

# PART C

## Chapter 2

### Specification

This chapter provides a detailed materials and construction specification for concrete masonry structures.

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# 2.1

## INTRODUCTION

### 2.1.1 BACKGROUND

Set out below is a pro-forma specification which is intended to give guidance to designers and specifiers who wish to specify masonry and its components.

- All building construction must comply with the relevant State Building Regulations, which are set out in the National Construction Code (NCC) – Building Code of Australia (BCA), Volumes One and Two.
- The NCC–BCA provides for compliance to be achieved through:
  - Alternative Solutions, or
  - Deemed-to-Satisfy Provisions, which may include:
    - Acceptable Construction Manuals (eg AS 3700, AS4773.1 and AS 4773.2), and/or
    - Acceptable Construction Practice (eg Details included within the NCC–BCA document)
- The NCC–BCA states that compliance with Australian Standards AS 3700, AS4773.1 and AS 4773.2 is deemed to satisfy the requirements of the NCC–BCA.
- There are other details which comply with the requirements of AS 3700, AS4773.1 and AS 4773.2 (and therefore meet the requirement of the NCC–BCA), but are not published in any of these documents.

For example, various suppliers also provide lintel tables complying with the design requirements of AS 3700, but not published in that document.

- There are other details that are beyond the scope of AS 3700, AS4773.1 and AS 4773.2, which may meet the requirements of the NCC–BCA through the *Alternative Solutions* options.

For example, some suppliers offer lintels whose design is not based on AS 3700, but instead are based on test results.

### 2.1.2 BASIS OF THE SPECIFICATION

In the preparation of this specification, the following convention has been adopted.

- Overall compliance with the requirements of the NCC–BCA is required.
- Specifications based principally on AS 3700, AS4773.1 and AS 4773.2 have been drafted to provide this compliance.
- Where there is no particular AS 3700 provision and the BCA does provide an *Acceptable Construction Practice* solution, this has been included.
- Where neither AS 3700, AS4773.1 and AS 4773.2 provide solutions, reliance has been made on a combination of current practice, engineering judgement and supplier's information.

### 2.1.3 HOW TO USE THE SPECIFICATION

This specification is available, in RTF format, in the following location:

[Data/CAD/SpecText.rtf](#)

The RTF version can be opened and edited in most word processors. The specifier must go through the specification very carefully, making appropriate changes to suit the project.

**Scope**

This section covers the construction of masonry in buildings, including unreinforced brickwork and blockwork wall, piers and lintels. It also includes the construction of reinforced hollow blockwork.

*Note*

*Additional requirements for the construction of reinforced hollow concrete blockwork for stems of gravity retaining walls is set out in Concrete Masonry Association of Australia Manual MA51.*

**Building Regulations and Standards**

All materials and construction shall comply with the most recent version of:

- the relevant parts of the Building Regulations;
- the Standards referred to therein;
- other Standards nominated in this specification; and
- other relevant Regulations.

Relevant Standards

AS 3700	<i>Masonry structures</i>	AS 2837
AS 4773.1	<i>Residential masonry Part 1: Design</i>	AS/NZS 4792
AS 4773.2	<i>Residential masonry Part 2: Construction</i>	
AS/NZS 4455	<i>Masonry units, pavers, flags and segmental retaining wall units - Masonry units</i>	AS/NZS 4791
AS/NZS 4456	<i>Masonry units and segmental pavers and flags – Methods of test</i>	AS/NZS 4671
AS/NZS 2904	<i>Damp-proof courses and flashings</i>	AS 1397
AS/NZS 2699.1	<i>Built-in components for masonry construction - Wall ties</i>	AS 3600
AS/NZS 2699.2	<i>Built-in components for masonry construction - Connectors and accessories</i>	AS 2870
AS/NZS 2699.3	<i>Built-in components for masonry</i>	

*construction - Lintels and shelf angles (durability requirements)*

*Portland and blended cements*

*Masonry composite cement*

*Limes and Limestone - Limes for building*

*Aggregates and rock for engineering purposes - Concrete aggregates*

*Termite management – New Building work*

*Termite management – In and around existing buildings and structures - Guidelines*

*Hot-dip galvanised (zinc) coatings on fabricated ferrous articles*

*Zinc and zinc/aluminium-alloy coatings on steel wire*

*Wrought alloy steels – stainless steel bars and semi-finished products*

*Hot-dip galvanised (zinc) coatings on ferrous hollow sections, applied a continuous or specialised process*

*Hot-dip galvanised (zinc) coatings on ferrous open sections, applied by an in-line process*

*Steel reinforcing materials*

*Steel sheet and strip*

*Concrete structures*

*Residential slabs and footings – Construction*

**Mortar**

For general applications (except as listed for M4), Type M3 mortar shall be used, and shall consist by volume of:

1 part GP or GB cement, 1 part lime, 6 parts sand (water thickener optional)

1 part GP or GB cement, 5 parts sand plus water thickener

1 part masonry cement, 4 parts sand.

