

**kg** Concrete block

Concrete blocks (also known as concrete masonry units or CMU) are precast rectangular shaped blocks manufactured from concrete. They generally contain one or more hollow cavities, which reduces their weight and makes handling easier. Steel reinforcement is often inserted into these cavities, which are then filled with concrete in situ to provide added strength and loadbearing capacity.

Concrete blocks come in a range of sizes, with typical blocks coming in a length of 390 mm, a height of 190 mm and depth of 90, 140 and 190 mm. Each block weighs around 10 kg and has a minimum strength of 15 MPa. A range of colours and surface textures are available.

Blocks are typically used for internal and external walls in both domestic and commercial construction and can be used with or without mortar for loadbearing and non-loadbearing applications.

**Category** Concrete and plaster products

**Type** Concrete

**Functional unit** kg

**Specific heat** 1 000 J/(kg·K)

**Density** 1 400 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

**Common uses**  
External walls, internal walls, landscaping

**Process name**  
Concrete block, at plant/DE U/  
AusSD U

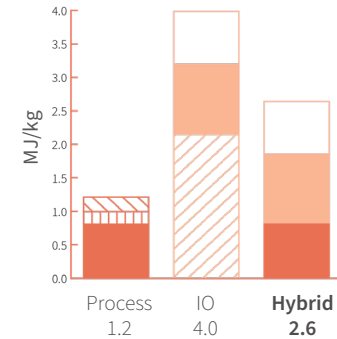
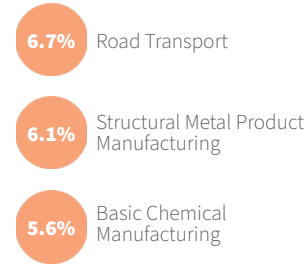
**Input-output sector**  
Plaster and Concrete Product Manufacturing

**Further information**  
[doi.org/10.26188/5da552ea39cdc](https://doi.org/10.26188/5da552ea39cdc)

**Material variations**

	Unit	Energy (MJ/unit)	Water (L/unit)	GHG emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> e/unit)
Concrete block	kg	2.6	3.7	0.2
Concrete block - 390 × 190 × 90 mm	no.	24.3	34.2	2.2
Concrete block - 390 × 190 × 140 mm	no.	29.6	41.6	2.7
Concrete block - 390 × 190 × 190 mm	no.	35.2	49.4	3.2

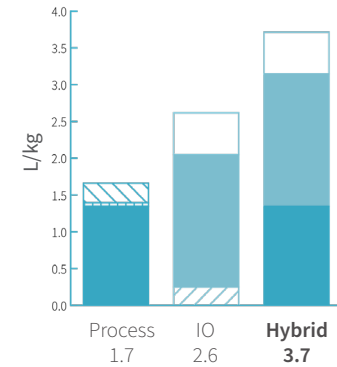
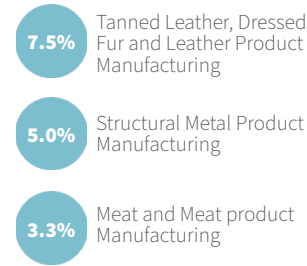
**TOP THREE INPUTS**



**ENERGY**



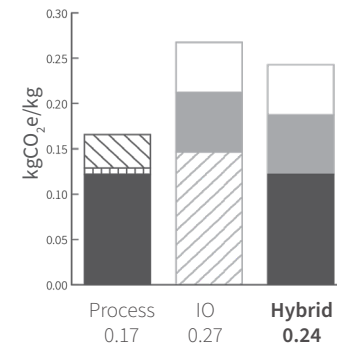
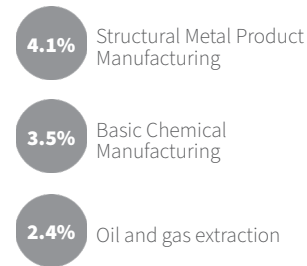
**TOP THREE INPUTS**



**WATER**



**TOP THREE INPUTS**



**GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS**

