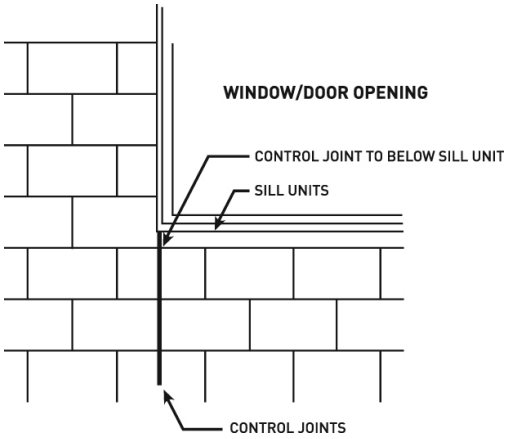
BRIKMAKERS
INSPIRING INNOVATION

# CONTROL JOINTS

Control joints are a joint within elements of construction which allows for relative movement. Control joints are required in all masonry walls in order to prevent cracks from appearing due to temperature variations. The Building Code of Australia (BCA) requires all walls constructed from clay or concrete to have a control joint at various intervals. Concrete masonry walls require a control joint every 6 metres.

Because there is some shrinkage in a concrete masonry wall after it is constructed, it is necessary to provide control joints in order to prevent cracking due to shrinkage and thermal movement. Control joints are required in clay masonry to allow for expansion of clay and they are referred to as Expansion Joints. It is most important that these joints be thoroughly cleaned out and be sufficient width so that they allow the bricks to move freely. Control joints should be built into unreinforced concrete masonry at all joints of potential cracking but in no case greater than 6m spacing in articulated residential construction. The location of control joints will vary however they can be positioned behind down pipes or above and below window or door openings. Control joints are required to go all the way to the footing.



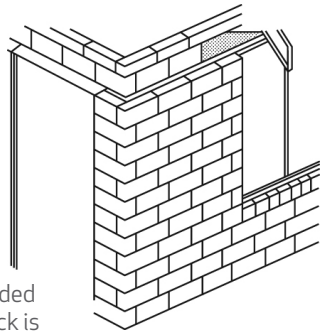

## PREVENTIVE CARE

Concrete masonry has a long history as one of the most durable and versatile building materials. Natural raw materials are utilised to manufacture this product. Classified as a general purpose or exposure grade product, this product is suitable in most residential building locations when constructed in accordance with the BCA. All brickwork is subject to natural weathering such as rain, sun, pollution and wind borne sea spray. Landscaping adds beauty and value to your home, however it is essential that garden beds and paving do not cover the weep holes in the brickwork. Weep holes are a drain hole through the wall and building. Any form of structure over the weep holes can restrict the drainage of moisture from the cavity and allow termites to enter your home.

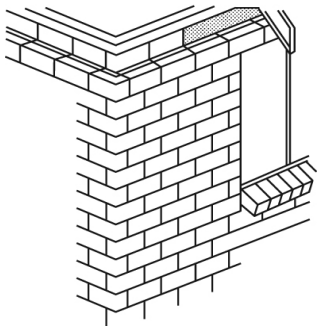
## BONDING

Either one third or half bond can be used. Purpose made accessory bricks are available to assist in either laying pattern. One third bond requires less fractions. To maintain half bond a 240mm fraction as the corner brick is required on each course.

ONE THIRD BOND



HALF BOND



## CUTTING

Utilise purpose made accessories to minimise any cutting on site. If required, the use of a wet saw on site is recommended to ensure sharp, clean edges are maintained. Ensure the block is thoroughly washed to remove any residue.

**SALES**
**1300 360 344**

**T** (08) 6313 1000 **F** (08) 6313 1001 **E** info@brikmakers.com **W** brikmakers.com
PO Box 2440, High Wycombe LPO WA 6057 Australia **ABN** 62 005 736 005 021 **Issue Date: June 2013**