FRANKLIN SERIES GRAY CONCRETE MASONRY • JEFFERSON SERIES ARCHITECTURAL COLOR MASONRY

Concrete Masonry Units Size and Shape Guide





Concrete Block Concrete Masonry Unit Terms



Concrete Block are commonly referred to as "CMUs" (Concrete Masonry Units), "Grey Block" or simply "Concrete Block." The following are key terms commonly used to further describe different types of concrete block.

- A. Scored/Concave Flute
- B. Stretcher End (Mortar Groove)
- C. Breaker
- D. Sash Groove
- E. Plain End
- F. Rectangular Core
- G. Pear Core
- H. Split Face*
- J. Bullnose (Double shown)

*All split-face masonry units are available in grey and architectural colors.

How to Calculate Fire Ratings for Concrete Block

International Standard Building Code

721.3.2 The fire resistance ratings of walls and partitions constructed of concrete masonry units shall be determined from Table 721.3.2. The rating shall be based on the equivalent thickness of the masonry and type of aggregate used.

*Values between those shown in the table can be determined by direct interpolation.

**Contact producer to verify aggregate and net volume. Certifications provided by each producer member as requested.

Table 721.3.2 Minimum Equivalent Thickness (Inches) of Loadbearing or Nonloadbearing Concrete Masonry Walls*							
	Fire R	esistanc	e Rating	(hours)			
Type of Aggregate	1.0	2.0	3.0	4.0			
Expanded Shale, Clav**							
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Thickness shown for concrete masonry is equivalent thickness defined as the average thickness of solid material in the wall and is represented by the the formula:

T = <u>Vn</u> E LxH

Where:

- T = Equivalent thickness, in inches $V^{E} =$ Net volume (gross volume less volume
 - of voids), in cubic inches*
- L = Length of block, in inches
- H = Height of block, in inches

Source: ISBC

Compressive Strength of Concrete Masonry (PSI*)

Comment: ASTM C-90 is the standard of masonry production specifications in the United States. With the approval of ACI 530.1-88 specifications and the issue of ASTM C-90-91, there is one major specification change to note. In the past, block compressive strength (psi) was based on gross area requiring an average 1000 psi. The strength requirements have not changed but the measurements have. All new specifications now are based on net area of 1900 psi.

To assist you in calculating the net area, please follow the formula below.

Given the gross area compressive strength, you may determine the net area by knowing:

(1) percent solids of unit, or

(2) equivalent thickness of unit.

Gross Area to Net Area Conversion

*Based on average of 3 units 4" height and above

Example: 8" cmu with a known 1100 psi gross area at 52% solids.

Compressive Strength (Gross Area) x 100 (%) Percent Solids	= Compressive Strength (Net Area)	
<u>1100 psi</u> 52%	x 100 = 2115 psi	

Example: 8" cmu (7.625 actual size) with a known 1100 psi gross area with an equivalent thickness of 4.0".

Compressive Strength		Actual		Compressive Strength
(Gross Area) ×	(Thickness	=	(Net Area)
Equivalent Thickness				

Block manufacturers have gross-area psi data as well as solids and equivalent strength numbers. Most will have the net-area compressive strength psi with future test results.

TABLE 1 Minimum Face Shells and Web Requirements ^A						
Nominal Width (W) of Units	Face Shell Thickness (t ₄)	Webs				
in. (mm)	min, in. (mm) ^{B,C}	Web Thickness ^c (t _w), min. in. (mm)	Normalized Web Area (A _{nw}) min, in.²/ft² (mm²/m²) ^D			
3 (76.2) and 4 (102)	3⁄4 (19)	3⁄4 (19)	6.5 (45,140)			
6 (152)	1 (25)	3⁄4 (19)	6.5 (45,140)			
8 (203) and greater	11⁄4 (32)	3⁄4 (19)	6.5 (45,140)			

^A Average of measurements on a minimum of 3 units when measured as described in Test Methods C140.

^B When this standard is used for units having split surfaces, a maximum of 10% of the split surface is permitted to have thickness less than those shown, but not less than ¾ in. (19.1 mm). When the units are to be solid grouted, the 10% limit does not apply and Footnote C establishes a thickness requirement for the entire face shell.

^c When the units are to be solid grouted, minimum face shell and web thickness shall be not less than 5/8 in. (16 mm).

^D Minimum normalized web area does not apply to the portion of the unit to be filled with grout. The length of that portion shall be deducted from the overall length of the unit for the calculation of the minimum web cross-sectional area.

TABLE 2 Strength, Absorption, and Density Classification Requirements						
Density Classification	Oven-Dry Density of Concrete, lb/ft ³ (kg/m ³)	Maximum Water Absorption, lb/ft ³ (kg/m ³)		Minimum Net Area Compressive Strength, Ib/in ² (MPa)		
	Average of 3 Units	Average of 3 Units	Individual Units	Average of 3 Units	Individual Units	
Lightweight	Less than 105 (1680)	18 (288)	20 (320)	1900 (13.1)	1700 (11.7)	
Medium Weight	105 to less than 125 (1680-2000)	15 (240)	17 (272)	1900 (13.1)	1700 (11.7)	
Normal Weight	125 (2000) or more	13 (208)	15 (240)	1900 (13.1)	1700 (11.7)	

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8-Inch Unit Configurations



6-Inch Unit Configurations



10-Inch Unit Configurations













8x8x16 Split Face Corner	8x8x16 Score Available Split Face Corner Single Flute	8x8x16 Available With Flutes & Score With Flutes & Score Split Face Lintel Open/Solid Bottom Available	8" Units
8x4x16 Half-High Split Face	8x4x16 When the second		
10x8x16 Square End Regular	10x8x16 Regular w/Sash	10x8x8 Half w/Sash	10" Units
10x8x16 Restricted Open/Solid Bottom Lintel	10x8x16 Filt Face	10x8x16 Split Face Lintel Open/Solid Bottom	
			NO



12x8x16 Split Face 12x4x16 Half-High Split Face	12x8x16 Scree Split Face Single Flute	12x8x16 Available With Flutes & Score With Flutes & Score Split Face Split Face Open/Solid Bottom Lintel	12" Units
16x8x16 Pilaster (Call for Availability)	16x4x16 Pier Pad		16" Units
8x8x16 Inspection Block	Compound Mitre		Special Units
			Notes



www.specblockusa.com

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Georgia Region Sales Office 1-866-322-5625