

# Burnished Masonry Guide Specifications

## Part 1 – General

### Submittal

Submit color samples for selection from the manufacturer's specified color series. Submit product literature, certifications and test reports.

### Quality Assurance

**Certifications:** Concrete blocks for grinding shall be autoclave cured and conform to all provisions of ASTM C90, TYPE 1, Moisture Controlled Units. All ground surfaces shall have a factory applied clear, non-pigmented acrylic sealer to highlight the aggregate and facilitate clean down.

**Field Constructed Mock-ups:** To show the natural variation of color and texture, construct a sample panel of units representative of all color(s) utilized in the project. Clean and treat the sample panel in the same manner as the project will be treated.

### Delivery, Storage and Handling

Anchor Burnished Masonry Units shall be delivered to the jobsite on banded pallets with protective material between layers. Store and cover pallets with waterproof covering to protect the blocks from inclement weather. Handle blocks carefully to avoid breakage and damage.

### Project/Site Conditions

**Protection of Work:** Cover walls at the end of each day to keep open walls protected and dry.

## PART 2 – Products

### Product Name

Anchor Burnished Masonry Units

### Manufacturer

Anchor Block Company  
2300 McKnight Road  
North St. Paul, MN 55109  
Ph: 651-777-8321  
Fax: 651-777-0169  
www.anchorblock.com

### Sizes and Shapes

Provide special shapes such as bond beams, double ends, bullnose units and exposed burnished faces as required for a complete finished appearance.

## PART 3 – Execution

### Laying Masonry Walls

Carefully lay units according to accepted masonry practices. Install only units in compliance with ASTM C90. Align units level, plumb, and true with uniform, carefully tooled 3/8" joints from the burnished side of the wall. Draw blocks from more than one pallet at a time during installation.

### Installation

**Lighting:** Provide adequate lighting conducive to high-quality masonry work. Place lighting a reasonable distance from the wall for even illumination.

Do not use trough lighting.

**Cutting:** Make all unit cuts, including those for bonding, holes, boxes, etc., with motor-driven masonry saws, using either an abrasive or diamond blade. Cut neatly and locate for best appearance.

### Inspection

The ground faces shall be inspected to verify compliance with all provisions of sections 7 of ASTM C-90.

### Flashing of Masonry Work

Install flashing at locations shown in the plans and in strict accordance with the details and the best masonry flashing practices.

### Weep Holes and Vents

Install weep holes and vents at proper intervals (32" O.C. and 2" long, above bed joints, typical) at courses above grade above flashing, and at any water stops over windows, doors, and beams.

### Pointing

Carefully tuckpoint the joints and scores of all burnished units. Both interior and exterior joints and scores should be tuckpointed.

### Cleaning

Keep walls clean during installation and remove excess mortar lumps and smears with brushes or burlap before they are allowed to dry and set.

### Final Clean Down

Clean the completed walls in accordance with Minnesota Concrete Masonry Association's "Recommended Practices for Cleaning Architectural Concrete Masonry."

### Field Coat Application

After final clean down, and when the walls are thoroughly dry, apply a field coat of a compatible acrylic sealer. Apply sealer evenly with air sprayer or roller to cover the entire surface without forming drops or runs.

### Maintenance

Anchor Burnished Masonry Units, when appropriately used and properly installed and routine, need virtually no maintenance other than routine cleaning with standard commercial-grade cleaning agents. Graffiti, paint or dye stains may need special cleaning methods and products. Contact manufacturer for specific cleaning recommendations.

### Utilization/Installation Recommendations

- Cavity wall construction is recommended for exterior walls, with proper flashing, venting and weeps.
- For best appearance, use stack bond construction when stack bond appearance is desired (as opposed to scored units in running bond).
- Burnished units cannot be manufactured with concave or 'V' scores. Scored units must be made with a raked score. These scores should be tuckpointed to match the treatment of the head and bed joints.
- If exterior units require an additional water repellent treatment, it may be applied at the factory prior to the application of the acrylic highlight sealer.
- Burnished masonry walls (as well as most other masonry walls) should not be rimlit. Lighting should be diffused and placed a sufficient distance from walls so as not to exaggerate normal and often desirable manufacturing imperfections of the product.



Concrete masonry is not a food source for mold. That's just one of the many advantages of using concrete masonry.

Mold prevention requires proper design and climate control in buildings.

Concrete masonry is the right choice for sustainable design and construction!

[www.ncma.org](http://www.ncma.org)

### Anchor Block Company

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