



Designation: C387/C387M – 11a

Standard Specification for Packaged, Dry, Combined Materials for Mortar and Concrete¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C387/C387M; 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 reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers the production, properties, packaging, and testing of packaged, dry, combined materials for concrete and mortars. The classifications of concrete and mortar covered are defined in Section 3.

NOTE 1—The scope of this standard does not cover mortars for unit masonry. Dry preblended mortars for unit masonry are covered by Specification C1714/C1714M.

1.2 The values stated in either SI units or inch-pound units are to be regarded separately as standard. The values stated in each system may not be exact equivalents; therefore, each system shall be used independently of the other. Combining values from the two systems may result in non-conformance with the standard.

1.3 The following safety hazards caveat pertains only to the test method portion of this specification. *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- C33 Specification for Concrete Aggregates
- C39/C39M Test Method for Compressive Strength of Cylindrical Concrete Specimens
- C91 Specification for Masonry Cement
- C109/C109M Test Method for Compressive Strength of Hydraulic Cement Mortars (Using 2-in. or [50-mm] Cube Specimens)
- C125 Terminology Relating to Concrete and Concrete Aggregates

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C09 on Concrete and Concrete Aggregates and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C09.43 on Packaged Dry Combined Materials.

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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.

- C138/C138M Test Method for Density (Unit Weight), Yield, and Air Content (Gravimetric) of Concrete
- C143/C143M Test Method for Slump of Hydraulic-Cement Concrete
- C144 Specification for Aggregate for Masonry Mortar
- C150 Specification for Portland Cement
- C173/C173M Test Method for Air Content of Freshly Mixed Concrete by the Volumetric Method
- C185 Test Method for Air Content of Hydraulic Cement Mortar
- C192/C192M Practice for Making and Curing Concrete Test Specimens in the Laboratory
- C207 Specification for Hydrated Lime for Masonry Purposes
- C231 Test Method for Air Content of Freshly Mixed Concrete by the Pressure Method
- C260 Specification for Air-Entraining Admixtures for Concrete
- C270 Specification for Mortar for Unit Masonry
- C305 Practice for Mechanical Mixing of Hydraulic Cement Pastes and Mortars of Plastic Consistency
- C330 Specification for Lightweight Aggregates for Structural Concrete
- C494/C494M Specification for Chemical Admixtures for Concrete
- C566 Test Method for Total Evaporable Moisture Content of Aggregate by Drying
- C595 Specification for Blended Hydraulic Cements
- C618 Specification for Coal Fly Ash and Raw or Calcined Natural Pozzolan for Use in Concrete
- C702 Practice for Reducing Samples of Aggregate to Testing Size
- C989 Specification for Slag Cement for Use in Concrete and Mortars
- C1116 Specification for Fiber-Reinforced Concrete and Shotcrete
- C1157 Performance Specification for Hydraulic Cement
- C1240 Specification for Silica Fume Used in Cementitious Mixtures
- C1329 Specification for Mortar Cement

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

- [C1437 Test Method for Flow of Hydraulic Cement Mortar](#)
- [C1438 Specification for Latex and Powder Polymer Modifiers in Hydraulic Cement Concrete and Mortar](#)
- [C1600/C1600M Specification for Rapid Hardening Hydraulic Cement](#)
- [C1714/C1714M Specification for Preblended Dry Mortar Mix for Unit Masonry](#)

5. Materials

5.1 Materials used as ingredients in packaged, dry, combined materials for mortar and concrete shall conform to at least one of the following requirements:

- 5.1.1 *Aggregates*, shall conform to Specification [C33](#), Specification [C144](#), or Specification [C330](#).
- 5.1.2 *Air-Entraining Admixtures*, shall conform to Specification [C260](#).
- 5.1.3 *Blended Cement*, shall conform to Specification [C595](#) or Performance Specification [C1157](#).
- 5.1.4 *Chemical Admixtures*, shall conform to Specification [C494/C494M](#).
- 5.1.5 *Fly ash and natural pozzolans*, shall conform to Specification [C618](#).
- 5.1.6 *Ground Granulated Blast-Furnace Slag*, shall conform to Specification [C989](#).
- 5.1.7 *Hydrated Lime*, shall conform to Type S or Type SA of Specification [C207](#).
- 5.1.8 *Latex and Powder Polymer Modifiers*, shall conform to Specification [C1438](#).

