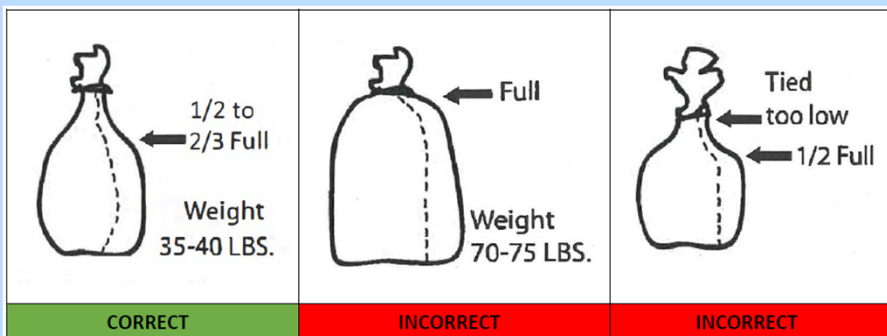




Summarized from USACE-Albuquerque District Flood Emergency Handbook

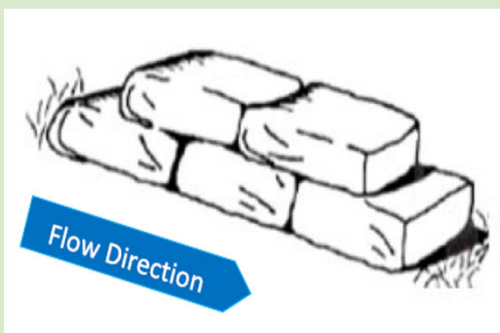
## How much do I fill my sandbags?

Typically, sandbags are filled approximately half to two thirds full and **do not need** to be tied, although they may be tied loosely near the top. They should be able to lay flat when placed.



## How should I stack my sandbags?

The bags should be placed lengthwise and overlapped, like bricks, parallel to the direction of the river flow. Any stack more than 2



sandbags tall should be built like a pyramid with a wide base. For stability, the levee should be kept as short and low as possible. Compact each sandbag in place by stepping/walking on it. Make sure the bag is snugly butted against the next bag.

- **Sandbags should also be used in front of doorways/roller doors and brickwork vents.** Most standard homes and buildings on a concrete slab can be protected with between 25-40 sandbags. However, consideration should be given to placing the closure in such a way as to allow for egress in case of emergency.
- **Sandbags are basically for low-flow protection (up to 4 feet high).**
- **Sandbags will not totally seal out water.** Know your early flood warning systems and evacuate immediately if told to do so by officials.