For the applications listed below, Type M4 mortar shall be used, and shall consist by volume of:

1 part GP or GB cement, 0.5 part lime, 4.5 parts sand (water thickener optional)

1 part GP or GB cement, 4 parts sand plus water thickener

1 part GP or GB cement, 0-0.25 parts lime, 3 parts sand (water thickener optional)

1 part masonry cement, 3 parts sand.

This applies to:

- Elements in interior environments subject to saline wetting and drying
- Elements below a damp-proof course or in contact with ground in aggressive soils
- Elements in severe marine environments
- Elements in saline or contaminated water including tidal splash zones
- Elements within 1 km of an industry producing chemical pollutants.



### Damp-Proof Course

Damp-proof-courses shall be built into the masonry in accordance with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2). Unless stated otherwise, damp-proof-courses shall be:

- Placed under walls to provide a continuous damp-proof barrier around the building
- Lapped not less than 150 mm at joints
- Projecting through the entire width of the masonry and project beyond the external face of the masonry
- Stepped at changes of floor level
- Positioned (if applicable) under the coping of any parapet more than 300 mm above adjoining roof cladding
- Positioned (if applicable) in chimney stacks, 150 mm to 300 mm above the highest junction of roof and chimney
- At least 75 mm above finished surface level of adjacent paved, concreted or landscaped areas that slope away from the wall
- At least 50 mm above finished paved or concreted areas sloping at least 50 mm over the first 1 m from the building and protected from the direct effects of the weather by a carport, verandah or similar
- At least 150 mm above the adjacent finished ground in all other cases.

### Flashings

Flashings shall be built into the masonry in accordance with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2). Unless stated otherwise, flashings shall be:

- Fixed with clouts to timber studs or built into an inner leaf of masonry as applicable
- Built into the external leaf of walls exposed to weather, extending across the cavity,
- Turned up 150 mm and nailed to the frame or built 30 mm into an inner leaf of masonry,
- Positioned at openings (unless they are protected by an overhang), where they shall extend 100 mm past the end of opening and be turned up to prevent leakage.

### Termite Protection

Termite protection measures shall comply with the Building Regulations and the relevant Standard (AS 3660.1)

The aim of most termite barriers is to force the termites to the surface of the structure, where they are visible and can be easily eradicated. Some termite barriers also include chemicals that deter the termites from passing. Other systems, involving chemical dosing and graded stone barriers may be applicable, but must be properly maintained. Refer to the relevant materials specifications.

Termite protection shall provide a continuous barrier that prevents termites from entering the building undetected. The critical areas for termite entry, including the external perimeter, construction joints and plumbing penetrations, shall be protected and treated by a termite management system. The system installation shall conform to the manufacturer's guidelines.

A manufacturer's warranty for a minimum of fifty (50) years shall be provided. The warranty shall be renewable on an annual basis, base on annual inspection by the system installation organisation. Such a warranty shall provide for timber replacement should a system breach occur.

A certificate permanently fixed to the building in a prominent location, such as a meter box, kitchen cupboard, or similar, shall indicate the following:

- Method of protection.
- Date of installation.
- Life expectancy of any termiticide and the required re-injection date.
- Installer's or manufacturer's recommendations for the scope and frequency of future inspections for termite activity, not greater than 12 months.

Sheet material acting as a termite barrier within the masonry and their joints shall be constructed of termite-resistant materials, such that termites are unable to pass through them. The maximum aperture size of a perforated sheet material barrier shall be sufficiently small as to deny access to foraging termite species of the region. Combinations of materials likely to cause electrolytic reaction shall not be used, e.g. stainless steel mesh shall not be used in contact with mild steel reinforcement.

### Slip Joints

Slip joint material shall be placed between unreinforced masonry walls and any supported concrete slab.

### Wall Ties

Wall ties shall be installed in accordance with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2).



### Joint Reinforcement

One layer of joint reinforcement shall be incorporated into concrete or calcium silicate masonry at points of potential cracking such as at the corners of door or window openings.

