

GENERAL

Brickwork has the distinct advantage that it retains its natural appeal and requires very little maintenance over its entire life cycle, which can be well over 100 years.

WARRANTY

The company warrants that the products are supplied to the declared specifications as defined under the relevant product standard. Any warranty made by the company applies to product as supplied and does not extend to brickwork as a building component.

The long term durability of brickwork is dependent on correct design, appropriately specified product, materials and construction methods.

MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

As stated previously brickwork requires minimal levels of maintenance and a periodic visual inspection is generally sufficient.

The main issue likely to arise in new brickwork is cracking either in the mortar joint or occasionally in the bricks themselves. This can be a result of general settlement or an indication of some more serious structural problem. As brick manufactures this is outside our liability and advice should be sought from the brickwork contractor or structural engineer should there be any concern.

Please note that some stock bricks can have apparent cracks in the face as part of their natural appearance and should not be confused with structural cracking.

The modular nature of bricks makes it relatively easy to replace damaged bricks either individually or in sections of brickwork. Retention of the original order information will greatly assist in matching brick types.

Over a long period of time mortar can erode from the joints which if severe can compromise the durability of the brickwork. Mortar type, joint profile and location have an influence and guidance on expected re-pointing timescale should be available from the brickwork contractor and mortar supplier.

CLEANING

Bricks are a robust and durable building product but care needs to be taken when cleaning to ensure methods and materials used are appropriate for the product, location and stain being removed. More detailed guidance on cleaning is available from the manufacturer of the cleaning material.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Bricks are inert and effectively have no residual risk when in situ.

Bricks will produce a dust containing silica if drilled, cut or crushed. Appropriate measures should be taken to prevent exposure if this activity is to be carried out.

DISPOSAL

Brick buildings are intended to last for many decades, or in some cases centuries, however at the point of demolition it may be possible to reuse bricks by removing the jointing mortar. Bricks also make a very good aggregate substitute replacing virgin material that would otherwise have to be brought into a redevelopment site.

The purpose of this guide is to provide you with a practical specification and design tool. Within the following pages, you may find reference to the wide range of Michelmersh products that are available. We hope that you will find this guide as useful in your everyday work as it was designed to be. We look forward to speaking to you personally, should you require any further information, please contact Michelmersh's Technical Department on 0844 931 0022 or email technical@mbhplc.co.uk.

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