water.
- Maintenance of the pump should be carried out as specified in the pump manufacturer's instructions. If access to the pump is required without removing the sculpture, switch off the electrical supply, remove the pebbles and lift off the smaller lid to gain access to the water reservoir and pump.
- It is quite normal for the sculpture to acquire a natural patina as a result of weathering processes. Generally, this enhances the appearance of the sculpture.

CROSS SECTION



All dimensions in mm

PLAN VIEW



☎ 01435 836 060
✉ info@ebbandflowltd.co.uk
🌐 www.ebbandflowltd.co.uk