



Designation: C62 – 17

# Standard Specification for Building Brick (Solid Masonry Units Made From Clay or Shale)<sup>1</sup>

This standard is issued under the fixed designation C62; 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 ( $\epsilon$ ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

*This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.*

## 1. Scope\*

1.1 This specification covers brick intended for both structural and nonstructural masonry where external appearance is not a requirement. The brick are prismatic units available in a variety of sizes, shapes, textures, and colors. The specification does not cover brick intended for use as facing units or where surface appearance is a requirement. If brick are required to have a particular color, texture, finish, uniformity, or limits on cracks, warpage, or other imperfections detracting from the appearance they are purchased under Specification C216. This specification does not cover brick intended for use as paving brick (see Specification C902).

1.2 The property requirements of this standard apply at the time of purchase. The use of results from testing of brick extracted from masonry structures for determining conformance or nonconformance to the property requirements (Section 4) of this standard is beyond the scope of this standard.

1.3 Brick are manufactured from clay, shale, or similar naturally occurring earthy substances and subjected to a heat treatment at elevated temperatures (firing). The heat treatment must develop sufficient fired bond between the particulate constituents to provide the strength and durability requirements of this specification (see Terminology C1232).

1.4 Brick are shaped during manufacture by molding, pressing, or extrusion, and the shaping method is a way to describe the brick.

1.5 The text of this standard references notes and footnotes which provide explanatory material. These notes and footnotes (excluding those in tables and figures) shall not be considered as requirements of the standard.

1.6 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical

conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

1.7 *This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.*

## 2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards:*<sup>2</sup>

C67 Test Methods for Sampling and Testing Brick and Structural Clay Tile

C216 Specification for Facing Brick (Solid Masonry Units Made from Clay or Shale)

C902 Specification for Pedestrian and Light Traffic Paving Brick

C1232 Terminology for Masonry

## 3. Terminology

3.1 *Definitions*—For definitions relating to building brick, refer to Terminology C1232.

## 4. Classification

4.1 *Grades*—Grades classify brick according to their resistance to damage by freezing and thawing when saturated at a moisture content not exceeding the 24-h cold water absorption. Three grades of building brick are covered and the requirements are given in Section 5.

4.1.1 *Grade SW (Severe Weathering)*—Brick intended for use where high resistance to damage caused by cyclic freezing and thawing is desired.

4.1.2 *Grade MW (Moderate Weathering)*—Brick intended for use where moderate resistance to cyclic freezing and thawing damage is permissible.

<sup>1</sup> This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C15 on Manufactured Masonry Units and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C15.02 on Brick and Structural Clay Tile.

Current edition approved Oct. 1, 2017. Published October 2017. Originally approved in 1927. Last previous edition approved in 2013 as C62 – 13a. DOI: 10.1520/C0062-17.

<sup>2</sup> For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, [www.astm.org](http://www.astm.org), or contact ASTM Customer Service at [service@astm.org](mailto:service@astm.org). For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

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

4.1.3 *Grade NW (Negligible Weathering)*—Brick intended for use where little resistance to cyclic freezing and thawing damage is acceptable.

NOTE 1—The word “saturated,” with respect to this standard, refers to the condition of a brick that has absorbed water to an amount equal to that resulting from submersion in room temperature water for 24 h.

5. Physical Properties

5.1 *Durability*—When Grade is not specified, the requirements for Grade SW shall govern.

5.1.1 *Physical Property Requirements*—The brick shall conform to the physical requirements for the Grade specified as prescribed in Table 1. For the compressive strength requirements in Table 1, test the unit with the compressive force perpendicular to the bed surface of the unit, with the unit in the stretcher position.

5.1.2 *Absorption Alternate*—The saturation coefficient requirement does not apply, provided that the 24-h cold water absorption of each of the five units tested does not exceed 8.0 %.

