



Standard Terminology of Masonry¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This terminology covers generic terms and generic definitions of terms specifically associated with masonry.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:

C 43 Terminology of Structural Clay Products²

C 1180 Terminology of Mortar and Grout for Unit Masonry²

C 1209 Terminology of Concrete Masonry Units²

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—The definitions in this terminology are generic as used by ASTM Committees C12 and C15. For terminology specific to: (1) structural clay products, see Terminology C 43, (2) mortar and grout, see Terminology C 1180, and (3) concrete masonry units, see Terminology C 1209.

bed surface, *n*—(1) the nonvertical surfaces of a manufactured masonry unit intended by the manufacturer to be joined by mortar or other methods. (2) the in situ nonvertical surfaces of a manufactured masonry unit joined by mortar or other methods.

cryptofluorescence, *n*—crystalline deposit of water-soluble compounds in the pores of masonry.

efflorescence, *n*—crystalline deposit, usually white, of water-soluble compounds on the surface of masonry.

face, exposed, *n*—the in situ exposed surface(s) of a manufactured masonry unit.

face, finished, *n*—any surface(s) of a manufactured masonry unit intended by the manufacturer to be exposed to view.

facing unit—manufactured masonry unit designed for use where one or more faces will be exposed and for which the specification includes requirements on color, finish, and other properties affecting appearance.

freeze thaw resistance, *n*—the ability of masonry to maintain integrity under the forces caused by cyclic action of freezing and thawing in the presence of moisture.

frog, *n*—an indentation in a bed surface of a masonry unit. Indentations not exceeding $\frac{3}{8}$ in. are termed a frog, sometimes called a panel or panel frog. Indentations exceeding $\frac{3}{8}$ in. are termed a deep frog.

groove, *n*—a channel formed on surfaces other than faces of manufactured masonry units for production or construction purposes.

height, *n*—vertical dimension of the face of a unit when the unit is positioned as a stretcher.

hollow masonry unit—unit whose net cross-sectional area in any plane parallel to the surface containing cores, cells, or deep frogs is less than 75 % of its gross cross-sectional area measured in the same plane.

length, *n*—horizontal dimension of the face of a unit when the unit is positioned as a stretcher.

manufactured masonry unit, *n*—a manmade noncombustible building product intended to be laid by hand and joined by mortar, grout, or other methods of joining.

masonry, *n*—the type of construction made up of masonry units laid with mortar, grout, or other methods of joining.

nominal dimension—dimension that is greater than the specified dimension by the thickness of a mortar joint. It is usually expressed as a whole number.

score, *n*—a channel formed for appearance purposes on the face or faces of a manufactured masonry unit.

shell, *n*—the outer walls of a hollow masonry unit. Shell can either be an end shell or a face shell.

solid masonry unit—unit whose net cross-sectional area in any plane parallel to the surface containing cores, cells, or deep frogs is 75 % or more of its gross cross-sectional area measured in the same plane.

specified dimensions—dimensions to which masonry units or constructions are required to conform. Actual (measured) dimensions may differ from the specified dimensions by permissible variations.

thickness—that dimension designed to lie at right angles to the face of the wall, floor, or other assembly.

units placed in usage—manufactured masonry units that have been installed in masonry.

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C15 on Manufactured Masonry Units and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C15.08 on Terminology.

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² *Annual Book of ASTM Standards*, Vol 04.05.



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