For more information on industry standards, best practices and structures not covered in this flyer, visit our website for FREE technical manuals, or call our technical hotline if you have any enquiries.
NCC ACCEPTABLE CONSTRUCTION PRACTICE

Unconfined Unit Compressive Strength
(for isolated Piers)

Minimum compressive strength has been increased to:
- 6.2MPa for solid or cored units.
- 15MPa for hollow units.

Lintels

Simplified maximum span limit with less lintel types and design options provided.
Restricts masonry carried on lintels to 110mm thick and 3m in height.

Raking

Raked joints must not be raked deeper than 10mm or used in saline environments or areas subject to heavy industrial air pollution.

Wall ties

In wind areas of N2 or above, medium duty ties must be specified with more stringent maximum spacing specifications:
- 400mm vertically
- 450-600mm horizontally

AUSTRALIAN STANDARD/ INDUSTRY RECOMMENDATION

Refer to AS 4773.1 Clause 3.2 for minimum compressive strength of masonry units:
Solid / Cored Units:
- 3MPa for non-loadbearing masonry
- 5MPa for loadbearing masonry
Hollow Units:
- 10MPa for unreinforced masonry
- 15MPa for reinforced masonry

AS 4773.1 provides a detailed list of maximum opening widths for common lintels, under various load types available.
AS 4773.1 also only restricts the overhang of masonry carried to 25mm, allowing for higher design flexibility.

In addition to the NCC acceptable practices, Standards specify raking shall not be closer than 20mm to any hollow in hollow unit masonry, and not used for ungrouted hollow masonry.

AS 4773.2 provides guidance for light duty wall ties in cyclonic regions.
It allows for higher design flexibility while still being conservative, achieving greater time and cost savings.