



Designation: C 43 – 03a

Standard Terminology of Structural Clay Products¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C 43; 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 and definitions of terms associated with the standards specific to masonry units and roofing tile manufactured by firing clay and shale raw materials.

1.2 The definitions and definitions of terms in this terminology pertain to Specifications C 32, C 34, C 56, C 62, C 126, C 212, C 216, C 279, C 410, C 652, C 902, C 1088, C 1167, C 1261, C 1272 and Test Methods C 67.

1.3 Generic terminology for masonry is found in Terminology C 1232. Terminology C 1232 also applies to masonry units manufactured by firing clay and shale raw materials.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- C 32 Specification for Sewer and Manhole Brick (Made from Clay or Shale)
- C 34 Specification for Structural Clay Load-Bearing Wall Tile
- C 56 Specification for Structural Clay Non-Load-Bearing Tile
- C 62 Specification for Building Brick (Solid Masonry Units Made from Clay or Shale)
- C 67 Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Brick and Structural Clay Tile
- C 126 Specification for Ceramic Glazed Structural Clay Facing Tile, Facing Brick, and Solid Masonry Units
- C 212 Specification for Structural Clay Facing Tile
- C 216 Specification for Facing Brick (Solid Masonry Units Made from Clay or Shale)
- C 279 Specification for Chemical-Resistant Masonry Units
- C 410 Specification for Industrial Floor Brick
- C 652 Specification for Hollow Brick (Hollow Masonry Units Made from Clay or Shale)

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 December 1, 2003. Published January 2004. Originally approved in 1965. Last previous edition approved in 2003 as C 43 – 03.

² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

- C 902 Specification for Pedestrian and Light Traffic Paving Brick
- C 1088 Specification for Thin Veneer Brick Units Made from Clay or Shale
- C 1167 Specification for Clay Roof Tiles
- C 1232 Terminology of Masonry
- C 1261 Specification for Firebox Brick for Residential Fireplaces
- C 1272 Specification for Heavy Vehicular Paving Brick
- C 1405 Specification for Glazed Brick (Single-Fired, Solid Brick Units)

3. Terminology

3.1 Terms and Definitions:

RAW MATERIALS

clay, *n*—an earthy or stony mineral aggregate consisting essentially of hydrous silicates of alumina, plastic when sufficiently pulverized and wetted, rigid when dry, and vitreous when fired to a sufficiently high temperature.

fire clay, *n*—a sedimentary clay of low flux content.

reactive particulates, *n*—a particle or particles present in a clay body, which when near the surface may flake off or cause an eruption (pop-outs) of the surface when exposed to the weather.

shale, *n*—a thinly stratified, consolidated, sedimentary clay with well-marked cleavage parallel to the bedding.

surface clay, *n*—an unconsolidated, unstratified clay, occurring on the surface.

MANUFACTURE

cells/core holes, *n*—continuous openings or perforations within extruded clay products.

DISCUSSION—The extent of permissible openings is specified for each product as the percentage of gross area in the normal bedding surface plane that must be net (solid) area. Core hole is generally used for brick while cell is used for structural tile. Cells are distinguished from core holes by being larger in size. As an illustration, cells must be larger than 1 in.² (645 mm²) under Specification C 34, and 1½ in.² (968 mm²) under Specification C 652.

coring, *v*—the process of perforating structural clay products, generally performed during extrusion by supporting cores (rods) within the shaping cap of the extruder.

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

extrusion, *n*—shaping of brick by pushing plastic clay or shale through a die opening that forms the peripheral dimensions of the brick.

DISCUSSION—The column of extrudate is then cut into sections to provide the third dimension of the brick. Water is added to the clay or shale in sufficient quantities to permit laminar flow through the extrusion machine. The consistency of the extrudate may vary from stiff and capable of supporting several times its weight to soft and deformable under slight loads.

fired bond, *n*—bond developed between particulate constituents of brick solely as the result of the firing process.

