



#### OVERVIEW

## GUIDELINES & BEST PRACTICES

This Masonry Guidelines & Best Practices sheet is designed to support architects, contractors, and installers in achieving durable, high-quality masonry construction. Whether you're working with structural block, veneer, or architectural masonry units, these recommendations reflect industry standards and time-tested techniques to ensure proper installation, performance, and aesthetic results.

## 01 Mock-Up Sample Wall Panel

Before starting full-scale construction, build a 4' x 4' mock-up sample wall panel using the specified masonry units. This step is critical to:

- Evaluate surface preparation and application techniques.
- Confirm mortar color, joint tooling, and overall appearance.
- Test sealing applications and cleaning methods under job-specific conditions.
- Serve as a visual and performance reference throughout the project.

*Consult your local TCC Materials representative for additional guidance or product support.*

## 02 Sealers

Choosing the right sealer enhances durability and helps protect against moisture and stains.

- **Recommended Product:** We recommend Tenon® sealing products for best results.
- **Application:** Always follow the sealer manufacturer's guidelines for preparation, application, and curing.
- **Disclaimer:** TCC Materials accepts no liability for any outcomes related to third-party sealer applications.

## 03 Maintenance

Properly installed masonry units require minimal maintenance when protected and cared for appropriately.

- Routine upkeep includes occasional rinsing or light cleaning using commercial-grade, masonry-safe cleaners.
- For stubborn stains (e.g., graffiti, paint, or dyes), contact the cleaner manufacturer for appropriate product recommendations.
- **Water Repellents:** Our CMUs include integral water repellents to enhance moisture resistance. For optimal performance, ensure correct design details and proper installation of the full wall system.

## 04 Essential Cleaning Notes

*(Post-Construction)*

While detailed cleaning may not be regularly required, a final light cleaning after construction ensures long-term appearance and performance:

- Avoid acid-based cleaners, bleach, or high-pressure washers.
- Use a **non-acidic**, masonry-safe cleaner, and rinse thoroughly with clean water.
- Clean only after mortar is fully cured (in line with NCMA recommendations).