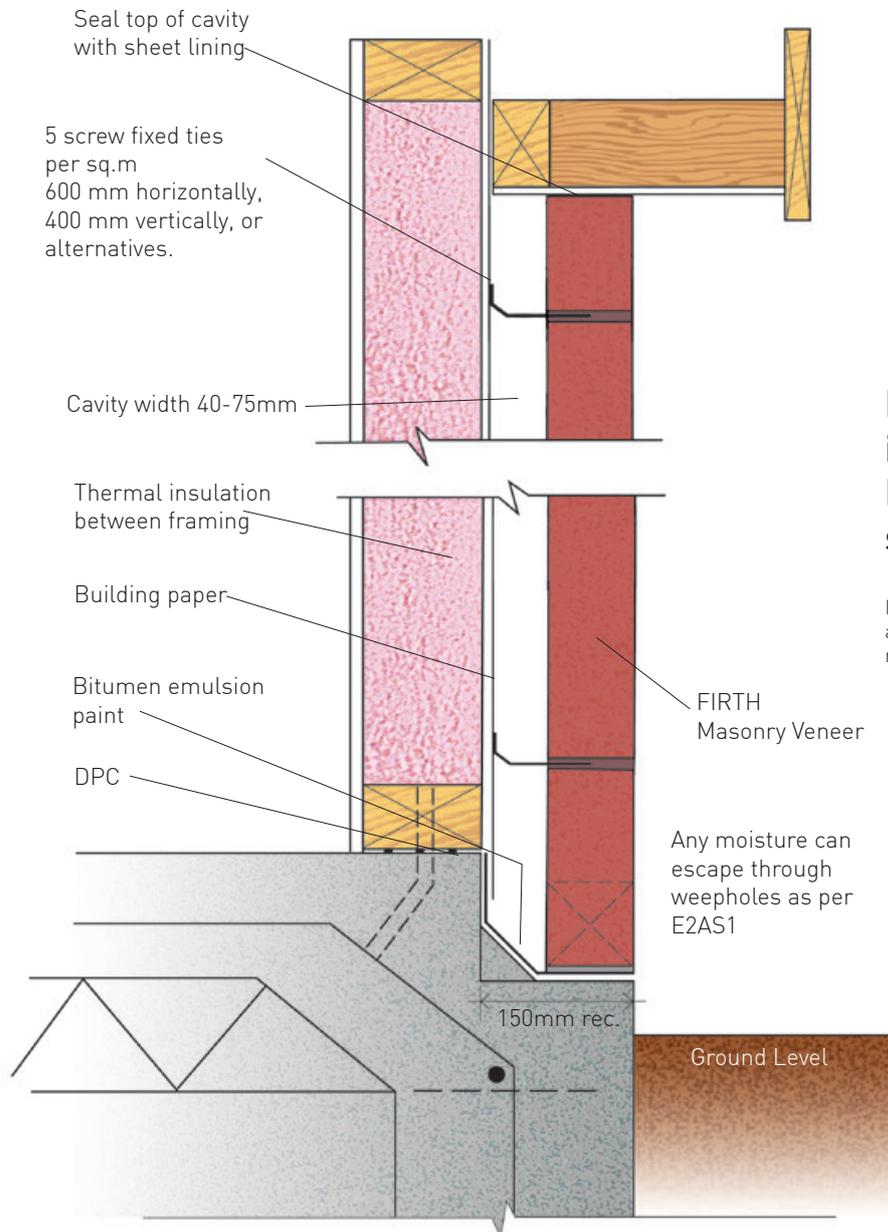


FIRTH MASONRY VENEER CONSTRUCTION DETAILS



Left: Drawing detail illustrates how Firth Masonry Veneer should be applied.

Note: Required ventilation top and bottom is 1000sq mm per metre length of wall

COLOUR

To achieve a uniform mix of colour, "mix and match" bricks from different pallets. Make sure

you thoroughly check the bricks before you begin laying them.

EFFLORESCENCE

Masonry veneer can display 'whitening', also known as efflorescence. This is a characteristic of many natural products and does diminish over

time. Using an appropriate surface sealer after laying the masonry veneer will help with ease of cleaning.

