



# 2000 SOLID DENSE MIDI BLOCK STANDARD FINISH



With the ReadyBlock® range of Dense and Lightweight Aggregate Blocks from CEMEX, you are assured to find the building solution you need. Our blocks can be used with confidence in a wide variety of internal and external applications. Our quality assured manufacture ensures that ReadyBlock® units are of a consistent and superior quality to meet the requirements of the relevant European and British standards.

| PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS  |   |
|---|---|
| CEMEX READYBLOCK® TO BS EN 771-3<br>'Aggregate Concrete Masonry Units Category 2 (dense and light-weight aggregates)' |   |
| CATEGORY  | AGGREGATE CONCRETE MASONRY UNIT   |
| DIMENSIONAL TOLERANCES  | Category D1 (+3mm, -5mm)<br>Flatness No Performance Determined<br>Plane Parallelism No Performance Determined |
| COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH  | Mean 7.3 N/mm <sup>2</sup> , 10.4 N/mm <sup>2</sup> , 17.5 N/mm <sup>2</sup> , 22.5N/mm <sup>2</sup>          |
| MOISTURE MOVEMENT COEFFICIENT   | = < 1.0 mm/m  |
| BOND STRENGTH   | Fixed Value, 0.15N/mm <sup>2</sup>  |
| REACTION TO FIRE  | Class A1  |
| WATER ABSORPTION  | No Performance Determined   |
| WATER VAPOUR PERMEABILITY (EN 1745)   | 5/15 µ  |
| GROSS DRY DENSITY   | 1960 kg/m <sup>3</sup>  |
| NET DRY DENSITY   | 1960 kg/m <sup>3</sup>  |
| THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY  | Int, 1.29 W/mK Ext, 1.38 W/mK   |
| DURABILITY AGAINST FREEZE-THAW  | Detailed guidance can be found in PD 6697 table 15  |
| DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES  | Information on dangerous substances will only be given when and where required and in the appropriate form.   |

| SIZE (mm) & WEIGHT (kg)* |        |       |
|--------------------------|--------|-------|
| LENGTH                   | HEIGHT | WIDTH |
| 290                      | 215    | 140   |
| BLOCK WEIGHTS            |        | 18.8  |

\* These figures are a typical average production weights. Due to seasonal and geographical variations these may vary. Please contact our Sales office for information on local block weights for manual handling and design loading.

| FEATURES AND BENEFITS  |
|--|
| ■ Have versatility to be used in a wide variety of internal and external applications  |
| ■ Allows use above and below ground, where strength and durability are prime considerations  |
| ■ Typically used in cavity or solid wall constructions, they are also ideal for use in internal load bearing walls and ReadyFloor® Beam and Block Floor system |
| ■ Have excellent sound insulation and air permeability properties  |
| ■ Provide an excellent key for secondary finishes and fixings  |
| ■ Inherent thermal mass acts as a heat store   |
| ■ Meets the requirements of one-man handling   |
| ■ Ideally suited for constructing corners and to maintain uniformly spaced perpendicular joints  |

**ReadyBlock® Sales Office**  
Tel: 0845 155 9252

**ReadyBlock® Customer Feedback Department**  
Tel: 03451 550034

**ReadyFloor® Beam and Block Flooring Department**  
Tel: 01779 373740



## DELIVERY AND STORAGE

Blocks are normally delivered to site in banded packs on crane-offload road vehicles. Where requested packs can be delivered shrink-wrapped and/or palletised to aid subsequent site movement activities. All packaging should be disposed of carefully in accordance with local environmental requirements.

If possible, delivered blocks should be stacked in planned locations on the site. This reduces the double-handling of the blocks.

Packs should be stacked carefully onto a prepared, clean, firm area to minimise soiling and damage. They should also be protected from inclement weather and passing vehicles. Allow air to circulate through and around the stacks.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

Care and attention should be given to the working area to minimise accidents. Further information may be found in HSE Construction Sheet 37-Handling Building Blocks.

Safe lift/build heights will vary dependant upon the block type, thickness, etc. Weather conditions can also affect lift heights and restrictions may be needed due to forecasted windy weather. Generally, lift heights should not exceed 6 full block courses in a single working day. For cavity wall construction, the 2 leaves should be built up together and the difference in leaf height, at any stage during construction, should generally not exceed 675mm.

A separate material safety datasheet for precast concrete products is available from CEMEX.

## BLOCKLAYING

**General Construction:** The building of masonry walling should be to the workmanship guidance given in BS 8000-3.

**Walls Below DPC:** Dense Blocks can be used below DPC and ground level as noted in PD 6697.

### Laying in cold weather conditions:

Blocks should not normally be laid when the temperature is at or below 3°C and falling or 1°C and rising.