### Lintels and Arch Bars

Lintels and arch bars shall be built in over openings in excess of 1.0 metre accordance with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2).

### Anchorage

Anchorage, including those to tie down roof structures, shall be installed at specified locations, and in accordance with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2).

### Mortar Joints

Mortar joints shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2). Unless stated otherwise, mortar joints shall comply with the following:

- Mortar joint shall be 10 mm thick.
- Mortar joints in solid or cored face masonry shall be fully bedded. Joints shall be as specified on the drawings.
- Mortar joints in solid or cored backup or non-face masonry shall be fully bedded and flush jointed.
- Mortar joints in hollow blockwork, shall be face shell bedded and shall be ironed, unless a flush joint is specified for aesthetic reasons.

### Weepholes

Weepholes shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2). Unless stated otherwise, weep holes shall be built into the external leaf of cavity walls or veneer walls at centres not exceeding 1.2 metres in the course immediately above a DPC or flashing, except where the head or sill opening is less than 1.0 metre wide.

### Provision for Timber Shrinkage

In masonry veneer construction, a gap in accordance with schedule below shall be left between the timber frame and the top of the masonry, and at window sills, to accommodate timber shrinkage.

Location in timber-framed buildings	Minimum Clearances (mm)	
	Unseasoned hardwood frame	Other timber frame
Sills of lower or single storey windows	10	5
Roof overhangs of single storey buildings	16	8
Sills of second storey windows	20	10
Roof overhangs of two storey buildings	24	12

### Control Joints and Articulation Joints

Vertical control joints or articulation joints shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2). Unless stated otherwise, vertical control joints or articulation joints shall be built into unreinforced masonry at the following locations:

- Centres not exceeding the following in straight continuous walls without openings:
  - For sand and rock sites (Class A), and slightly reactive sites (Class S), with little or no ground movement from moisture changes –  
Articulation is not required
  - For moderately reactive clay or silt sites, which can experience moderate ground movement from moisture changes (Class M or MD) and highly reactive clay sites, which can experience high ground movement from moisture changes (Class H or H-D) –
    - External masonry face finish, rendered or painted, 7.0 m
    - Internal masonry sheeted and/or face finished, 6.0 m
    - Internal masonry rendered and/or painted, 5.0 m
- See also AS 4773.1 Table 13.1
- Not closer than the height of the wall away from corners
- Not more than 5 metre centres in a wall with openings more than 900 x 900 mm, and positioned in line with one edge of the opening
- At the position where a wall changes height by more than 20%
- At a change in thickness of a wall
- At control joints or construction joints in supporting slabs



- At the junctions of walls constructed of different masonry materials
- At deep rebates
- At a distance from all corners not less than 470 mm for cavity walls or 230 mm for veneer walls, and not greater than 4500 mm.

Articulation and control joints shall not be placed adjacent to arches. Control joints in concrete masonry arches shall be saw-cut to half the depth of the masonry unit and positioned at the centre of the arch.

Control joints and articulation joints, shall be 10 mm wide and shall consist of a polystyrene backing rod and a polyurethane material gunned into the joint to form a 10 x 10 mm flexible seal. The backing rod shall be placed into the masonry at a depth, which permits the finish of the control joints to match the mortar joints.

For control joints or articulation joints in cavity walls (i.e. not in veneer walls), extendible masonry ties shall be built into every fourth course.

Where an articulation joint is adjacent to a door or window frame, a 10 mm gap shall be provided between the edge of the frame and the masonry to allow for movement.

### **Additional Requirements for Reinforced Masonry Construction (Excluding Retaining Walls)**

All construction of reinforced concrete masonry shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2). Unless stated otherwise, the following shall apply:

- Vertical steel reinforcement shall be tied using tie wire to steel starter bars through clean-out holes in each reinforced core and fixed in position at the top of the wall by plastic clips or template. Starter bars shall be tied into position to provide the specified lap above the top surface of the footing. The starter bars shall be held in position on the centre line of a reinforced blockwork wall by a timber member or template and controlled within a tolerance of  $\pm 5$  mm through the wall and  $\pm 50$  mm along the wall.
- Horizontal steel may be laid in contact with rebated webs of Double U or H blocks. It shall be held in position by steel ties or plastic clips. Cover to horizontal steel in lintel blocks shall be maintained by the use of wheel type plastic clips.
- The minimum cover (from the edge of the steel reinforcement to the inside face of the block core) shall be 20 mm, except where specified otherwise. In severe marine environments, saline or contaminated water including tidal and splash zones, and within 1 km of an industry in which chemical pollutants are produced, the minimum cover to the inside face of the block core shall be 30 mm.

