



LUTYENS BRICKS

Construction & Cleaning Specification

The outlined specifications for Lutyens bricks provide a best practice guide for the construction and cleaning of brickwork on site, preventing common problems associated with handcrafted masonry.

Lutyens Construction

Correct storage and good workmanship are crucial to quality construction.

Storage

When bricks arrive on site, ensure that bricks remain protected from rain, preventing excessive water absorption that can cause shrinkage and mortar adhesion problems during laying.

Keep bricks stored on pallets or plastic before load out. During load out, ensure bricks are not stacked on dirt/mud and not used as mud board props. Failure may result in staining of the brick faces. Cover loadouts with plastic to prevent bricks getting wet before laying.

- ***Do not use dirt/mud stained bricks or mortar stained bricks in wall construction.***

Bricklaying

Ensure that bricks are being laid with care to prevent mortar dags and smears. Use a trowel to cut off mortar joints during laying. Use a soft bristle brush to clean any smears or dags after mortar has begun to 'go off.' Use a stiff bristle brush the following day if stains persist.

- ***Mortar smears and dags should be cleaned within 1-2 days of laying.***
- ***Do not sponge the brick faces while cleaning. The sponging will leave permanent white staining on the brick face.***

Moisture During Construction

At the end of each day, cover brickwork and load out stacks to protect walls from rain which may cause efflorescence or other leaching issues. Excessive moisture may result in newly constructed brickwork to discolour or become patchy in areas.

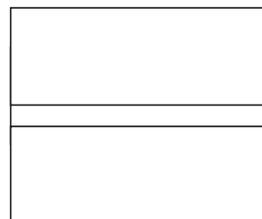
- ***Ensure storm water is shed so as to clear masonry below. Where downpipes are yet to be installed, direct water away from walls.***
- ***All copings and sills should project a minimum of 10mm beyond the brick face.***

Mortar Joints

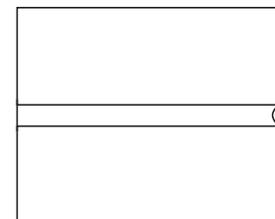
Due to the variations in brick sizing, course heights should meet 75mm with mortar beds varying between 8-12mm to compensate for size irregularities.

A flush joint will create a rough natural finish while an ironed or raked joint will express the brick profile and irregularity of the sizing.

In areas close to the ocean, it is highly recommended that an iron joint is used to compress mortar, giving the mortar a higher durability and preventing salt attack.



Flush joint



Ironed joint

Cutting Bricks

Cut bricks with a wet saw on site. Ensure brick slurry is washed from the face before drying to prevent the cement dust from recrystallising on the surface, causing 'milky' staining. Cut bricks with clean water to prevent dirty water from staining the brick faces. Allow bricks a short time to dry before laying to enable mortar adhesion.

Mortar Specification

All mortar should be bucket batched to ensure colour consistency throughout the project.

We recommend using either Tech-dry MortarShield or Efflock to prevent efflorescence from mortar and to waterproof mortar increasing durability.

It is imperative that AS3700 (Masonry Structures) mortar is used in construction for Lutyens bricks. M3 mortar mixes can be used for general applications whereas M4 must be used for every exposure grade environment.

Mortar Colouring

Detailing on mortar colour matching can be specified for specific projects by contacting the Natural Brick team.

When using oxide to colour mortar, it is imperative that aggregate and water batching is consistent across the job. The more water used in the mortar mix, the more the oxide colouring will wash out.

Do not knock up mud that uses oxide. This will cause the oxide colouring to wash out of the mortar creating colour patching across the project.

Keep batching consistent by using buckets to dose sand, cement, lime and water into the mixer.

Brick Cleaning

Lutyens bricks should not be acid or pressure washed. All cleaning should take place during bricklaying, paying careful attention to areas where mortar may have fallen down the scaffold onto the wall below.

Use a soft bristle brush to clean mortar smears and dags as mortar goes off and after jointing. If stains remain on the wall, use a stiff bristle brush the following day to remove smears and stains.

For any further staining, contact the Natural Brick team to discuss cleaning chemicals.

Sealing

Brickwork is recommended to be sealed shortly after laying to ensure brickwork remains clean on site. Utilise Effseal at a ratio of 1:10, either brushed or sprayed onto the brick faces and joints. This will prevent dirt, mortar, concrete and mud from sticking to the wall, ensuring the brickwork remains clean during and after construction.

- **Be careful not to get the sealer on any glass or steelwork on site.**

**For any technical support or further detailing,
contact the Natural Brick team via phone or email.**