

SECTION 04 05 13  
MASONRY MORTARING

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 DESCRIPTION:**

Section specifies mortar materials and mixes.

**1.2 RELATED WORK:**

- A. Mortar used in Section:
  - 1. Section 04 05 16, MASONRY GROUTING.
  - 2. Section 04 20 00, UNIT MASONRY.

**1.3 TESTING LABORATORY-CONTRACTOR RETAINED**

- A. Engage a commercial testing laboratory approved by VA COR to perform tests specified below.
- B. Submit information regarding testing laboratory's facilities and qualifications of technical personnel to VA COR.

**1.4 TESTS**

- A. Test mortar and materials specified.
- B. Certified test reports.
- C. Identify materials by type, brand name and manufacturer or by origin.
- D. Do not use materials until laboratory test reports are approved by VA COR.
- E. After tests have been made and materials approved, do not change without additional test and approval of VA COR.
- F. Testing:
  - 1. Test materials proposed for use for compliance with specifications in accordance with test methods contained in referenced specifications and as follows:
  - 2. Mortar:
    - a. Test for compressive strength and water retention; ASTM C270.
    - b. Mortar compressive strengths 28 days as follows:
      - Type S: Minimum 12400 kPa (1800 psi) at 28 days.
      - Type N: Minimum 5170 kPa (750 psi) at 28 days.
  - 3. Cement:
    - a. Test for water soluble alkali (nonstaining) when nonstaining cement is specified.
    - b. Nonstaining cement shall contain not more than 0.03 percent water soluble alkali.
  - 4. Sand: Test for deleterious substances, organic impurities, soundness and grading.

**1.5 SUBMITTALS**

- A. Submit in accordance with Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA, AND SAMPLES.
- B. Certificates:
  - 1. Testing laboratory's facilities and qualifications of its technical personnel.
  - 2. Indicating that following items meet specifications:
    - a. Portland cement.
    - b. Masonry cement.
    - c. Mortar cement.
    - d. Hydrated lime.
    - e. Fine aggregate (sand).
- C. Laboratory Test Reports:
  - 1. Mortar, each type.
  - 2. Admixtures.
- D. Manufacturer's Literature and Data:
  - 1. Cement, each kind.
  - 2. Hydrated lime.
  - 3. Admixtures.
  - 4. Liquid acrylic resin.

**1.6 PRODUCT DELIVERY, STORAGE AND HANDLING**

- A. Deliver masonry materials in original sealed containers marked with name of manufacturer and identification of contents.
- B. Store masonry materials under waterproof covers on planking clear of ground, and protect damage from handling, dirt, stain, water and wind.

**1.7 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS**

- A. Publications listed below form a part of specification to extent referenced. Publications are referenced in text by basic designation only.
- B. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):
  - C40-04.....Organic Impurities in Fine Aggregates for  
Concrete
  - C91-05.....Masonry Cement
  - C109-08.....Compressive Strength of Hydraulic Cement Mortars  
(Using 2-in. or 50-MM Cube Specimens)
  - C144-04.....Aggregate for Masonry Mortar
  - C150-09.....Portland Cement
  - C207-06.....Hydrated Lime for Masonry Purposes
  - C270-10.....Mortar for Unit Masonry

C307-03(R2008).....Tensile Strength of Chemical - Resistant Mortar,  
Grouts, and Monolithic Surfacing  
C321-00(R2005).....Bond Strength of Chemical-Resistant Mortars  
C348-08.....Flexural Strength of Hydraulic Cement Mortars  
C595-10.....Blended Hydraulic Cement  
C780-10.....Preconstruction and Construction Evaluation of  
Mortars for Plain and Reinforced Unit Masonry  
C979-10.....Pigments for Integrally Colored Concrete  
C1329-05.....Mortar Cement

**PART 2 - PRODUCTS**

**2.1 HYDRATED LIME**

ASTM C207, Type S.

**2.2 AGGREGATE FOR MASONRY MORTAR**

- A. ASTM C144.
- B. Test sand for color value in accordance with ASTM C40. Sand producing color darker than specified standard is unacceptable.

**2.3 BLENDED HYDRAULIC CEMENT**

ASTM C595, Type IS, IP.

**2.4 MASONRY CEMENT**

- A. ASTM C91. Type N, or S.

**2.5 MORTAR CEMENT**

ASTM C1329, Type N, or S.

**2.6 PORTLAND CEMENT**

- A. ASTM C150, Type I.

**2.7 LIQUID ACRYLIC RESIN**

A formulation of acrylic polymers and modifiers in liquid form designed for use as an additive for mortar to improve physical properties.

**2.8 WATER**

Potable, free of substances that are detrimental to mortar, masonry, and metal.

**2.9 POINTING MORTAR**

- A. For Cast Stone or Precast Concrete: Proportion by volume; One part white Portland cement, two parts white sand, and 1/5 part hydrated lime.

**2.10 MASONRY MORTAR**

- A. Conform to ASTM C270.
- B. Admixtures:
  - 1. Do not use mortar admixtures, unless approved by VA COR.

2. Submit laboratory test report showing effect of proposed admixture on strength, water retention, and water repellency of mortar.

3. Do not use antifreeze compounds.

C. Colored Mortar:

1. Maintain uniform mortar color for exposed work throughout.

2. Color of mortar for exposed work in alteration work to match color of existing mortar unless specified otherwise.

D. Color Admixtures:

1. Proportion as specified by manufacturer.

**2.11 COLOR ADMIXTURE**

A. Pigments: ASTM C979.

B. Use mineral pigments only. Organic pigments are not acceptable.

C. Pigments inert, stable to atmospheric conditions, nonfading, alkali resistant and water insoluble.

**PART 3 - EXECUTION**

**3.1 MIXING**

A. Mix in a mechanically operated mortar mixer.

1. Mix mortar for at least three minutes but not more than five minutes.

B. Measure ingredients by volume. Measure by the use of a container of known capacity.

C. Mix water with dry ingredients in sufficient amount to provide a workable mixture which will adhere to vertical surfaces of masonry units.

D. Mortar that has stiffened because of loss of water through evaporations:

1. Discard mortar that has reached its initial set or has not been used within two hours.

**3.2 MORTAR USE LOCATION**

A. Use Type S mortar for masonry containing vertical reinforcing bars (non-engineered) engineered reinforced unit masonry work.

B. Use Type N mortar for other masonry work, except as otherwise specified.

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