



# ROCKFACED

## Decorative Facing Blocks

**Rockfaced blocks are highly decorative close-textured solid dense concrete blocks for external decorative applications.**

These 100mm thick blocks have a rippled rock appearance on one face providing a decorative finish to the facing wall. The other faces are plain for ease and accuracy of build. Rockfaced blocks are manufactured to BS EN 771-3 at our Aintree and Congleton facilities from high quality class 2 aggregates.

They possess higher strength and density than our standard dense concrete blocks for increased durability necessary for external facing applications. They are not however fully waterproof which must be accounted for during design.

## TECHNICAL PROPERTIES

Property	Value
Size L x W x H (BS EN 771-3):	440mm x 100mm x 215mm
Dimensional Tolerance (BS EN 772-16):	Category D1
Gross Dry Density (BS EN 772-13):	2000 - 2100 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Mean Compressive Strength (BS EN 772-1):	10.4 N/mm <sup>2</sup>
Manufacturing Category (BS EN 771-3):	Category II
Thermal Conductivity (BS EN 1745):	1.21 W/mK [protected] 1.36 W/mK [exposed]
Moisture Movement (BS EN 772-14):	< 0.6 mm/m
Fire Resistance (BS EN 13501-1):	Class A1 reaction to fire
Configuration (BS EN 1996-1-1):	Solid - Group 1
Available Texture, Finish:	Decorative rippled effect on one face only
Blocks & m <sup>2</sup> per Pack:	56 (5.6m <sup>2</sup> )

**Note: Packs are supplied on non-returnable wooden pallets**

## Mortars

Generally, in order to avoid unsightly cracking, the weakest mortar mixture appropriate to the structural requirements should be selected.

BS 5628-3 Mortar Class		Recommended mix proportions of materials by volume (as per BS 5628-3)	
Above dpc	iii	1 : 1 : 5 to 6 1 : 5 to 6 1 : 4 to 5 1 : 3½ to 4	Cement : Lime : Sand Cement : Sand Masonry Cement : Sand (with non-lime filler) Masonry Cement : Sand (with lime filler)

NBS Clauses for our concrete block products can be found on [www.source.thenbs.com](http://www.source.thenbs.com)

June 2023



**NBS Source**  
PARTNER



## APPLICATIONS

- Manufactured to BS EN 771-3.
- External unfinished decorative applications.
- Rippled rock appearance on one face.
- Outer leaves of cavity walls up to 3 storeys.

## Wall Ties & Movement Joints

Generally under normal conditions, wall ties should be embedded 50mm into the mortar on each leaf, staggered in alternate courses and spaced in accordance with the following:

Leaf Thickness mm	Cavity Width mm	Horizontal Spacing mm	Vertical Spacing mm	Ties per m <sup>2</sup>
Less than 90mm	50 - 75	450	450	4.9
Over 90mm	50 - 150	900	450	2.5

For unreinforced masonry panels, the typical recommended spacing between vertical movement joints for Dense blocks is 7m - 9m for internal and external walls.

## Good Site Practice & Safe Handling

- Packs should be stored on firm, level ground no more than 2 packs high and protected from severe weather to preserve their quality. Care must be taken when removing the plastic bands as individual blocks may fall out. Never un-band packs above shoulder height.
- In the absence of a revised version of the HSE guidance given in their withdrawn Construction Sheet 37 'Handling Building Blocks' the following principles should be followed: There is a risk of injury in the repetitive handling of blocks heavier than 20kg. Repetitive manual handling of blocks over 20kg should be subject to a risk assessment and a safe system of work should be established before block-laying commences.
- Blocks should not be laid if the temperature is at or below 3°C and falling.
- Blocks should always be laid on a full bed of mortar and vertical joints filled.

Product details and availability may vary between manufacturing locations. Please contact your nearest regional sales office for sales, product and technical advice.

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