**Laying:** Solid blocks should be laid on a full bed of mortar and the cross/perpend joints fully filled. When necessary, adjust the consistency of the mortar to suit the suction of the blocks.

**Bond:** Blocks should be laid to achieve a good bond, normally not less than one quarter the block length. In certain situations, consideration should be given to the addition of bed joint reinforcement.

**Cutting and Chasing:** Where cutting of blocks is required on-site, the use of a central cutting area should be encouraged. Vertical chasing in blockwork should not exceed one third of the block thickness and horizontal chasing one sixth. Back to back chases should be avoided.

**Jointing:** Mortar joints should be struck off as work proceeds. Where subsequent rendering or plastering is to take place, then rake out the joints to a depth of 15mm to act as a mortar key. Flush joints are recommended for facing work. Lightly tooling the joints highlights the arrises of the blocks and hence the coursing, scale and

appearance of the finished wall. Raked joints should be used with caution.

**Use in Sulfate Soils:** Dense Blocks can be used in chemically aggressive ground conditions up to & including Class DS-3 as detailed in BRE Special Digest 1.

**Mortar:** Mortar should be specified in accordance with PD 6697. To limit the visual impact of shrinkage cracking, the weakest mortar specification appropriate to the structural design should be chosen.

## FINISHED WORK

**Protection of finished work:** All blockwork should be protected from inclement weather and other on-site practices. Suitable protective sheeting should be placed over the blockwork and firmly tied into place. Care must be taken to protect the work from frost damage or rapid drying out.

**Movement Control:** After construction, buildings are subject to small dimensional changes due to settlement, temperature change, moisture movement & carbonation. To account for this, movement joints should be provided in accordance with the recommendations of PD 6697. Generally, they are required at intervals of 6-8m for external work. Movement joints are not normally required for basic domestic dwellings. Consideration for the location of movement joints should be given:

- At changes in wall height or thickness
  - At changes of loading conditions
  - At abutments of walls and columns and junctions of dissimilar materials
  - To align with movement joints in concrete floor slabs
  - Between 1m & 3m from a corner
  - At locations of chases, recesses & openings
- In areas of concentrated stress, such as above and below openings, consideration should be given to the use of mortar joint bed reinforcement.

**Render:** All work should conform to recommendations stated in BS EN 13914- External Rendering. In conditions of severe exposure, 3 coat work is recommended with a total thickness of 20mm. Allow adequate drying time between finishes or coats.

**Plastering:** All work should conform to the recommendations stated in BS EN 13914-2:2005 - Internal Plastering. The surface of 2000 Solid Dense Standard Finish ReadyBlock® provides a good key for all types of plaster. Dry-lining systems are compatible with the ReadyBlock® range.

**Painting:** For 2000 Solid Dense Close Textured ReadyBlock®, two coats of alkali – resisting masonry paint is recommended, applied after the masonry has dried out. Before application any signs of efflorescence or other surface staining must be removed.

**Fixing:** The ReadyBlock® range provides an excellent medium for most types of fixings and readily accepts masonry nails, plugs or screws.

**Efflorescence:** Concrete products with high cement content may suffer the temporary phenomenon of efflorescence. This is not

detrimental to the performance of the product and no responsibility can be accepted for its occurrence.

## SUSTAINABILITY

At CEMEX our environment matters, and the thermal mass of our ReadyBlock® range not only could reduce the need for air-conditioning in the summer but could also reduce the consumption of winter heating fuel by capturing solar gains.

## FAQ'S

**Q. What is the U value (thermal performance) of ReadyBlock®?**

**A.** Individual blocks do not have U Values.

A U Value is determined by the type and thickness of each of the elements used to construct the wall, including airspaces. Extensive thermal insulation data is given in BRE Special Digest (SD4) 'Masonry walls and beam and block floors' available free of charge from CBA, alternatively, call our ReadyBlock® Helpline Tel: 0800 667 827.

**Q. What is the life expectancy of aggregate blockwork?**

**A.** It has been shown over a period of many decades that if protected from aggressive chemical or abrasive situations, concrete blockwork does not deteriorate with time.

**Q. Are 2000 Solid Dense Standard Finish Midi Block suitable for the construction of party walls as regards sound insulation?**

**A.** When built as a 50mm cavity wall midi blocks have sufficient mass to comply with the recommendations of Part E of the Building Regulations. The mass requirement is also achieved by constructing a 215mm wide solid wall by laying the blocks 'flat'.

**For further information please contact our ReadyBlock® Helpline on: Tel: 0800 667 827**

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