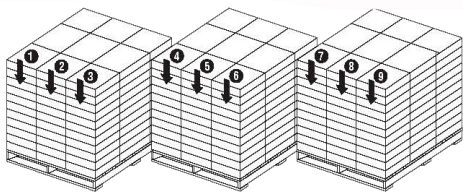


Concrete Bricks Technical Data

COLOUR BLENDING

Due to naturally occurring variations in raw materials used in the production of concrete masonry, colour variations can be experienced between batches. This is natural and not considered a defect. Where possible, order all products required to finish a project from one batch to reduce any risk of variation.

When laying, select units from down and across 3-4 pallets to ensure a natural variation across the finished project.



MORTAR

For proportions of mortar mix please refer to table 11.1 in AS3700

An efflorescence inhibitor should be used in the mortar mix when laying coloured products.

The preferred finish for mortar joints in designer masonry is an ironed finish.



LAYING TIPS FOR GREAT RESULTS

- Lay cleanly
- Use accelerator in the cooler months
- Work from a number of pallets at any one time to reduce any risk of colour variation.
- Keep bricks covered in wet weather
- Use the top of the solid bricks in the pallets for corners and sills
- Cut halves and use the face for expansion joints and openings (**do not use ends**)
- If any marking is identified on brick end, lay this end internally so that it cannot be seen.

EFFLORESCENCE

- Efflorescence, which can present as a white “chalky” substance on the surface of concrete masonry is a naturally occurring reaction between salts within the product and water. To reduce the impact of secondary efflorescence occurring, store masonry product in a dry, covered place and ensure appropriate drainage provisions are implemented for any product to be installed in contact with sands / soils or aggregates.
- Good laying practice and site procedures are necessary for mitigating efflorescence.
- Efflorescence does not affect the structural integrity or strength of the product.
- Efflorescence may be removed with a stiff brush or the application of Environex - Anti-Eff. Read suppliers instructions before use.

CLEANING

- **DO NOT USE HYDROCHLORIC ACID**
- Concrete masonry should only be pressure washed in accordance with the direction advised by the Concrete Masonry Association of Australia’s Cleaning and Maintenance Guide (www.cmaa.com.au/technical)
- Clean down concrete masonry twice daily while constructing for best results.
- For detailed instruction on cleaning and sealing refer to Concrete Masonry Association of Australia’s Technical Manual 03 Concrete Masonry - cleaning and maintenance.
- The use of additives in the production of concrete masonry and the additives recommended for use in the above literature are to help mitigate the appearance of efflorescence, it does not guarantee that it will not occur. The presence of and or severity of efflorescence, a naturally occurring chemical reaction is not a manufacturing fault.