



Designation: C 1209 – 01a

Standard Terminology of Concrete Masonry Units and Related Units¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C 1209; 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 terminology contains terms, definitions of terms, nomenclature, and explanations of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols specific to concrete masonry units and related units.

1.2 The definitions and definitions of terms in this terminology pertain to Specifications C 55, C 73, C 90, C 129, C 139, C 744, and C 1319 and Test Methods C 140, C 426, C 1006, and C 1262.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*

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.

Current edition approved ~~Feb.~~ Dec. 10, 2001. Published February 2004². Originally published as C 1209–92. Last previous edition ~~C 1209–99a~~ C 1209–01.

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

- C 55 Specification for Concrete Building Brick²
- C 73 Specification for Calcium Silicate Face Brick (Sand-Lime Brick)²
- C 90 Specification for Loadbearing Concrete Masonry Units²
- C 129 Specification for Nonloadbearing Concrete Masonry Units²
- C 139 Specification for Concrete Masonry Units for Construction of Catch Basins and Manholes²
- C 140 Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Concrete Masonry Units and Related Units²
- C 426 Test Method for Drying Shrinkage of Concrete Block²
- C 744 Specification for Prefaced Concrete and Calcium Silicate Masonry Units²
- C 1006 Test Method for Splitting Tensile Strength of Masonry Units²
- C 1232 Terminology of Masonry²
- C 1262 Test Method for Evaluating the Freeze-Thaw Durability of Manufactured Concrete Masonry Units and Related Concrete Units²
- C 1319 Specification for Concrete Grid Paving Units²

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

absorption—difference in the amount of water contained within a concrete masonry unit or related unit between a saturated and oven-dry condition in accordance with the requirements of Test Methods C 140. It is expressed as weight of water per volume of concrete.

calcium-silicate brick, *n*—a pressed and subsequently autoclaved unit that consists of sand and lime, with or without the inclusion of other materials.

concrete brick, *n*—a concrete masonry unit made from portland cement, water, and suitable aggregates, with or without the inclusion of other materials. See Specification C 55.

coupon, *n*—a solid specimen, rectangular in any cross-section, that is saw-cut from a concrete masonry unit or related unit for the purpose of testing, and whose properties are considered representative of the whole unit.

drying shrinkage, *n*—in this test method, the change in linear dimension of the test specimen due to drying from a saturated condition to an equilibrium weight and length under specified accelerated drying conditions. **C 426**

hollow masonry unit—unit whose net cross-sectional area in any plane parallel to the bearing surface is 75 % or less of its gross cross-sectional area measured in the same plane. **C 1232**

lightweight concrete masonry unit—unit whose oven-dry density is less than 105 lb/ft³(1680 kg/m³).

lot—any number of concrete masonry units or related units designated by the producer of any configuration or dimension manufactured by the producer using the same materials, concrete mix design, manufacturing process, and curing method.

medium weight concrete masonry unit—unit whose oven-dry density is at least 105 lb/ft³(1680 kg/m³) and less than 125 lb/ft³(2000 kg/m³).

moisture content—amount of water contained within a concrete masonry unit or related unit at a given time expressed as a percentage of the total amount of water in the unit under saturated conditions.

DISCUSSION—Moisture content is calculated as the difference in the received weight of the unit and the dry weight of the unit divided by the difference in the saturated weight of the unit and the dry weight of the unit, multiplied by 100%.

moisture-controlled concrete masonry unit—concrete masonry unit whose moisture content conforms to the requirements for Type I classification of Specifications C 55, C 90, or C 129.

² Annual Book of ASTM Standards, Vol 04.05.

normal weight concrete masonry unit—unit whose oven-dry density is 125 lb/ft³(2000 kg/m³) or greater.
sand-lime brick, n—See **calcium-silicate brick**.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Committee C15 has identified the location of the following changes to this standard since ~~C-1209-99a~~
1209-01 that impact the use of this standard.

(1) The term “moisture-controlled concrete masonry unit” was removed. (2) ~~The term “coupon” was added.~~

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