



NOTES TO SPECIFIER

General notes about the specifications and the reasons for them are listed here in general statements. Use this as a guide when choosing the correct selection of statements that apply to your job from the actual specifications.

A.S.T.M C 90, UBC Standard 21-4, IBC 2003 Section 2103.1, and other Specification and Model Code References (1, 2, 3)

Specification and standard references such as these often are edition specific. When particular features are desired such as weight classification, higher compressive strengths, surface textures, finish, color, fire resistance, insulation, acoustical properties, or other special features, such properties should be specified separately and clearly by the purchaser or architect. However, Western Block Co., Inc. should be consulted as to the availability of units having the desired features.

TYPE OF BLOCK

Selecting the proper type of block for your job is very important. Texture means you are using slump block, split face, ground face, molded face unit, or other units with molded features. Specify and indicate the proper type or types to be used and their locations.

SAMPLE PANEL

A sample panel is important because it serves as a visual aid for workmanship for the masonry contractor and architect. This helps to eliminate later discussion about workmanship standards. In lieu of the sample panel, begin work in the most obvious section designated by the architect and this will serve as the sample panel.

CERTIFICATES

Specify being a member of A.M.C.A. and your participation in the Q block test program because this is the way the owner and architect are sure they are getting a quality manufacturer who is tested every quarter rather than every year as the A.S.T.M. requires. The companies who participate think enough of their product to pay for these additional tests themselves and are competitive with the manufacturers who do not participate.

COLORED BLOCK

Integrally colored block have to be specifically manufactured. It may be one of the first items to be installed. To avoid a possible delay in construction especially on large projects, select the integral color before bidding the job. This will take the guesswork out of the bidding process because the cost of integral color in block does vary. This also alerts the general contractor to notify the masonry contractor, who in turn should be expedient in placing the order with his supplier.

COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH OF MASONRY

Higher strength concrete masonry units cost more than the regular A.S.T.M. C 90 specified units. Be sure to refer to the project specifications to discover the f'_m required. The project specifications and registered professionals will determine these requirements.

REFERENCES:

1. ASTM International, West Conshocken, PA. 19428-2959
2. International Conference of Building Officials, Whittier, CA., 90601-2298
3. International Code Council, Country Club Hills, IL, 60478-5795