

# Concrete Bag Retaining Walls

By Glenn Guerra

Small retaining walls need to be cheap and easy to build. Here are two that fit that bill. They are made with paper sacks of concrete stacked up. They will hold back the fill, and when it rains, the concrete sets up and makes them permanent. Over time, the paper bags weather away and you are left with concrete shapes that look like the bags. These are easy to model with modeling clay that air hardens. They could also be made with a thick mix of water putty. Roll out the clay and flatten the roll. Cut off sections and stack them up. After the sections harden, paint them and then back fill them. These retaining walls have been around for a long time, and I have seen them anywhere there is rain to set the concrete.







*These two photos show how the Toledo Peoria and Western made some retaining walls in Illinois with sacks of concrete mix. You can tell by the shape that the bags were stacked up dry, and when it rained, the concrete set.*