- Control joints shall be built into reinforced concrete masonry at all points of potential cracking and at the locations shown on the drawings. The spacing of control joints should not exceed 8.0 metres, except that the spacing of control joints may be increased in reinforced masonry walls meeting the following criteria:
- Consisting of at least 190 mm hollow concrete units, and
- Built less than 3.0 metres high, and
- Incorporating a top reinforced bond beam, and
- Incorporating N16 horizontal reinforcement at not greater than 400 mm centres
- On a site with rock or slightly reactive foundations, and
- With a reinforced concrete footing of adequate stiffness.



Masonry Units

Masonry units shall be fired clay, concrete or calcium silicate units complying with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS/NZS 4455.1). Unless stated otherwise, properties shall be not less than:

- Masonry units shall comply with Dimensional Category DW1, except that split or irregular faces may be DW0. Concrete units usually comply with Dimensional Category DW4, which is more stringent than for DW1.
- Masonry units shall meet General Purpose Salt Attack Resistance Grade, except for applications requiring Exposure Grade. Applications requiring Exposure Grade are:
  - saline wetting or drying,
  - aggressive soils,
  - severe marine environments,
  - saline or contaminated water including tidal or splash zones, or
  - within 1 km of a industry producing chemical pollutants
  - Masonry units shall have a Characteristic Compressive Strength not less than a value specified by the Engineer. In the absence of such specification, masonry units shall have Characteristic Compressive Strengths not less than the following values.

- Masonry units intended for face applications and exposed to the weather shall have:
  - Permeability not more than 2 mm/minute
  - Efflorescence Potential of Nil or Slight
  - Colour and texture within an agreed range.
- Masonry units intended for exposure to lateral loads in excess of 0.5 kPa shall have a Characteristic Lateral Modulus of Rupture not less than 0.8 MPa.
- Concrete masonry units shall have a Mean Coefficient of Residual Drying Contraction not more than 0.6 mm/m.
- Masonry units for reinforced masonry applications shall have the following properties:
  - If units are intended to incorporate both horizontal and vertical reinforcement and are not protected both sides by a waterproof membrane, they shall be “H” or “Double U” configuration;
  - Units may be fully grouted and may be reinforced both vertically and horizontally;
  - Grout may flow easily around and enclose the reinforcement in all cores; and
  - Cover is consistent with the requirements for durability, strength and fire resistance as appropriate

Minimum Characteristic Compressive Strength of Masonry Units<sup>1</sup>

Application	Hollow units <sup>2</sup>	Solid, cored or horizontally-cored units <sup>3</sup>
Reinforced masonry	15.0 MPa	–
Loadbearing masonry	15.0 MPa	10.0 MPa
Non-loadbearing masonry	10.0 MPa	3.0 MPa

Notes

- 1 Values of minimum characteristic compressive strength specified by the Engineer over-ride the values given in this table. Designers and specifiers should check with the manufacturers the availability of particular strength grades.
- 2 For hollow units, compressive strength is measured using face shell bedding.
- 3 For solid, cored or horizontally cored units, compressive strength is measured using full bedding.



Definitions

- Dimensional Category DW0 - No Requirements
- Dimensional Category DW1 - Average deviation of a sample of 20 units; +/- 2.5 mm (dimensions under 150 mm); +/- 4.5 mm (dimensions 150 to 250 mm); +/- 5.0 mm (dimensions over 250 mm)
- Dimensional Category DW4 - For a sample of 20 units, the standard deviation of work sizes shall be not more than 2 mm, and the difference between the mean and the work size shall be not more than 3 mm. For split faces, the dimensional deviations shall not apply to the width of the unit, provided the average width is not less than 90% of the work size.
- General Purpose Salt Attack Resistance Grade - Performance such that it is possible to demonstrate that the product has a history of surviving under non-saline environmental conditions similar to those existing at the site considered, but not expected to meet the mass loss criterion for Exposure Grade Salt Attack Resistance Grade.
- Exposure Grade Salt Attack Resistance Grade - Performance such that it is possible to demonstrate that the product has a history of surviving under saline environmental conditions similar to those existing at the site considered; and less than 0.2 grams mass loss in 40 cycles in AS/NZS 4456.10, Method B test.

Cement

Cement shall be Type GP portland cement or GB blended cement complying with the relevant Standard.(AS 3972).

