

specifications | standard concrete masonry units

PART 1—GENERAL

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Certifications: Concrete blocks shall conform to ASTM C90. The provisions of ASTM C90, apply with regard to appearance.

Fire Resistance: Define hourly ratings required as 1, 2, 3 or 4 hours.

DELIVERY, STORAGE AND HANDLING

Store cubes in single stacks on level ground and cover with waterproof covering (e.g., tarpaulins) to protect the blocks from inclement weather. Handle blocks carefully to avoid breakage and damage to the surfaces.

PROJECT/SITE CONDITIONS

Protection of Work: Cover tops of walls each day after installation to keep open walls protected and dry. After units are installed they should be protected from staining or other damage by covering the bottom of the walls with plastic.

PART 2—PRODUCTS

PRODUCT NAME

Standard Concrete Masonry Units

MANUFACTURER

New Holland Concrete
828 East Earl Road
New Holland, PA 17557
800.543.3860

Provide Concrete Masonry Units as manufactured by New Holland Concrete and in compliance with ASTM-C 90 Specification for load-bearing concrete masonry units as follows:

1. UNIT COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH: 1900 psi net area unit compressive strength average of three units, none to be less than 1700 psi.
2. WEIGHT CLASSIFICATION:
 - a. Normal weight using aggregates complying with ASTM C-33
 - b. Lightweight using aggregates complying with ASTM C-331
3. SHAPES: Provide standard stretchers, plus special shapes for lintels, corners, jambs, sash, control joints, headers, bonding and other special conditions.
4. SIZE: Manufactured with nominal face size of 8" high x 16" long (7 5/8" x 15 5/8" actual) x thickness indicated within tolerance of referenced ASTM specification.
5. FINISH: Manufacturer's standard color and texture unless otherwise indicated.

MASONRY CLEANERS

Use masonry cleaners such as Sure Klean® Custom Masonry Cleaner. Follow manufacturer's instructions for proper mixing and application. Do not apply cleaners with pressure spray above 50 psi. *CAUTION! Never use Muriatic Acid solution on units.*

Part 3—Execution

INSTALLATION

Lay units using the best concrete masonry practices. Lay blocks with the faces level, plumb and true to the line strung horizontally at the face. Complete masonry construction using procedures and workmanship consistent with the best masonry practices.

Cutting: Make all unit cuts, including those for bonding, holes, boxes, etc., with motor-driven masonry saws, using either an abrasive or diamond blade. Cut neatly and locate for best appearance.

Mortar Bedding and Jointing:

- Lay units with full mortar coverage on head and bed joints, taking care not to block cores to be grouted or filled with masonry insulation.
- Tool all mortar joints -when thumbprint hard- into a concave configuration.
- Care should be taken to remove mortar from the face of masonry units before it sets.
- Tuckpoint the joints of scored units for proper appearance.

INSTALLATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Cavity wall construction is recommended for exterior walls, with proper flashing, venting and weep holes.
- Always test a small, inconspicuous area before using cleaners. Do not use acids or abrasives on finished surfaces.

FLASHING OF MASONRY WORK

Install flashing at locations shown in the plans and in strict accordance with the details and the best masonry flashing practices.

WEEP HOLES AND VENTS

Install weep holes and vents at proper intervals (32" O.C. above bed joints, typical) at courses above grade, above flashing, and at any water stops over windows, doors and beams.

CLEANING

Keep walls clean daily during installation using brushes. Do not allow excess mortar lumps or smears to harden on the finished surfaces. Harsh cleaning methods after walls have been erected may mar the surface of the blocks.

FINAL CLEANDOWN

Clean the completed walls with a masonry cleaner, strictly following the manufacturer's instructions including thorough rinsing. Do not use acid or abrasives on the finished surfaces. For stubborn mortar stains or smears, a 15:1 solution of Sure Klean® Custom Masonry Cleaner may be used as long as the walls are thoroughly wetted before applying the cleaning solution and thoroughly rinsed with clean water immediately after washing. Failure to strictly follow manufacturer's instruction can result in permanent damage to the finished faces.

MAINTENANCE

Concrete masonry units, properly installed and cleaned, need virtually no maintenance.