



Designation: C1232 – 23

Standard Terminology for Masonry¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C1232; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope*

1.1 This standard incorporates generic terms and generic definitions of terms specifically associated with manufactured masonry units and masonry constructed with manufactured masonry units. These generic terms and definitions are used within the standards developed by Committee C12 on Mortars and Grouts for Unit Masonry and Committee C15 on Manufactured Masonry Units.

1.2 This standard incorporates terms and definitions of terms associated with the standards specific to clay masonry units, in particular to Specifications C32, C34, C56, C62, C126, C212, C216, C279, C410, C530, C652, C902, C1088, C1167, C1261, C1272, and C1405, and to Test Methods C67/C67M.

1.3 This standard incorporates terms and definitions of terms associated with the standards specific to concrete masonry units in particular to Specifications C55, C73, C90, C129, C139, C744, C1319, C1372, C1491, C1623, and C1634 and to Test Methods C140/C140M, C426, and C1262/C1262M.

1.4 This standard incorporates terms and definition of terms associated with the standards specific to autoclaved aerated concrete masonry units in particular to Practice C1692 and to Specifications C1386, C1691, and C1693.

1.5 This standard incorporates terms and definitions of terms associated with the standards specific to clay and concrete roofing tile units in particular to Specifications C1167 and C1492 and to Test Methods C1568, C1569, and C1570.

1.6 For terminology specific to mortar and grout, see Terminology C1180.

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

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. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- C32 Specification for Sewer and Manhole Brick (Made From Clay or Shale)
- C34 Specification for Structural Clay Loadbearing Wall Tile
- C55 Specification for Concrete Building Brick
- C56 Specification for Structural Clay Nonloadbearing Tile
- C62 Specification for Building Brick (Solid Masonry Units Made from Clay or Shale)
- C67/C67M Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Brick and Structural Clay Tile
- C73 Specification for Calcium Silicate Brick (Sand-Lime Brick)
- C90 Specification for Loadbearing Concrete Masonry Units
- C126 Specification for Ceramic Glazed Structural Clay Facing Tile, Facing Brick, and Solid Masonry Units
- C129 Specification for Nonloadbearing Concrete Masonry Units
- C139 Specification for Concrete Masonry Units for Construction of Catch Basins and Manholes
- C140/C140M Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Concrete Masonry Units and Related Units
- C212 Specification for Structural Clay Facing Tile
- C216 Specification for Facing Brick (Solid Masonry Units Made from Clay or Shale)
- C279 Specification for Chemical-Resistant Masonry Units
- C410 Specification for Industrial Floor Brick
- C426 Test Method for Linear Drying Shrinkage of Concrete Masonry Units
- C530 Specification for Structural Clay Nonloadbearing Screen Tile
- C652 Specification for Hollow Brick (Hollow Masonry Units Made From Clay or Shale)
- C744 Specification for Prefaced Concrete and Calcium Silicate Masonry Units
- C902 Specification for Pedestrian and Light Traffic Paving Brick
- C936/C936M Specification for Solid Concrete Interlocking Paving Units

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

- C1088 Specification for Thin Veneer Brick Units Made From Clay or Shale
- C1167 Specification for Clay Roof Tiles
- C1180 Terminology of Mortar and Grout for Unit Masonry
- C1261 Specification for Firebox Brick for Residential Fireplaces
- C1262/C1262M Test Method for Evaluating the Freeze-Thaw Durability of Dry-Cast Segmental Retaining Wall Units and Related Concrete Units
- C1272 Specification for Heavy Vehicular Paving Brick
- C1319 Specification for Concrete Grid Paving Units
- C1372 Specification for Dry-Cast Segmental Retaining Wall Units
- C1386 Specification for Precast Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) Wall Construction Units (Withdrawn 2013)³
- C1405 Specification for Glazed Brick (Single Fired, Brick Units)
- C1491 Specification for Concrete Roof Pavers (Withdrawn 2023)³
- C1492 Specification for Concrete Roof Tile
- C1568 Test Method for Wind Resistance of Concrete and Clay Roof Tiles (Mechanical Uplift Resistance Method)
- C1569 Test Method for Wind Resistance of Concrete and Clay Roof Tiles (Wind Tunnel Method)
- C1570 Test Method for Wind Resistance of Concrete and Clay Roof Tiles (Air Permeability Method)
- C1623 Specification for Manufactured Concrete Masonry Lintels
- C1634 Specification for Concrete Facing Brick and Other Concrete Masonry Facing Units
- C1691 Specification for Unreinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) Masonry Units
- C1692 Practice for Construction and Testing of Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) Masonry
- C1693 Specification for Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC)

3. Terminology

3.1 *Generic Definitions*—The definitions apply to manufactured masonry units and masonry constructed with manufactured masonry units. They are generic as used by ASTM Committees C12 and C15.

bed surface, *n*—*before and during construction*, the nonvertical surfaces of a manufactured masonry unit intended by the manufacturer to be joined by mortar or other methods.

bed surface, *n*—*in situ*, the 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*—masonry unit surface(s) that is exposed to view when the unit is placed in usage.

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

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.

DISCUSSION—Indentations not exceeding $\frac{3}{8}$ in. (9.5 mm) are termed a frog, sometimes called a panel or panel frog. Indentations exceeding $\frac{3}{8}$ in. (9.5 mm) are termed a deep frog.

groove, *n*—a channel formed on surfaces other than finished 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.

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

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

nominal dimension, *n*—dimension that is greater than the specified dimension by the specified thickness of a mortar joint.

DISCUSSION—Nominal dimension is usually expressed as a whole number.

permeable unit pavement system, *n*—pavement with wearing surface made from clay or concrete units that allows infiltration of water through open-graded aggregate in the joints, cores, or other openings, to a bed, base, and subbase, or combinations thereof.

DISCUSSION—Permeable pavement systems are utilized to reduce stormwater runoff. Permeable pavements have wearing surfaces with high initial water infiltration through open spaces filled with aggregates to drain water into open-graded bedding and base materials. The open spaces in the wearing surface are designed to enable sufficient infiltration rates to handle runoff from designated storm types (for example, 1 year, 24 hour event).

With unit pavers the open spaces can be achieved with exposed coring, a specially-shaped perimeter configuration, or wider joints, or combinations thereof. Permeable pavement systems can also be made with standard units and a laying pattern that permits sufficient water entry.

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

shell, *n*—the outer walls of a hollow masonry unit.

DISCUSSION—Shell can either be an end shell or a face shell.

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

surface feature, *n*—a quality or condition of the face of a manufactured masonry unit.

DISCUSSION—Surface features include coatings, colors, textures, relief, or combinations of these. A masonry unit may have different surface features on individual faces.

³ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.