Masonry Cement

Masonry cement shall comply with the relevant Standard (AS 1316).

Lime

Lime shall be hydrated building lime complying with complying with the relevant Standard (AS 1672).

Water Thickener

Water thickener shall be methyl-cellulose based.

Sand

Sand shall be well graded and free from salts, vegetable matter and impurities. Sand shall not contain more than 10% of the material passing the 75 micron sieve. Sand within the following grading limits complies with this requirement and is deemed suitable for concrete masonry.

Sieve	Percent Passing
4.76 mm	100
2.36 mm	95–100
1.18 mm	60–100
600 µm	30–100
300 µm	10–50
150 µm	0–10
75 µm	0–4

Concrete Grout

Concrete grout shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2). Unless stated otherwise, properties shall be:

- a minimum portland cement content of 300 kg/cubic metre;
- a maximum aggregate size of 10 mm;
- sufficient slump to completely fill the cores; and
- minimum compressive cylinder strength of 20 MPa

Joint Material

Joint material shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2). Unless stated otherwise:

- Backing rod for control joints, expansion joints and articulation joints shall be expanded polystyrene tube or bead or, rigid steel backing profile with closed cell foam adhered to the metal profile face.
- Joint sealant shall be gun grade multi-purpose polyurethane sealant.
- Control joints and articulation joints shall incorporate de-bonding tape.

Intumescent seals shall be acrylic co-polymer sealant capable of providing the requisite fire performance as specified in the Drawings and/or Building Regulations as appropriate.



### Damp Proof Course

Damp-proof courses (DPCs) shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS/NZS 2904). Unless stated otherwise damp-proof courses (DPCs) shall consist of one of the following options.

- A material complying with the Standard AS/NZS 2904;
- Embossed black polyethylene film of high impact resistance and low slip, with a nominal thickness of 0.5 mm prior to embossing, and meeting the requirements of the relevant Standard (Clause 7.6 of AS/NZS 2904);
- Polyethylene coated metal damp proof courses with an aluminium core not less than 0.1 mm thick, shall be coated both sides with bitumen adhesive enclosed in polyethylene film not less than 0.1 mm thick on each face, and has a nominal total thickness of not less than 0.5 mm prior to embossing;
- Bitumen impregnated materials of not less than 2.5 mm thickness, that meet the requirements of the relevant Standard (Clause 7.5 of AS/NZS 2904), when used in walls that are not higher than 7.8 m above the level of the DPC;
- Termite shields (with no penetrations) continuous throughout the wall or pier.

#### Notes:

*Metal and metal-cored damp-proof courses and termite shields shall not be used in locations with saline ground water or subject to rising salt damp.*

### Flashings

Flashings shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS/NZS 2904).

- Metal and metal-cored flashings shall not be used in locations that expose them to saline ground water or rising salt damp.
- Metal flashings shall be compatible with the materials with which they are in contact, and shall not give rise to electrolytic action. If there is potential for electrolytic action to occur, flashings shall be isolated by inert materials.
- Flashings intended to hold their shape shall be manufactured from rigid material. (e.g. metal cored material)

Unless stated otherwise flashings shall consist of one of the following options:

- Flashing in Concealed Locations (e.g. cavity flashings) shall be one of the following:
  - Uncoated annealed lead having a mass not less than 10 kg/m<sup>2</sup> in lengths not exceeding 1.5 m, but shall not be used on any roof that is used to catch potable water;
  - Uncoated copper having a mass not less than 2.8 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and having a thickness of 0.3 to 0.5 mm;
  - Bitumen coated metal (normally aluminium) with a total coated thickness of 0.6 mm to 1.0 mm;
  - Zinc coated steel with a thickness not less than 0.6 mm;
  - Embossed/quilted polyethylene sheet with an average thickness not less than 0.5 mm

- Flashings in Exposed Locations (e.g. flashings from the roof to masonry wall) shall be one of the following:
  - Uncoated annealed lead having a mass not less than 20 kg/m<sup>2</sup> in lengths not exceeding 1.5 m, but shall not be used on any roof that is used to catch potable water;
  - Uncoated copper having a mass not less than 2.8 kg/m<sup>2</sup> and having a thickness of 0.3 to 0.5 mm;
  - Bitumen coated metal (normally aluminium) with a total coated thickness of 0.6 mm to 1.0 mm;
  - Zinc coated steel of thickness not less than 0.6 mm.



