



Guide Specification
Section 04 05 13
Colors for Masonry Mortaring

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COLORS FOR MASONRY MORTARING

True Tone cement colors, from Davis Colors, are made with pure, concentrated pigments specially treated for mixing into mortar. They are lightfast, alkali-resistant, weather-resistant, and formulated to give long-lasting appeal to masonry.

Mortar joints comprise up to 20 percent of a masonry wall's surface, so color has a big impact on masonry appearance. Mortar colors can match or compliment masonry units to create a variety of effects.

Specification Coordination: **Insert clauses from this document into a complete section** specifying masonry construction.

This document is available in word processing format at www.daviscolors.com/Literature. Turn on HIDDEN TEXT to view or print specifier notes.

Drawing Coordination: Show locations colored mortar on Drawings or in Schedules.

Samples and Technical Assistance: Davis Colors
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E-mail: info@daviscolors.com. Internet: www.daviscolors.com.

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 SUMMARY

- A. Section Includes:
 - 1. Colored mortar.
- B. Related Requirements:
 - 1. Division 07 Section ["Joint Sealants"]<Other title>: Colored sealants for joints.

1.2 REFERENCE STANDARDS

- A. ASTM C270 - Mortar for Unit Masonry.
- B. ASTM C979 - Pigments for Integrally Colored Concrete.

1.3 SUBMITTALS

- A. Product Data:
 - 1. Mortar colors.
 - 2. Proprietary cleaning agents.
 - 3. <Other Product Type>
- B. LEED Submittals: Submit data for:
 - 1. Recycled Content: LEED Credit MR 4.1 [and MR 4.2] <Other credit>.

2. Regional Materials: LEED Credit MR 5.1 [and MR 5.2] <Other credit>.
- C. Samples:
1. Colored Mortar:
 - a. Submit color manufacturer's [color chart] [sample mortar channel set] for color selection.
 - b. Submit [swatch[es] from color chart] [hardened mortar sample[s]] of specified color[s] indicating color number[s] and dosage rate[s].
 - c. Submittals are for general indication of color and may vary somewhat from mortar finished in field.

1.4 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Obtain each material from same source and maintain high degree of consistency in workmanship throughout Project.
- B. Mock-Up: Construct mock-up one month before start of other masonry work to allow mortar to cure before observation. Demonstrate materials, workmanship, joint treatments, and cleaning techniques to be used with colored mortar.

1.5 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

- A. Mortar Colors: Deliver color additives in original, unopened packaging. Store in dry conditions. Comply with manufacturer's instructions.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 COLORED MORTAR

- A. Cement Color: [Gray.] [White.]
- B. Sand Color: [Locally available natural sand.] [White.]
- C. Mortar Colors:
 1. Product: Davis Colors, True Tone [[Sweet 16](#)] [[Select Series](#)] Cement Colors.
 - a. Phone: 800-356-4848.
 - b. E-mail: info@daviscolors.com
 - c. Web Site: www.daviscolors.com.
 2. Substitutions: [Comply with [Instructions to Bidders] [Division 01 Section "Product Requirements"]<Other requirement> for substitution request procedures.] [Not Allowed.]
 3. Materials: Mortar colors shall contain pure, concentrated mineral pigments especially processed for mixing into mortar and complying with ASTM C979.
 4. Color: Provide color to be selected by [Architect]<Other Party> from manufacturer's standard colors.
 5. Color: Provide True Tone [[Color No.](#)] [at a dose rate of \[___ Lbs\]](#) per sack of cement or lime.
 6. Color: Match [existing building.] [[Architect's]<Other Party's> sample.]<Insert other sample to match.>

2.2 ACCESSORIES

- A. Joint Sealants: Provide [type specified in Division 07 Section "Joint Sealants"]<Other Requirements>. Sealant shall [be color selected by [Architect]<Other Party> from manufacturer's full range to] match mortar color.
- B. Cleaning Agents: Use products known to be compatible with colored mortar.

2.3 MORTAR MIXES

- A. Mortar Color: Mix in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
 - 1. Thoroughly mix using mechanical mixer.
 - 2. Sand shall be uniformly damp immediately before mixing.
 - 3. Mix until color additives are uniformly dispersed throughout mixture.
- B. Provide a consistent water-cement ratio. Do not retemper or add additional water to colored mortar.

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 INSTALLATION

- A. Use careful workmanship to minimize mortar splatters and smears on face of masonry.
- B. Colored Mortar: Tool mortar joints at same degree of hardness and moisture content.
- C. Cover tops of walls to prevent water penetration into wall during construction.

3.2 TOLERANCES

- A. Minor variations in appearance of colored mortar that are similar to natural variations in appearance of uncolored mortar are acceptable.

3.3 CLEANING

- A. Use least aggressive cleaning techniques possible. Verify cleaning procedure is consistent with recommendations of masonry unit and color manufacturers.
- B. Excess Colored Mortar:
 - 1. Let colored mortar splatters harden for 7 to 14 days, then remove with chisel, trowel, or stiff brush and water before splatters bond rigidly to masonry.
 - 2. Prior to further cleaning, allow masonry to continue curing for at least three weeks in summer or four weeks in winter.
- C. If proprietary cleaning agents are used, pre-wet wall, test cleaning agent on [mock-up] [a small, inconspicuous area], and check effects prior to proceeding. Begin cleaning at top and work down. Thoroughly rinse wall afterwards with clean water. Follow cleaner manufacturer's instructions.
- D. Do not use muriatic (hydrochloric) acid on colored mortar.
- E. Efflorescence: Remove efflorescence [as soon as practical after it appears] [and] [as part of final cleaning of building].

END OF SECTION

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