

Tips for Checking the Quality of a Biosand Filter Mold

To increase the likelihood of a mold being usable and producing good quality filters, check the following points on the mold.

Check:	Why:
Inside mold is not twisted	Removing the inside mold from the filter will be very difficult if it is not straight and square
Inside mold is square	Removing the inside mold from the filter will be very difficult if it is not straight and square
Inside mold is tapered (smaller at one end)	Makes removing the inside mold from the filter easier
Distance between the inside and the outside mold is equal on all sides	The concrete filter walls will all be the correct thickness
Inside of the nose is smooth	The concrete nose will not stick to the mold and the nose will look nice on the finished filter
All welded edges are smooth	The concrete will not stick to the mold, and there will be less chance the concrete will break or leak
All bolt holes line up	You will be able to put the bolts through the holes when putting the mold together
The bottom of the nose (on the outside mold) and the ledge on the inside mold are at the same level	The standing water level and the diffuser plate will be in the correct places when the filter is installed
All measurements are exactly the same as in these instructions	The mold pieces will all fit together and the filters will be the correct size and dimensions
There is a mark that is easy to see on the inside mold to indicate where to place the front (nose) panel when putting the mold together	All the walls will be the correct thickness, and all the bolt holes will line up. This is especially important if the mold is not exactly square or not exactly symmetrical (the same on all sides).