

A Brick Pattern Primer

CONTRIBUTED BY DEBRA DAVID ARCHITECT, MONTCLAIR HISTORY CENTER TRUSTEE

BRICKWORK HAS BEEN a staple of building materials for thousands of years. Brickwork is not only structural, durable, energy efficient and fireproof, it is a sustainable material and can be reused in some cases. Materials like brick and stone were readily available in the area Montclair area which allowed for the construction of civic, commercial and residential buildings throughout the township.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT BRICKWORK

Bricks come in many sizes, styles and finishes. The uniformity of brick sizes allows for a local mason to show artistry through simple variations in laying out the brick units.

The size of a standard brick is approximately 4" x 2 1/2" x 8" (3 5/8" x 2 1/2" x 7 5/8").

Structural Bond: Layout and interlocking brick masonry units allow for construction of a strong stable wall.

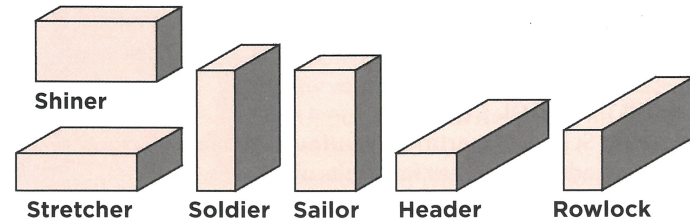
Pattern Bond: Arranging the brick masonry units to add a decorative pattern to the face of the surface.

Course: Each row of brick which will form the bond, either structural or pattern.

The placement / direction of the brick will contribute to the bond as well as the pattern. Brick patterns can be vertical (wall structure) or horizontal (pavers) and it is acceptable to be installed in either an interior or exterior location.

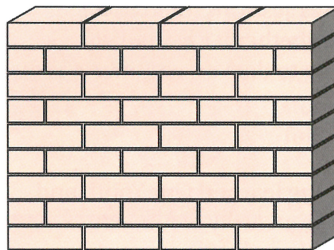
BRICK ORIENTATION IN PATTERN BONDS

Positioning the brick in different directions allows the mason to either strengthen the construction of the wall or add a "decorative flair" to the face of the wall. Width and installation of the mortar can also provide additional design to the layout as well as varying the color of some of the bricks.



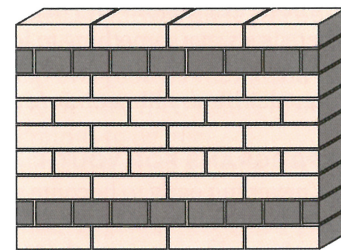
VARIATIONS IN PATTERN BONDS

Providing variations in pattern bonds help to create visual interest in the brick surface. Some of the most used traditional bonds are the Running Bond, Common Bond, Flemish Bond, Stack Bond with variations on all of the above.



Running Bond with Stretcher Orientation

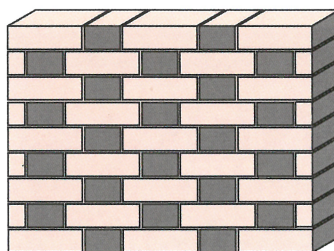
The brick laid on the long face with the mortar joints falling in the middle of the brick above.



Running Bond with Header every 6th course

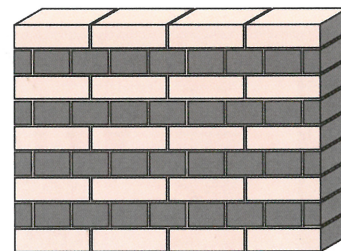
The brick laid on the long face with the mortar joints falling in the middle of the brick above.

A Header or Rowlock course rotates the brick 90 degrees. Using a Header or Rowlock ties the brick construction together and provides overall strength in the wall structure.



Flemish Bond with Stretcher Orientation

A stretcher brick is alternately placed with a header brick.

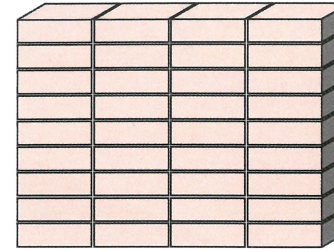


English Bond with Stretcher Orientation

A stretcher brick course with header course every other row.

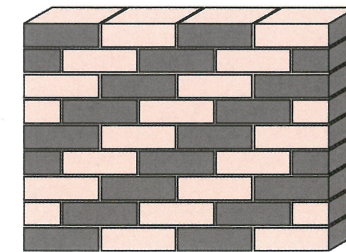
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Stack Bond with Stretcher Orientation



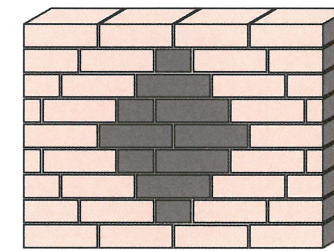
VARIATIONS IN DECORATIVE BONDS

Providing variations in pattern bonds help to create visual interest in the brick surface. Some decorative patterns are Herringbone, Dogtooth, Dentil, and Basketweave. You can also vary the color or texture of face bricks to create a surface pattern.



Stretcher Orientation

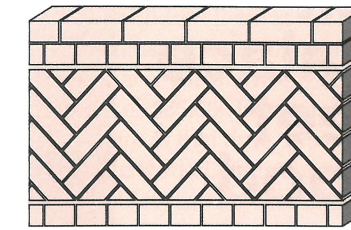
Brick Color change in diagonal pattern.



Stretcher Orientation

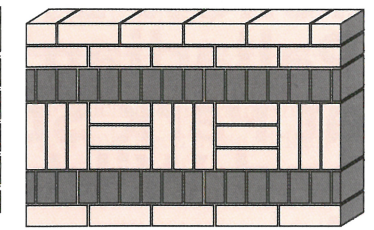
Brick color change in diamond pattern.

Another variation would be to pull out or recess the brickwork series of brick to create a very dramatic textural pattern.



Herringbone Detail with Header Course

Placing Stretchers on a 45-degree angle creating a zig zag pattern

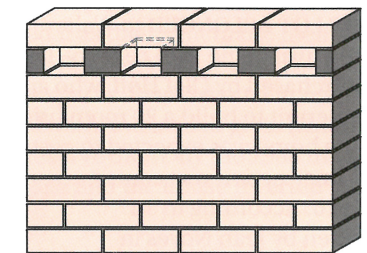


Basketweave Detail with Rowlock Course

Alternating groups of stacked Stretchers with groups of stacked Soldiers

Dentil detail with stretcher orientation

Every other header brick recessed to create a dentil detail.



Of course, these are only a few examples of variations using brick layouts. What unique patterns do you see around your neighborhood? ■

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