NOTE 2—Type II latex polymers should not be used in applications that may be more than superficially wet in service.

- 5.1.9 *Masonry Cement*, shall conform to Specification [C91](#).
- 5.1.10 *Mortar Cement*, shall comply with [C1329](#).
- 5.1.11 *Portland Cement*, shall conform to Type I, IA, II, IIA, III or IIIA of Specification [C150](#).
- 5.1.12 *Silica Fume*, shall conform to Specification [C1240](#).
- 5.1.13 *Fibers*, shall conform to the applicable portions of Specification [C1116](#).
- 5.1.14 *Rapid hardening hydraulic cement*, shall comply with Specification [C1600/C1600M](#).

6. Preparation of Aggregate

6.1 All aggregates prepared in the laboratory for the purpose of establishing the correct proportions for the product shall be dried, without disintegration, to a moisture content of less than 0.1 % by mass. Verify moisture content using a ventilated oven in accordance with Test Method [C566](#).

7. Proportioning

7.1 The proportions of cementitious material and aggregate shall be such that the strength requirements will be met when an amount of mixing water is used that produces for concrete the slump specified in [14.3](#) and for mortar the flow specified in [16.2](#).

3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions of terms used in this specification, refer to Terminology [C125](#).

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *concrete, high-early strength, n*—in packaged, dry, combined materials, a product for building and repair requiring a more rapid than normal strength development.

3.2.1.1 *Discussion*—This product allows for earlier removal of forms and allows concrete projects to be put into service much sooner than with normal strength concrete.

3.2.2 *concrete, normal strength, n*—in packaged, dry, combined materials, a product for general building and repair where thickness exceeds 50 mm [2 in.].

3.2.2.1 *Discussion*—Typical uses include building or repairing sidewalks, patios, steps, footings, and for setting posts.

3.2.3 *concrete, normal strength, lightweight, n*—in packaged, dry, combined materials, a concrete product for building and repair where the lightest concrete density is desirable.

3.2.3.1 *Discussion*—These mixtures will produce concrete that is about 25 to 35 % lower in density than normal weight concrete.

3.2.4 *concrete, normal strength, lightweight using normal weight sand, n*—in packaged, dry, combined materials, a concrete product for building and repair where a lower density is desirable.

3.2.4.1 *Discussion*—These mixtures will produce concrete that is about 15 to 25 % lower in density than normal weight concrete.

3.2.5 *mortar, high-strength, n*—in packaged, dry, combined materials, a product for building or repair requiring a thickness of less than 50 mm [2 in.], or where a high strength mortar mixture is required.

3.2.5.1 *Discussion*—Typical uses include topping and patching existing concrete structures. Often referred to as “sand mix.”

4. Ordering Information

4.1 The purchaser shall specify the material desired as concrete or high strength mortar and the respective physical requirements as specified in [Table 1](#) shall govern.

TABLE 1 Physical Requirements

Kind of Material	Compressive Strength, MPa [psi] min		
	3 days	7 days	28 days
<i>Concrete:</i>			
High-early strength	17.0 [2500]	24.0 [3500]	...
Normal strength:			
Normal weight	...	17.0 [2500]	24.0 [3500]
Lightweight using normal weight sand ⁴	...	17.0 [2500]	24.0 [3500]
Lightweight	...	17.0 [2500]	24.0 [3500]
<i>Mortar:</i>			
High-strength mortar		20.0 [3000]	35.0 [5000]

⁴ Lightweight concrete using normal weight sand may contain some portion of lightweight fines.