

Quick Reference Guide to Cold Weather Masonry Practices

Requirements of Masonry Construction	Comments and Protection Requirements				
	40°F to 32°F (4°C to 0°C)	32°F to 25°F (0°C to -4°C)	25°F to 20°F (-4°C to -7°C)	Below 20°F (Below -7°C)	
Cover walls at end of work day	X	X	X	X	Cover tops of walls at the end of each workday with plastic or canvas, draped down the wall a minimum of 2 ft. (600 mm) and secured to prevent water from entering the masonry.
Heat mixing water and/or sand	X	X	X	X	Heat mixing water and/or sand to produce mortar temperatures between 40°F and 120°F (4°C and 49°C).
Cover wall with weather resistant membrane	X	X	X	X	Completely cover newly constructed walls with a weather resistant membrane to protect from rain or snow, preventing wetting and freezing for 48 hours after construction.
Provide heat sources on both sides of wall			X	X	
Completely cover masonry walls with insulating blankets or auxiliary heat			X		Maintain masonry above 32°F (0°C) for a minimum of 16 hours.
Provide wind breaks when wind exceeds 15 mph (24 km/h)			X		
Heat masonry units				X	Heat masonry units to 41°F to 50°F (5°C to 10°C).
Provide heated enclosure				X	Provide enclosures and supply sufficient heat to maintain masonry enclosure above 32°F (0°C) for 48 hours.