

Masonry Design

Notation:

A	= name for area	j	= multiplier by effective depth of masonry section for moment arm, jd
A_n	= net area, equal to the gross area subtracting any reinforcement	k	= multiplier by effective depth of masonry section for neutral axis, kd
A_{nv}	= net shear area of masonry	L	= name for length or span length
A_s	= area of steel reinforcement in masonry design	M	= internal bending moment
A_{st}	= area of steel reinforcement in masonry column design		= type of masonry mortar
ACI	= American Concrete Institute	M_m	= moment capacity of a reinforced masonry beam governed by steel stress
$ASCE$	= American Society of Civil Engineers	M_s	= moment capacity of a reinforced masonry beam governed by masonry stress
b	= width, often cross-sectional	$MSJC$	= Masonry Structural Joint Council
C	= name for a compression force	n	= modulus of elasticity transformation coefficient for steel to masonry
C_m	= compression force in the masonry for masonry design	$n.a.$	= shorthand for neutral axis (N.A.)
CMU	= shorthand for concrete masonry unit	N	= type of masonry mortar
d	= effective depth from the top of a reinforced masonry beam to the centroid of the tensile steel	$NCMA$	= National Concrete Masonry Association
e	= eccentric distance of application of a force (P) from the centroid of a cross section	O	= type of masonry mortar
f_a	= axial stress	P	= name for axial force vector
f_b	= bending stress	P_a	= allowable axial load in columns
f_m	= calculated compressive stress in masonry	r	= radius of gyration
f'_m	= masonry design compressive stress	S	= section modulus
f_s	= stress in the steel reinforcement for masonry design		= type of masonry mortar
f_v	= shear stress	S_x	= section modulus with respect to an x-axis
F_a	= allowable axial stress	t	= name for thickness
F_b	= allowable bending stress	T	= name for a tension force
F_s	= allowable tensile stress in reinforcement for masonry design	T_s	= tension force in the steel reinforcement for masonry design
F_t	= allowable tensile stress	TMS	= The Masonry Society
F_v	= allowable shear stress	w	= name for distributed load
F_{vm}	= allowable shear stress of the masonry	β_1	= coefficient for determining stress block height, c , in masonry LRFD design
F_{vs}	= allowable shear stress of the shear reinforcement	ϵ_m	= strain in the masonry
h	= name for height	ϵ_s	= strain in the steel
	= effective height of a wall or column	ρ	= reinforcement ratio in masonry design
I_x	= moment of inertia with respect to an x-axis		

Reinforced Masonry Design

Structural design standards for reinforced masonry are established by the *Masonry Standards Joint Committee* consisting of ACI, ASCE and The Masonry Society (TMS), and presents allowable stress design as well as limit state (strength) design.

Materials

f_m = masonry prism compressive strength from testing

Reinforcing steel grades are the same as those used for reinforced concrete beams.

Units can be brick, concrete or stone.

Mortar consists of masonry cement, lime, sand, and water. Grades are named from the word MASONWORK, with average strengths of 2500psi, 1800 psi, 750 psi, 350 psi, and 75 psi, respectively.

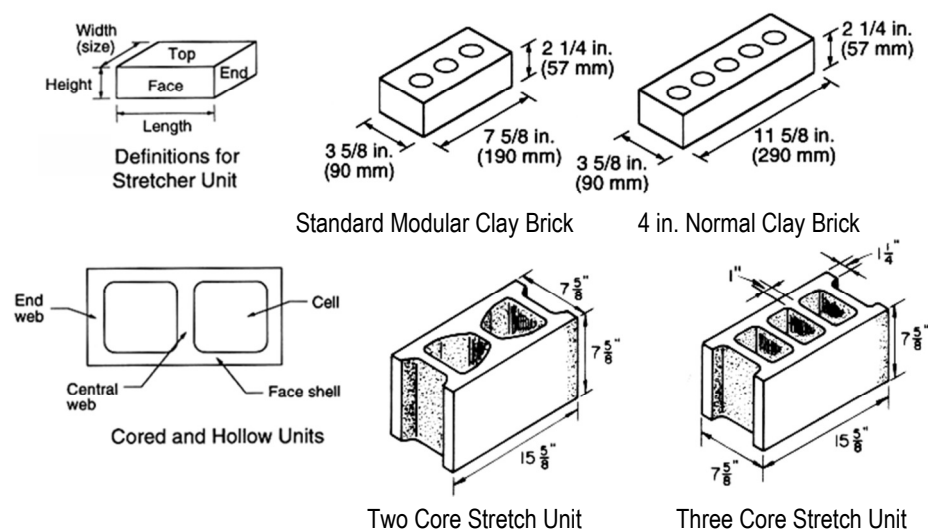
Grout is a flowable mortar, usually with a high amount of water to cement material. It is used to fill voids and bond reinforcement.