DISCUSSION—The bond may result from fusion or melting of one or more constituents of the composition or the surface of particles. Other thermal mechanisms such as sintering and interparticle reaction may be responsible for the bond.

The higher the heat treatment, the greater the extent of bonding and consequently the greater the developed strength and the lower the resulting porosity. The bond development should be sufficient to provide the specified strength, porosity, and durability for any particular product.

firing, *v*—process of heating the material to elevated temperatures.

DISCUSSION—The temperatures are usually in excess of 1706°F (930°C). The extent of firing is a function of both time and temperature. The firing develops the inter-particulate bond, the strengths, the pore structure, and the color of the product. The extent of firing should be sufficient to produce the levels of these properties required by the specifications for the particular product.

incipient fusion, *n*—beginning of the development of fired bond.

molding, *v*—shaping of brick by dropping, throwing, or vibrating wet clay or shale in a mold cavity shaped to provide the peripheral dimensions of the brick.

DISCUSSION—Sufficient water is mixed with the clay or shale to produce a soft consistency.

When insides of molds are sanded to prevent sticking of clay, the product is sand-struck brick. When the molds are wetted to prevent sticking, the product is water-struck brick.

pressing, *v*—shaping of brick by pressing clay or shale into a mold cavity which forms the peripheral dimensions of the brick.

DISCUSSION—Different subclassifications of pressing are defined by the quantity of water mixed with the clay or shale.

Dry pressing uses high forming pressures and low water contents usually between 0 and 5 %.

Plastic pressing uses low pressures and sufficient water to produce a plastic mixture.

Semi-dry pressing uses intermediate pressures and water quantities nominally between 5 and 14 %.

struck surface, *n*—the surface of a molded brick that is not in contact with the mold and from which the excess clay/shale mixture is removed.

webs, *n*—the partitions dividing tile or hollow brick into cells.

PRODUCT PROPERTIES

absorption, *n*—weight of water picked up by a clay masonry unit during immersion at prescribed conditions expressed in relation to the dry weight of the unit.

DISCUSSION—Two conditions of immersion are designated in standards relating to brick: 24 h in room temperature (60–86°F (15.5–30°C)) water or 5 h in boiling water. (Different time intervals are specified for structural tile and other products.) The resulting absorptions are termed *cold water absorption* and *boiling water absorption*.

Absorption values are used in brick and tile standards as one factor in classifying these products into durability grades. Absorptions are indicators of the extent of firing during manufacture as well as being indicators of durability.

impervious, *adj*—describes the state of having obtained that degree of vitrification evidenced visually by resistance to penetration of a specified dye.

initial rate of absorption, *n*—a measure of the suction of water upward into a dry brick from a bed face during one minute of exposure.

DISCUSSION—Initial rate of absorption (IRA) is a distinct property that offers different information from absorption. It is expressed as grams of water picked up in one minute by a net area of 30 in.² (194 cm²).

Initial rate of absorption is one factor influencing the quality of bond between brick and mortar. It is used in brick standards to recommend construction practices for enhancing mortar to brick bonding.

SURFACE FEATURES

coated finish, *n*—the surface feature resulting when mineral particles are applied to the column in the extrusion process to impart color, texture, opacity, or other characteristics.

combed finish, *n*—the surface texture resulting when faces are altered by more or less parallel scratches or scarfs in manufacture.

engobe, *n*—a slip, other than a glaze, that is not impervious and is applied to a ceramic body to function as a glaze undercoat or to impart color, texture, opacity, or other characteristics.

flashed finish, *n*—the surface feature resulting when faces have a range of color produced by the control of the atmospheric conditions in the kiln during firing.

glaze, *n*—an impervious facial finish composed of ceramic materials, fused during firing with the body of brick or tile, which is a semivitreous or vitreous surface and may be clear, white, or colored.

plaster-base finish, *n*—the surface texture intended for the direct application of plaster.

DISCUSSION—Plaster-base finishes may be smooth, scored, combed, or roughened.