### **Termite Barriers Consisting of Woven Stainless Steel Mesh**

Woven stainless steel mesh acting as a termite barrier shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3660.1). Unless stated otherwise, properties shall be not less than the following:

- Mesh shall be woven wire from a fine wire loom.
- Wire shall be stainless steel grade 304 or 316 (AS 1449).
- Wire diameter shall be not less than 0.18 mm.
- Aperture size shall be not greater than 0.66 mm × 0.45 mm, except in those locations where a very small species of heterotermes vagus is present (e.g. parts of northern Australia), the aperture shall be reduced to a maximum of 0.40 × 0.40 mm
- Pipe collars, manufactured from woven stainless steel mesh with a 50 mm annulus, shall be attached to any penetrating service by a stainless steel clamp. Such collars shall be:
  - Embedded in the concrete; or
  - Clamped and parged to the top surface of the slab, and protected from damage by covering with a tile mortar bed or a false floors of cupboards or vanities. The clamp shall be sealed with the parging mix.

### **Termite Barrier Parging Material for Woven Stainless Steel Mesh**

Parging material, for woven stainless steel mesh acting as a termite barrier, shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3660.1). Unless stated otherwise, parging material shall be a highly modified cementitious grout of a water-dispersed copolymer with a dry mixture of Type GP portland cement and sieved aggregate of a size that passes readily through the woven stainless steel mesh. Hardened parging material shall provide:

- Termite resistance, when in contact with soil and termite workings;
- Bond strength (mesh to substrate) of not less than 1 kN/m at 28 days for a temperature range of 10°C to 30°C at a relative humidity range of 10%RH to 70%RH; and for at least 60 freeze-thaw cycles in saline solution between 15°C and 18°C.

### **Termite Barriers Consisting of Composite Fibre Blanket and Plastic Membrane with Termiticide Impregnation**

Termite barriers, consisting of composite fibre blanket and plastic membrane with termiticide impregnation, shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3660.1). Unless stated otherwise, properties shall be not less than:

- Internal non-woven fibre blanket, not less than 200 grams per square metre,
- Impregnated with termiticide of pyrethroid deltamethrin crystals to a loading of not less than 1 gram per square metre (low toxicity to warm blooded animals which both strongly repels and kills termites),
- Bonded to a top moisture vapour barrier of low density polyethylene (LDPE), not less than 200 microns thick,
- Bonded to a bottom membrane of low density polyethylene (LDPE) not less than 50 microns thick, to prevent the termiticide leaching into soil.

### **Slip Joint Material**

Slip joint material shall comply with the following requirements. Metal slip joint materials shall not be used in locations that are subject to rising salt damp.

- Bitumen-coated aluminium
- Embossed polyethylene
- Polyethylene-and-bitumen coated aluminium.



### Wall Ties

Wall ties shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS/NZS 2699.1). Unless stated otherwise, wall ties shall comply with the following:

For elements in a mild environment, elements in an interior environments above a damp-proof course and enclosed within a building except during construction, elements above the damp-proof course in non-marine exterior environments, elements above the damp-proof course in other exterior environments, with a waterproof coating, properly flashed junctions with other building elements and a top covering (roof or coping) protecting masonry, elements below a damp-proof course or in contact with ground, that are protected from water ingress by an impermeable membrane; ties shall be:

- Galvanised steel or polymer designated R2 (or greater), or
- Manufactured from Z600 galvanised sheet steel, or sheet steel ties galvanised after manufacture with 300g/m<sup>2</sup> of zinc on each side.

For elements in marine environments (1 km or more but less than 10 km from breaking surf; or 100 m or more but less than 1 km from salt water not breaking surf); ties shall be:

- Sheet steel ties galvanised after manufacture with 470g/m<sup>2</sup> of zinc on each side, or
- Galvanised wire ties with 470g/m<sup>2</sup> of zinc coating, or
- Stainless steel designated R3 or greater; or
- Polymer ties designated R3 or greater.

For elements in interior environments that are subject to non-saline wetting and drying, elements below the damp-proof course in contact with non-aggressive soils, or elements in fresh water; ties shall be :

- 316 or 316L stainless steel ties designated R3 or greater; or
- Polymer ties designated R3 or greater.

For elements in severe marine environment (less than 1 km from breaking surf; or less than 100 m from salt water not breaking surf), interior environments subject to saline wetting and drying, elements below a damp-proof course or in contact with ground in aggressive soils; or elements in severe marine environments (less than 1 km from breaking surf; or less than 100 m from salt water not breaking surf), ties shall be:

- 316 or 316L stainless steel ties designated R4 or greater; or
- Polymer ties designated R4 or greater.