Clay and concrete masonry units are porous, and their durability with respect to weathering is an important consideration. The amount of water in the mortar is important as well as the absorption capacity of the units for good *bond*; both for strength and for weatherproofing. Because of the moisture and tendency for shrinkage and swelling, it is critical to provide control joints for expansion and contraction.

Sizes

Common sizes for clay brick and concrete masonry units (CMU) are shown in the figure, along with definitions.

Typical section properties for CMU's are provided for reference at the end of the document.



Allowable Stress Design

For unreinforced masonry, like masonry walls, tension stresses are allowed in flexure. Masonry walls typically see compression stresses too.

For reinforced masonry, the steel is presumed to resist *all* tensile stresses and the tension in the masonry is ignored.

Factors of Safety are applied to the limit stresses for allowable stress values:

bending (unreinforced)	$F_b = 1/3 f'_m$
bending (reinforced)	$F_b = 0.45 f'_m$
bending (tension/unreinforced)	table 2.2.3.2
beam shear (unreinforced for flexure)	$F_v = 1.5 \sqrt{f'_m} \leq 120 \text{ psi}$
beam shear (reinforced) – $M/(Vd) \leq 0.25$	$F_v = 3.0 \sqrt{f'_m}$
beam shear (reinforced) – $M/(Vd) \geq 1.0$	$F_v = 2.0 \sqrt{f'_m}$
Grades 40 or 50 reinforcement	$F_s = 20 \text{ ksi}$
Grades 60 reinforcement	$F_s = 32 \text{ ksi}$
Wire joint reinforcement	$F_s = 30 \text{ ksi}$

where f'_m = specified compressive strength of masonry

Internal Equilibrium for Bending

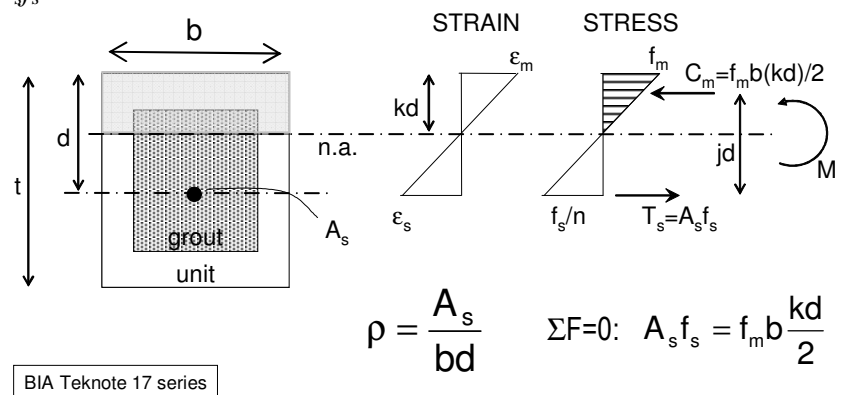
$$C_m = \text{compression in masonry} = \text{stress} \times \text{area} = f_m \frac{b(kd)}{2}$$

$$T_s = \text{tension in steel} = \text{stress} \times \text{area} = A_s f_s$$

$$C_m = T_s \text{ and } \bullet$$

$$M_m = T_s(d - kd/3) = T_s(jd)$$

$$M_s = C_m(jd)$$



where

f_m = compressive stress in the masonry from flexure

f_s = tensile stress in the steel reinforcement

kd = the height to the neutral axis

b = width of stress area

d = effective depth of section = depth to n.a. of reinforcement

jd = moment arm from tension force to compression force

A_s = area of steel

$n = E_s/E_m$ used to transform steel to equivalent area of masonry for elastic stresses

ρ = reinforcement ratio

Criteria for Beam Design

For flexure design:

$$M_m = f_m b \frac{kd}{2} jd = 0.5 f_m b d^2 jk \quad \text{or} \quad M_s = A_s f_s jd = \rho b d^2 j f_s$$

The design is adequate when $f_b \leq F_b$ in the masonry and $f_s \leq F_s$ in the steel.

