



IMPERIAL BRICKS

TECHNICAL GUIDANCE:
BRICK BONDS

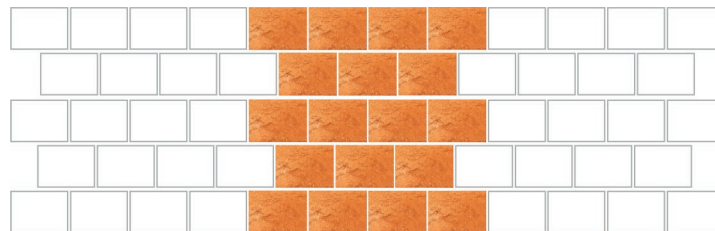


Bonds are the pattern in which bricks are laid. Each unique style has its own look, characteristics, structural considerations and budget to take into account. With careful thought on brick choice, mortar profiles and clever brick bonding, an ordinary project can be transformed into something remarkable. While specific bond types serve a structural purpose, they can also be implemented in innovative and surprising architectural styles. Mortar colour will also play an important role in bonding style and achieving the perfect final look.



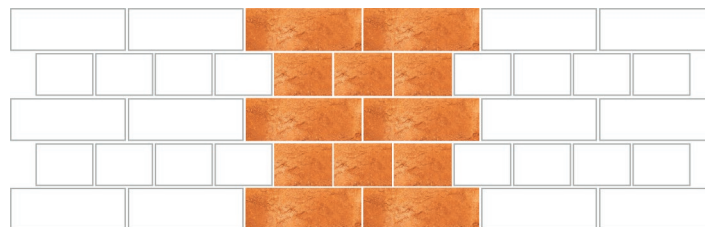
STRETCHER BOND

All bricks are laid face forwards, with the joints in one course falling at the midpoint of the course below. This is the most popular modern bond due to it being cost effective in both materials and labour. A stretcher bond wall will only be half a brick deep.



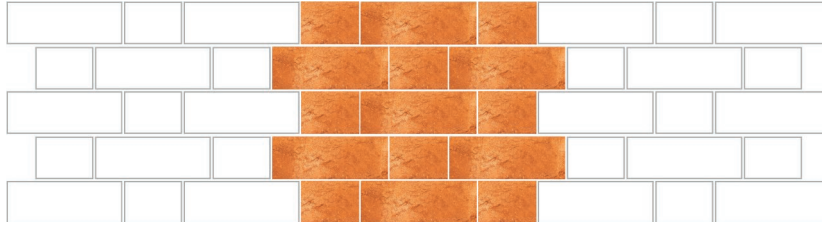
HEADER BOND

The header of the brick is facing outwards. This method is considered strong as the entire depth of the wall will be the entire length of the brick. Usually reserved for higher budget builds as this type of bond uses more bricks. It can also be used for curved brickwork.



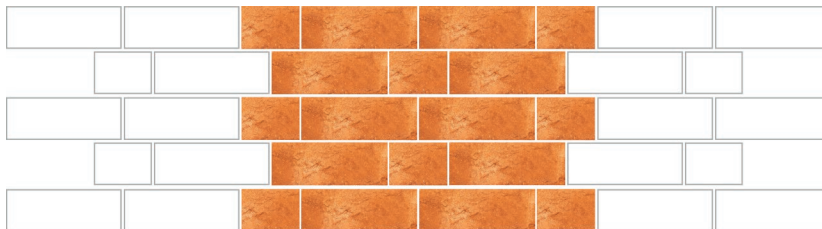
ENGLISH BOND

One of the oldest forms of brick bond, making its first appearance in the 1450's and was the standard brickwork for British houses until the late 17th century. Alternating courses of all stretchers and all headers make this traditional bonding pattern particularly strong. It is widely used for bridges and other civil engineering projects.



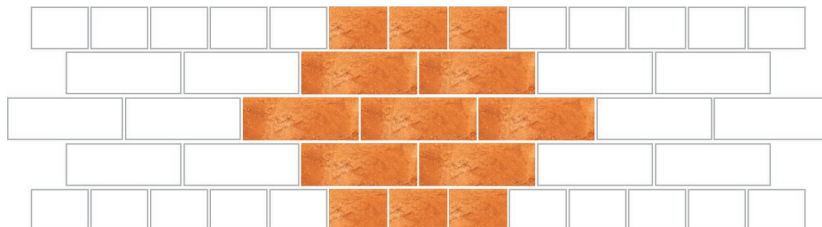
FLEMISH BOND

This decorative bond gained popularity in the late 18th century and was the dominant residential brickwork choice for over a century. It can often be seen with blue or black headers. Each course is offset and has alternating stretchers and headers.



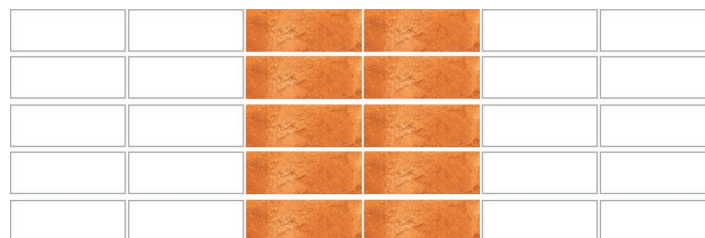
MONK BOND

A stylish bond where each course consists of a header and two stretchers. Every other course the headers align which forms a “procession.” These are particularly tricky to lay, but can produce a great variety of raking patterns such as zig zags, pyramids or diagonal lines.



ENGLISH GARDEN WALL

Traditionally used for garden walls, this bond is very rarely found on buildings outside the north of the UK. It consists of three rows of stretchers to one row of headers. Quite often the headers used will be a different colour to the stretchers creating a decorative effect.



STACK BOND

Bricks are stacked one on top of the other, with the joins in line and running vertically down the wall. This bonding pattern isn't considered structurally strong and is only used for decorative reasons as it creates a strong visual impact.