

Title	Mix mortars for brick and block laying		
Level	4	Credits	8

Purpose	<p>This unit standard is intended for people working in the brick and block laying industry.</p> <p>People credited with this unit standard are able to mix mortars for brick and block laying to the level required of a commercially competent brick and block laying trade professional.</p>
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Classification	Masonry > Brick and Block Laying
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

1 Assessment

This unit standard is one of a family of standards intended to align with the *New Zealand Certificate in Trowel Trades – Specifications*, and the *New Zealand Certificate in Trowel Trades (Level 4)* with strands in Brick and Block Laying, Floor and Wall Tiling, Proprietary Plaster Cladding Systems, Ferro-cement Tank Manufacture, Refractory Installation, and Solid Plastering (with optional strands in Fixing Cavities and Substrates, and Decorative Mouldings) [Ref: 3137].

Evidence for this unit standard must reflect commercial competence.

Commercial competence requires a candidate to be capable of consistently performing the requirements of the skill specification:

- to current regulatory, industry and commercial standards
- within a commercially viable timeframe
- in commercial environments
- without supervision
- in different and unfamiliar contexts.

Commercial competence must be confirmed by a person who has current expertise in the brick and block laying trade.

2 Definitions

Job documentation refers to approved plans for the specific work to be carried out.

Job specifications provide detailed guidance on how the work is to be carried out.

Premix materials are also known as bagged mortar.

Workplace procedures refer to the documented procedures specific to a workplace which sets out the standard and the required practices of that workplace.

- 3 Legislation, standards and guidance information relevant to this standard includes the following, and any subsequent amendments and replacements:

New Zealand Certificate in Trowel Trades – Specifications, BCITO, August 2021, available from www.WaihangaAraRau.nz.

Legislation accessed at www.legislation.govt.nz

- Building Act 2004,
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015,
- The New Zealand Building Code.

Standards accessed at www.standards.govt.nz

- NZS 4210:2001 *Masonry construction: Materials and workmanship*
- SNZ HB 4236:2002 *Masonry Veneer Wall Cladding*.

Best practice and good practice guidelines

- CCANZ CP 10:2014 *Code of Practice for Weathertight Concrete and Concrete Masonry Construction*, available from <https://concretenz.org.nz>
- Master Brick and Blocklayers. (2022). *Brick Veneer Best Practice Guide*
- *New Zealand Concrete Masonry Manual*, and other ConcreteNZ publications available from <https://concretenz.org.nz>
- *The Absolutely Essential Health and Safety Toolkit for Small Construction Sites*, and other Worksafe NZ publications available from www.worksafe.govt.nz.

Skill specification and performance level guidance

Skill specification

Mix mortars for brick and block laying.

Knowledge

The mixing requirements of different mortars used for different applications.

Range mortar for – brick walls, block walls, fire backs, furnaces;
includes – mortar with additives.

The procedure to mix mortar to create consistency of moisture and colour for brick and block laying.

Range mixing includes – appropriate ratios of different ingredients, mixing time;
ingredients may include – lime, sand, cement, water, additives, colour premix materials.

The Megapascal (MPa) testing requirements for mixed mortar in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

Skills

Mix mortars for brick and block laying.

Range mixing includes – appropriate ratios of different ingredients, mixing time.

Test mixed mortar to ensure MPa requirements are met.

Performance level guidance

Performance must reflect workplace procedures, legislative requirements, New Zealand Standards, best practice guides, job documentation, and job specifications relevant to brick and block laying.

Planned review date	31 December 2027
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	27 September 2018	31 December 2025
Review	2	25 August 2022	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0048
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Waihanga Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure Workforce Development Council qualifications@WaihangaAraRau.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.