Shear stress is determined by $f_v = V/A_{nv}$ where A_{nv} is net shear area. Shear strength is determined from the shear capacity of the masonry and the stirrups: $F_v = F_{vm} + F_{vs}$. Stirrup spacings are limited to $d/2$ but not to exceed 48 in.

where:

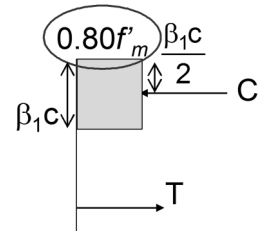
$$F_{vm} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(4.0 - 1.75 \left(\frac{M}{Vd} \right) \right) \sqrt{f'_m} \right] + 0.25 \frac{P}{A_n} \quad \text{where } M/(Vd) \text{ is positive and cannot exceed 1.0}$$

$$F_{vs} = 0.5 \left(\frac{A_v F_s d}{A_{nv} s} \right) \quad \begin{aligned} (F_v = 3.0 \sqrt{f'_m} \text{ when } M/(Vd) \geq 0.25) \\ (F_v = 2.0 \sqrt{f'_m} \text{ when } M/(Vd) \geq 1.0.) \end{aligned}$$

Values can be linearly interpolated.

Load and Resistance Factor Design

The design methodology is similar to reinforced concrete ultimate strength design. It is useful with high shear values and for seismic design. The limiting masonry strength is $0.80f'_m$.



Criteria for Column Design

(Masonry Joint Code Committee) Building Code Requirements and Commentary for Masonry Structures define a column as having $b/t < 3$ and $h/t > 4$.

where

- b = width of the "wall"
- t = thickness of the "wall"
- h = height of the "wall"

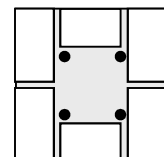
A slender column has a minimum dimension of 8" on one side and $h/t \leq 25$.

Columns must be reinforced, and have ties. A minimum eccentricity (causing bending) of 0.1 times the side dimension is required.

Allowable Axial Load for Reinforced Masonry

$$P_a = \left[0.25 f'_m A_n + 0.65 A_{st} F_s \right] \left[1 - \left(\frac{h}{140r} \right)^2 \right] \quad \text{for } h/t \leq 99$$

$$P_a = \left[0.25 f'_m A_n + 0.65 A_{st} F_s \right] \left(\frac{70r}{h} \right)^2 \quad \text{for } h/t > 99$$



Allowable Axial Stresses for Unreinforced Masonry

$$F_a = 0.25 f'_m \left[1 - \left(\frac{h}{140r} \right)^2 \right] \quad \text{for } h/t \leq 99$$

$$F_a = 0.25 f'_m \left(\frac{70r}{h} \right)^2 \quad \text{for } h/t > 99$$

where

h = effective length

r = radius of gyration

A_n = effective (or net) area of masonry

A_{st} = area of steel reinforcement

f'_m = specified masonry compressive strength

F_s = allowable compressive stress in column reinforcement with lateral confinement.

Combined Stresses

When maximum moment occurs somewhere other than at the end of the column or wall, a “virtual” eccentricity can be determined from $e = M/P$.

Masonry Columns and Walls

There are no modification factors, but in addition to satisfying $\frac{f_a}{F_a} + \frac{f_b}{F_b} \leq 1.0$, the tensile stress cannot exceed the allowable: $f_b - f_a \leq F_t$ or the compressive stress exceed allowable for reinforced masonry: $f_a + f_b \leq F_b$ provided $f_a \leq F_a$.

Example 1

Determine if the unreinforced CMU wall can sustain its loads with the wind. Specify a mortar type and unit strength per MSJC.

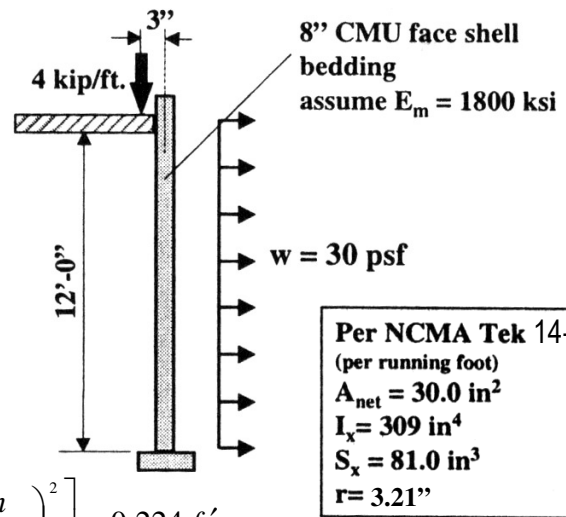
$$\frac{f_a}{F_a} + \frac{f_b}{F_b} \leq 1.0 \quad F_b = \frac{1}{3} f'_m \quad f_b = \frac{M}{S} \quad f_a = \frac{P}{A}$$