CONTROL JOINT DETAILS

BRICK: FIRTH SPECIFICATIONS

- 1. CONTROL JOINTS:** If Control Joints are not used Firth will accept no responsibility for any random cracking, in either mortar or brick, that may result from drying or ground settlement. Do not use mortar stronger than 15 MPa.
- 2. DRY BRICKS** must be covered and kept dry at all times prior to laying. Laying wet bricks increases the chance of efflorescence and shrinkage.
- 3. SEALERS:** When dry, the finished walls should be sealed to retain the natural colour and reduce the

possibility of efflorescence. Sealed bricks reduce maintenance. Please refer to sealant manufacturers literature.

- 4. BLENDING:** For a consistent appearance it is essential to lay bricks from more than three pallets. This minimises possible variations.

- 5. EXPOSED ENDS:** It is essential that the correct end of each brick is exposed on all reveals and corners.

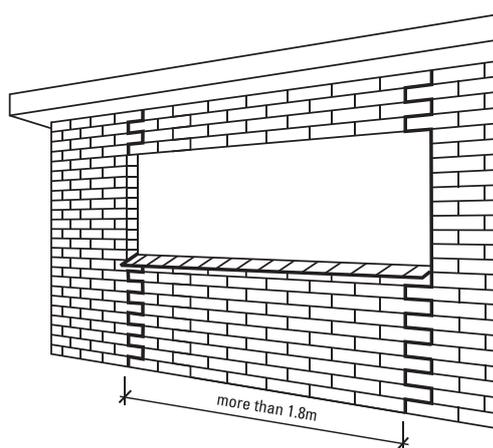
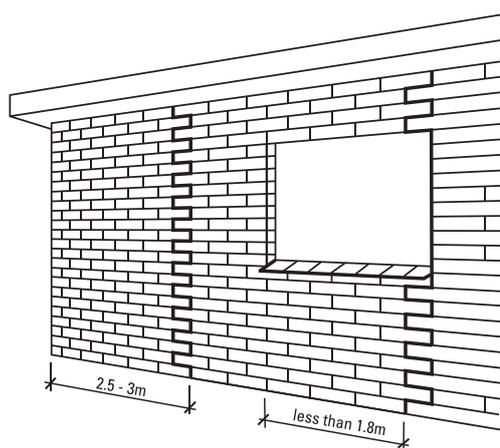
NB: Only one end of each brick is suitable for this purpose.

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

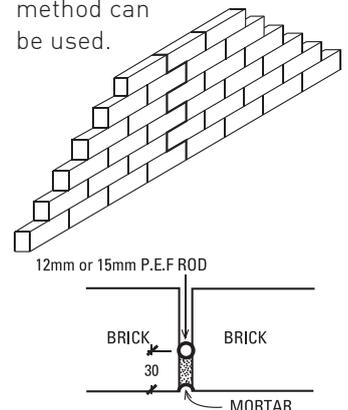
All masonry will expand and contract due to drying, changes in temperatures and ground settlement. This may cause cracking. If cracking occurs then it must be controlled to where it is not unsightly. For long walls with no windows, control joints at twice the wall height (about 5m to 6m apart) should be used. Control joints should also be placed at every window, under one corner for openings less than 1.8m and both corners for longer windows. If there are no windows within 6m of a corner then a control joint should be located within 3m of that corner.

1. Remove all mortar prior to initial set along the sawtooth line where control joints are required.

2. Place a 12mm or 15mm diameter P.E.F (Polyethylene foam) rod continuously into the joint 30mm back from brick face to form a backing strip.
3. Leave the joint unmortared as long as possible to allow shrinkage to occur.
4. Use a waterproof filler over the P.E.F rod if desired.
5. Use 20mm of matching mortar to complete the joint.
6. With the correct number of control joints, cracking if visible along mortar/brick line will be minimised.
7. If crack widths are unacceptable, joints can be remortared or the crack filled with matching silicone.



To minimise the visual appearance of a control joint the following construction method can be used.



Refer to the relevant section of NZS 4210 or the instruction of the client or designer for further information.



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