For elements in saline or contaminated water including tidal splash zones or elements within 1 km of an industry producing chemical pollutants, ties shall be:

- 316 or 316L stainless steel designated R5; or
- Polymer ties designated R5.

Wall ties shall comply with the following schedule from AS 3700, AS 4773.1 and AS 4773.2, based on the classifications set out in AS 2699.1.

Extendible masonry ties for control joints and articulation joints shall restrain the wall against out-of-plane movement, but permit in-plane movement such as expansion and contraction. Extendible masonry ties shall be capable of correct operation, even when misaligned by up to 10 mm over the length of the tie.

### Masonry Wall Ties

Wind Classification & External Pressure	Type A Cavity Ties			Type A Veneer Ties			
	Vertical spacing 600 mm max			Vertical spacing 600 mm max			
	Any wall height			Wall height 2400 mm		Wall height 3000 mm	
	Horizontal spacing, mm			Horiz. spacing, mm		Horiz. spacing, mm	
	300	450	600	450	600	450	600
N1 + 0.5 kPa	L	L	M	L	L	L	L
N2 + 0.7 kPa	L	M	M	L	L	L	M
N3 + 1.1 kPa	M	M	H	L	M	M	M
C1 - 1.0 kPa	M	M	H	M	M	M	M
N4 + 1.5 kPa	M	H	H	M	M	M	H
C2 - 1.5 kPa	M	H	H	M	H	H	H
N5 + 2.3 kPa, C3 - 2.1 kPa	H	H	H	H	H	H	H
N6 + 3.1 kPa, C4 - 2.9 kPa	H	H	H	H	H	H	H

+ indicates compression; - indicates tension; Tie spacing 600 x 600 mm maximum



## Steel Lintels and Arch Bars

Steel lintels and arch bars shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773, AS 4773.2, AS/NZS 2669.3 as defined in the following schedule.

*Note: Although most lintels are not "below a damp-proof course" or "in contact with ground", these cases have been included in the schedule for completeness and because it is possible for them to occur.*

For elements in a mild environment, elements in an interior environments above a damp-proof course and enclosed within a building except during construction, elements above the damp-proof course in non-marine exterior environments, elements above the damp-proof course in other exterior environments, with a waterproof coating, properly flashed junctions with other building elements and a top covering (roof or coping) protecting masonry, elements below a damp-proof course or in contact with ground, that are protected from water ingress by an impermeable membrane, steel lintels and arch bars shall be designated R2 or greater.

For elements in interior environments that are subject to non-saline wetting and drying, elements below the damp-proof course in contact with non-aggressive soils, elements in marine environments, elements in fresh water; steel lintels and arch bars shall be R3 or greater. For elements in external applications 1 km or more from breaking surf or 100 m or more from salt water not subject to breaking surf (Classified "Moderate"), BCA Vol 2 Clause Table 3.4.4.2 permits the following protection:

- 2 coats alkyd primer, or
- 2 coats alkyd gloss, or
- Hot dip galvanised to 300 g/m<sup>2</sup>, or
- Hot dip galvanised to 100 g/m<sup>2</sup> plus
- 1 coat solvent based vinyl primer or
- 1 coat vinyl gloss or alkyd.

For elements in interior environments subject to saline wetting and drying, elements below a damp-proof course or in contact with ground in aggressive soils, elements in severe marine environments; steel lintels and arch bars shall be designated R4 or greater.

For elements in saline or contaminated water including tidal splash zones, elements within 1 km of an industry producing chemical pollutants; steel lintels and arch bars shall be designated R5. For external applications in heavy industrial areas (Classified "Severe"), steel lintels may be hot dip galvanised to 600 g/m<sup>2</sup>.

### Maximum Opening for Steel Lintels and Arch Bars (mm)<sup>1, 2</sup>

Arch bar/lintel size	Load Type A <sup>3</sup> Supporting masonry only	Load Type B <sup>4</sup> Supporting Tiled Roof	Load Type C <sup>5</sup> Supporting Metal Roof	Load Type D <sup>6</sup> Supporting Timber Floor	Load Type E <sup>7</sup> Supporting Brickwork Only (up to 3.0 m)
75 x 8 FMS	640	250	–	–	640
100 x 10 FMS	820	250	250	250	820
90 x 90 x 6 EA	3060	1550	1930	1680	2640
90 x 90 x 8 EA	3310	1670	2100	1820	2800
100 x 100 x 6 EA	3400	1730	2160	1870	2870
100 x 100 x 8 EA	3660	1870	2340	2020	3040
150 x 90 x 8 UA	4200	2710	3380	2840	3920
150 x 100 x 10 UA	4330	3490	3610	3010	–
150 UB 14.0	4200	3140	3840	3270	4200
150 UB 18.0	4200	3480	4140	3590	4200
180 UB 22.2	4200	4000	4200	4050	4200