5.1.3 *Freezing and Thawing Alternative*—The requirements for 5 h boiling water absorption and saturation coefficient do

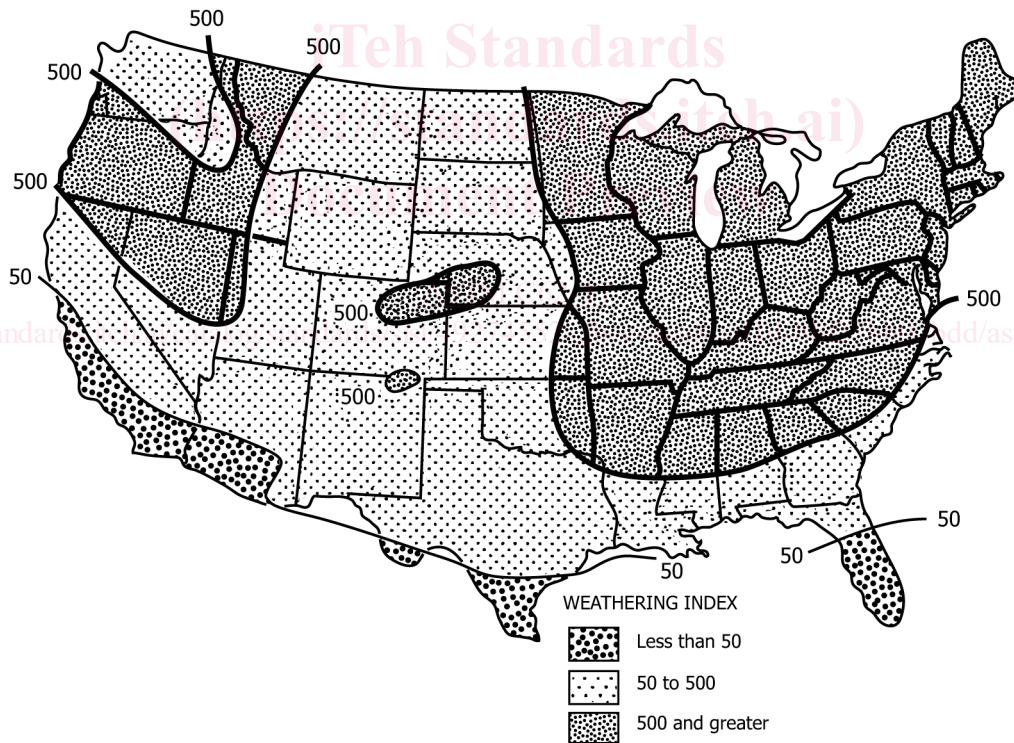
not apply, provided a sample of five brick, meeting the strength requirements of Table 1, passes the freezing and thawing test as described in the Rating Section of the Freezing and Thawing test procedures of Test Methods C67.

NOTE 2—The 50 cycle freezing and thawing test is used as an alternative only when the brick do not conform to either Table 1 requirements for maximum water absorption and saturation coefficient, or to the requirements of the Absorption Alternate in 5.1.2.

5.1.3.1 *Grade SW: Breakage and Weight Loss Requirement*—No individual unit separates or disintegrates resulting in a weight loss greater than 0.5 % of its original dry weight.

5.1.3.2 *Grade SW: Cracking Requirement*—No individual unit develops a crack that exceeds, in length, the unit’s least dimension.

5.1.4 *Low Weathering Index Alternative*—If the brick are intended for use exposed to weather where the weathering index is less than 50 (see Fig. 1), and unless otherwise specified, the requirements given in Table 1 for 5 h boiling water absorption and for saturation coefficient shall not apply but the minimum average compressive strength requirement of 2500 psi (17.2 MPa) shall apply.



Exposure	Grade Recommendations for Face Exposures		
	Less than 50	50 to 500	500 and greater
In vertical surfaces:			
In contact with earth	MW or SW	SW	SW
Not in contact with earth	MW or SW	SW	SW
In other than vertical surfaces:			
In contact with earth	SW	SW	SW
Not in contact with earth	MW or SW	SW	SW

FIG. 1 Weathering Indices in the United States