

# CHAPTER 2

## THE LANGUAGE OF BRICKS



# THE LANGUAGE OF BRICKS



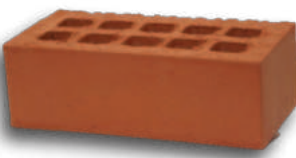





## Introduction

When referring to walls the National Building Regulations and other South African National Standards refer to a masonry unit without differentiating between a brick and a block; of importance though is whether the masonry unit is solid or hollow. However, SANS 227:2007 the South African National Standard for the manufacturing of burnt clay masonry units classifies a brick as a masonry unit satisfying any of the following dimensions, i.e.

a length not more than 300 mm, a width not more than 130 mm and a height not more than 120 mm. A masonry unit falling outside these dimensions is a block.

## Classification of bricks

SANS 227:2007 and SANS 1 575:2007 the South African National Standard for burnt clay paving units give the following classification:

<b>FBX</b>		<b>NFP</b>	
<b>FACE BRICK EXTRA</b>		<b>NON-FACING PLASTERED</b>	
Clay bricks that are selected or produced for their durability and high degree of uniformity of size, shape and colour		Clay bricks suitable for general building work that is to be plastered	
<b>FBS</b>		<b>NFX</b>	
<b>FACE BRICK STANDARD</b>		<b>NON-FACING EXTRA</b>	
Clay bricks that are selected or produced for their durability and uniformity of size and shape		Clay bricks suitable for use, plastered or unplastered, for general building work below damp-proof course or under damp conditions or below ground level where durability rather than aesthetics is the criterion for selection	
<b>FBA</b>		<b>E</b>	
<b>FACE BRICK AESTHETIC</b>		<b>ENGINEERING UNITS</b>	
Clay bricks that are selected or produced for their durability and aesthetic effect deriving from non-uniformity of size, shape, or colour		Any class masonry unit produced for structural or load-bearing purposes in face or non-face work, where the manufacturer supplies clay bricks to an agreed compressive strength. An engineering unit is designated by the addition of the letter E followed by a number equal to the nominal compressive strength in megapascals, e.g. FBSE21	
<b>PA</b>		<b>PB</b>	
<b>CLAY PAVERS</b>		<b>CLAY PAVERS</b>	
Clay pavers that are selected or produced for their durability and for a high degree of uniformity in size and shape, and that have dimensions such that the ratio of work size length to work size width is approximately 1:1;2:1 or 3:1.		Clay pavers that are selected or produced for their durability and for their uniformity in size and shape.	

**NOTE:** Pictures depicted are for example only and may differ in size, shape and colour to actual products supplied.