1. The spans tabulated are clear opening widths.  
To determine the overall length of a lintel, add at least 300 mm to the clear opening, thus providing at least 150 mm bearing length at each end.
2. For openings up to 1000 mm, the required bearing length may be reduced to 100 mm at each end.
3. Load Type A applies to a lintel supporting a masonry leaf up to 600 mm high without roof or floor loads.
4. Load Type B applies to a lintel supporting up to 600 mm of masonry and a tiled roof up 6.6 metres load width.
5. Load Type C applies to a lintel supporting up to 600 mm of masonry and a metal roof up 6.6 metres load width.
6. Load Type D applies to a lintel supporting a masonry leaf over 2100 mm high with or without tiled roof or metal roof up 6 m load width and/or timber floor up 3.0 m load width.
7. Load Type E applies to a lintel supporting a masonry leaf up to 3000 mm high without roof or floor loads.



### **Reinforced Concrete Lintels**

Reinforced concrete lintels shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 3600).

### **Reinforced Hollow Masonry Lintels**

Reinforced hollow masonry lintels shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2).

### **Reinforced Masonry Bed Joint Lintels**

Reinforced masonry bed joint lintels shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2).

For applications in external walls, reinforcement shall be Grade 316 austenitic stainless steel, 6 mm diameter (or 8 mm or 10 mm for heavy duty applications in wide joints).

### **Anchorage**

Anchorage shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2). Mechanical expansion anchors shall not be used where the expansion action is likely to damage the masonry.

### **Acoustic Isolation Ties**

Acoustic isolation ties shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS/NZS 2699.1). Unless stated otherwise, acoustic isolation ties, intended to acoustically isolate one leaf of plasterboard from a frame shall provide the specified sound attenuation. They shall consist of galvanized steel or stainless steel (with additional powder coated finishes as required), and incorporate cellular urethane foam inserts. The ties shall have the following features:

- Stiffness of 0.7 kN/mm (linear) up to 0.16 kN
- Maximum deflection of resilient material of 2.3mm.

### **Joint Reinforcement**

Joint reinforcement shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS/NZS 2699.1)

- For external walls, in applications requiring structural enhancement of wall strength or for significant crack control, joint reinforcement shall be Grade 316 austenitic stainless steel, 6 mm diameter (or 8 mm or 10 mm for heavy duty applications in wide joints).
- For non-structural applications in protected internal walls, external walls, joint reinforcement shall be stainless steel (as per external / structural applications) or two 3.0 mm galvanised wires joined at intervals by cross wires.

### **Steel Mullions**

Steel mullions used to provide resistance to wind and earthquake loads in masonry walls shall comply with the Drawings, Building Regulations and relevant Standard (AS 3700, AS 4773.1, AS 4773.2, AS 4100, AS 2699.2).



### Inspections and Tests

All new work shall remain open until it has been inspected and approved by the Builder. The following inspections shall be performed.

Item or Product	Inspection Required	Accept Criteria	Hold/Witness
Masonry units			
Type and Grade	Spot check *	As specified	Hold
Dimensions	Spot check *	As specified	Hold
Strength	Spot check *	As specified	Hold
Mortar			
Mix	Spot check	As specified	Hold
Bond strength	Not required unless mix suspect	As per AS 3700 (0.2 MPa)	Witness
Termite barrier	Visual	In position	Hold
Flashings and DPC's	Visual spot check	In position	Hold
Control Joints	Visual spot check	As specified	Hold
Joint reinforcement	Visual spot check	In position	Witness
Ties	Visual spot check	As specified	Witness
Lintels	Visual spot check	As specified	Witness
HD Bolts and straps	Visual spot check	As specified	Witness
Cleaning	Visual	As specified	Witness
Reinforcement (if applicable)			
Type and diameter	Spot check	As specified	Hold
Position	Visual	As specified	Hold
Laps	Spot check	As specified	Hold

\* Delivery docket

### Note:

This specification is available, in RTF format, in the following location: [Data/CAD/SpecText.rtf](#)