$$F_a = 0.25 f'_m \left[1 - \left(\frac{h}{140r} \right)^2 \right] \text{ for } \frac{h}{r} \leq 99$$

$$F_a = 0.25 f'_m \left(\frac{70r}{h} \right)^2 \text{ for } \frac{h}{r} > 99$$

$$\frac{h}{r} = \frac{12 \text{ ft}(12 \text{ in})}{3.21 \text{ in}} = 44.9 \text{ so } F_a = 0.25 f'_m \left[1 - \left(\frac{12 \cdot 12 \text{ in}}{140 \cdot 3.21 \text{ in}} \right)^2 \right] = 0.224 f'_m$$

$$f_a = \frac{4k(1000 \frac{\text{lb}}{\text{k}})}{30 \text{ in}^2} = 133 \text{ psi}$$

**Case "A" with wind**

at midheight of wall : (1 ft.kips/ft²) (ft) (in/ft)

$$M = \frac{Pe}{2} + \frac{wh^2}{8} = \frac{4 \text{ kip} \times 3''}{2} + \left[\frac{(0.030)(12)^2}{8} \right] \times 12 = 12.5 \text{ kip-in.}$$

$$f_b = \frac{12,500 \text{ lb-in}}{81.0 \text{ in}^3} = 154 \text{ psi} \quad f_b \leq 1/3 f'_m$$

$$\text{tension criterion : } f'_m \geq 154/(1/3) = 462 \text{ psi}$$

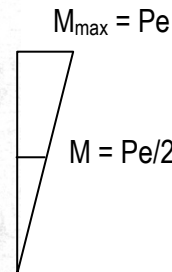
$$-f_a + f_b = F_t$$

$$-133 \text{ psi} + 154 \text{ psi} = 21 \text{ psi}$$

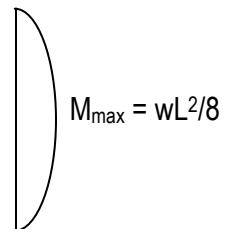
$$F_{t, \text{req'd}} = 21 \text{ psi}$$

compression criterion :

$$\frac{f_a}{F_a} + \frac{f_b}{F_b} < 1. \quad \frac{133}{0.224 f'_m} + \frac{154}{0.333 f'_m} = 1; \quad f'_m = 1056 \text{ psi}$$



Moment distribution from eccentricity



Moment distribution from distributed wind load

Case "B" without wind

at top of wall : $M = Pe = 12.0 \text{ kip-in.}$

$$f_b = 12,000 \text{ lb-in}/81 \text{ in}^3 = 148 \text{ psi}$$

$$\text{tension criterion : } -f_a + f_b = F_t$$

$$-133 \text{ psi} + 148 \text{ psi} = 15 \text{ psi} \quad F_{t, \text{req'd}} = 15 \text{ psi}$$

Per MSJC Table 2.2.3.2, use PCL Type N mortar $F_t = 25 \text{ psi}$

$$\text{compression criterion : } \frac{f_a}{F_a} + \frac{f_b}{F_b} \leq 1.0$$

$$\frac{133}{0.224 f'_m} + \frac{148}{0.333 f'_m} = 1.00 \quad f'_m = 1038 \text{ psi}$$

$$f'_m = 1056 \text{ psi (governs)}$$

Table 2.2.3.2 — Allowable flexural tensile stresses for clay and concrete masonry, psi (kPa)

Direction of flexural tensile stress and masonry type	Mortar types			
	Portland cement/lime or mortar cement		Masonry cement or air entrained portland cement/lime	
	M or S	N	M or S	N
Normal to bed joints				
Solid units	53 (366)	40 (276)	32 (221)	20 (138)
Hollow units ¹				
UngROUTED	33 (228)	25 (172)	20 (138)	12 (83)
Fully grouted	86 (593)	84 (579)	81 (559)	77 (531)
Parallel to bed joints in running bond				
Solid units	106 (731)	80 (552)	64 (441)	40 (276)
Hollow units				
UngROUTED and partially grouted	66 (455)	50 (345)	40 (276)	25 (172)
Fully grouted	106 (731)	80 (552)	64 (441)	40 (276)
Parallel to bed joints in masonry not laid in running bond				
Continuous grout section parallel to bed joints	133 (917)	133 (917)	133 (917)	133 (917)
Other	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)

¹ For partially grouted masonry, allowable stresses shall be determined on the basis of linear interpolation between fully grouted hollow units and ungrouted hollow units based on amount (percentage) of grouting.