

HD clay bricks — Guide to appearance and site measured dimensions and tolerance

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Foreword

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 9 and a back cover.

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Introduction

Where disputes over the appearance of clay brickwork arise they have traditionally been resolved with the assistance of Appendix F to BS 3921 which includes some general guidance and a means of comparing the appearance of sample panels built from a consignment of bricks with that of an agreed reference panel at the start of the contract.

When BS 3921 is withdrawn, Appendix F will no longer be available. This Publicly Available Specification is intended to supersede Appendix F by continuing to provide authoritative guidance, whilst removing reference to contractual arrangements and retaining a sample and reference panel approach to acceptability.

Similarly, where disputes over the size or tolerance of clay bricks arise they have traditionally been resolved using the procedure in BS 3921 which will be superseded by BS EN 771-1 in due course.

The BS 3921 procedure was to place 24 bricks in a row and to measure the overall length, width or height of the row using a tape. This overall dimension was required to be within certain upper and lower limits. Although the bricks-in-a-row test was very practical and helpful and had been in use for some 50 years, the practice in the majority of European countries has been to control the dimensional tolerances of individual masonry units and it is this procedure that has been adopted as the reference in BS EN 771-1. The BS EN 771-1 measurement procedure is complex and the measuring equipment not readily amenable to site use.

Consequently this Publicly Available Specification has been produced to give a simple site test that is intended to resolve most disputes without recourse to off site measurements and the use of long jaw callipers. In cases of dispute that cannot be resolved by these simple site procedures, it is recommended that the clay bricks are sampled in accordance with BS EN 771-1 and tested in accordance with BS EN 772-16, using the reference measuring procedure identified in BS EN 771-1.

1 Scope

This Publicly Available Specification gives guidance on assessing the appearance of facing bricks, and the determination of on-site measurements of work size dimensions, for all high density (HD) type clay bricks as defined by BS EN 771-1.

It includes a procedure for comparing sample panels with reference panels in order to assess the appearance acceptability of consignments of clay facing bricks. It is not intended to apply to common and engineering HD type clay bricks.

It also provides a method of determining the overall dimensions of all clay bricks. The limits for the tolerance categories for the mean and range are those that apply to HD type clay bricks where the manufacturer's declared work sizes are those traditionally known as British Standard dimensions (UK standard format clay bricks). If clay bricks are supplied with other work sizes, the limits for these categories will need to be calculated in accordance with BS EN 771-1.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 4035:1966, *Specification for linear measuring instruments for use on building and civil engineering constructional works — Steel measuring tapes, steel bands and retractable steel pocket rules.*

BS EN 771-1:2003, *Specification for masonry units — Part 1: Clay masonry units.*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this Publicly Available Specification, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

brickwork

masonry of bricks bonded and solidly put together with mortar

[BS 6100-5.1:1992]