

Masonry inspection checklist

Masonry hides two things: what is inside the cells and what is behind the veneer. Grout, reinforcement, flashing and weeps all have to be photographed as the wall goes up, because there is no opening it later.

Who runs it: Masonry foreman; the GC and a special inspector where the structure requires one. When: Continuously as the wall rises. Grout lifts and flashing courses cannot be inspected retroactively.

Materials and mortar

- ☐ Units and mortar type match the specification
Correct unit strength and mortar type for the assembly, stored off the ground and covered. 2 photos required
- ☐ Mortar joints full, tooled and consistent
No furrowed bed joints, head joints filled, tooling profile as specified. 2 photos required
- ☐ Mortar batched and retempered within the allowable time
Mixing recorded; no boards of dead mortar going into the wall. 1 photo required

Reinforcement and grout

- ☐ Vertical and horizontal reinforcement placed and positioned
Bars centred in the cell with positioners, laps as detailed. 3 photos required
- ☐ Cells clean with cleanouts at the base of the lift
Mortar droppings removed; cleanouts photographed open before they are closed. 2 photos required
- ☐ Grout placed in lifts and consolidated
Lift height within the limit, vibrated or puddled, reconsolidated after settlement. 2 photos required

Moisture management

- ☐ Through-wall flashing continuous with sealed laps and end dams
Every course of flashing photographed before the next course covers it. 3 photos required
- ☐ Weeps open at the required spacing
Clear at the flashing line; check again after the course above is laid. 2 photos required
- ☐ Cavity clear of mortar droppings with drainage material in place
Cavity kept clean as the wall rises, not cleaned out at the end. 2 photos required

Tolerances and protection

- ☐ Wall plumb, level and within dimensional tolerance
Check plumb and coursing at each lift; correct before the next one. 2 photos required
- ☐ Anchors, ties and control joints installed per the design
Tie spacing measured, joints at the designed locations with the correct backing. 2 photos required
- ☐ Wall protected from weather at the end of each day
Tops covered; cold- and hot-weather measures in place when conditions require them. 2 photos required