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Brick Snap Application Guide



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For use by contractors as an application guide to install thin brick using Brick Snaps.

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Limited Warranty: Scott System warranties its products against deficiencies in the physical properties of the materials sold versus the testing and measuring standards set forth by the raw materials manufacturers. The manufacturer's obligation under this warranty shall be limited to replacing or refunding the purchase price of that material supplied.

Section 1: General Information

The Brick Snap method is a simple and economical way to achieve a real brick facade in precast or site-cast concrete applications.

Section 2: Planning and Design

BRICK SIZES AND SHAPES

Many brick sizes and trim pieces are available in the Brick Snap system. Standard and utility sizes are used most. Modular and standard halves can be used alternately to the standard and utility sizes or in combination to produce unique patterns. Special corner pieces are available in all brick sizes. Full size brick is also available to accommodate plans that call for handset brick.

For window wraps and returns, corners and edge caps are available. Most designs incorporate corner brick, so it is best to determine layout early in the drawing phase. When a corner (return) is utilized, the brick layout width will be reduced by 1/8" because the 3/16" half mortar joint is replaced by the 1/16" snap backing thickness.



DESIGN DETAILS

Architectural plans should include panel drawings with brick coursing correctly dimensioned. A tooled mortar joint is standard with Brick Snaps.



ESTIMATING

Estimate the total square footage of brick on your project. Remember to exclude window and door openings and other areas that will not require brick. Use the brick sizes and pieces per square foot in the chart below to determine your Brick Snap quantity. We recommend a 5 to 7 percent allowance on flats and 10 to 15 percent allowance for corners and edge caps for breakage and cuts on most jobs.

Size	Brick	Pieces per	Module
	Dimensions	Square Foot	
Standard	2-1⁄4" x 7-5⁄8"	6.75	8 inches = 3 brick tall with 3 mortar joints
			8 inches = 1 brick wide with 1 mortar joint
Modular	3-5⁄8" x 7-5⁄8"	4.5	8 inches = 2 brick tall with 2 mortar joints
			8 inches = 1 brick wide with 1 mortar joint
Utility	3-5⁄8" x 11-5⁄8"	3	12 inches = 3 brick tall with 3 mortar joints
-			12 inches = 1 brick wide with 1 mortar joint
4 x 4	3-5⁄8" x 3-5⁄8"	9	
Standard Half	2-1⁄4" x 3-5⁄8"	13.5	
Block	7-5/8" x 15-5/8"	1.3	

Based on our experience with various projects around the country, Scott System can provide a time estimate on the installation of the Brick Snap, as well as pricing for the Brick Snap product and delivery. Because costs fluctuate based on raw material, labor rates and market condition, please call us for current pricing and installation figures.

Please note that brick used in the Brick Snap meets or exceeds the ASTM specifications. Due to natural characteristics of the raw materials used in the production process of thin brick, brick may vary in size and shade from carton to carton and shipment to shipment. During the installation process, workers should select brick from multiple pallets and cartons to achieve a random blend. Additionally, brick should be ordered in quantities sufficient to complete the installation so that all the brick can be produced at the same time for the same run. Brick supplied for a particular installation may vary in color tone and texture from samples.

Section 3: Installation

A. STORAGE

We recommend protecting Brick Snap from the elements. Brick Snap should be stored on pallets out of direct sunlight.

B. ASSEMBLY IN THE FORM

The bed or slab should be clean before placing the Brick Snap in the form. In the case of tilt-up construction and if your slab will be the finished floor surface, then a layer of bond breaker should be applied before Brick Snaps are snapped into place. If a surface hardener is used on the slab, check the application with the manufacturer and explain the use of the Snap system to them.

With Brick Snap, the brick is already assembled in the plastic Snap holder, so installation is a simplified process. Brick Snap are snapped together with interlocking tabs. The Snaps have two tabs on one side and four on the other, so you may have to "spin" the brick to line up the tabs. Make sure Snaps are all locked together, otherwise the gap created by the tabs pushing against each other will create a place for leakage. Additionally, if the brick is removed from its Snap, the Snap carrier will lose some of its hold. In a horizontal application, this should not cause a problem. If there is any concern, replace the Snap.

The Brick Snap should be started in the center of the form, progress to the edge of the pattern and complete one row to make sure the layout works. This will allow you to adjust the edges uniformly if the brick overruns or comes up short of the framework. If your panel layout is off, Brick Snap make it possible to compact or stretch a 10-foot run by 1/8", a 20 foot run by 1/4", etc.

Brick Snap can be placed in running bond or stacked bond patterns and the tabs will line up (a Flemish bond is also standard with the standard size brick).

If Brick Snap are placed in extreme heat, direct sunlight and temperatures that exceed 90°F, the Snaps may expand slightly, making it somewhat difficult to get the last Snaps of the row into place. Usually, these can be "squeezed" in with some effort. Placing the last few pieces in the morning, before temperatures rise and the Snaps expand, is often easiest. If a brick is broken, it may be cut down and used as a half brick, otherwise, it should not be used.

The Brick Snap may be walked on after being placed, but care should be taken not to kick up corners.

When snapping Brick Snap together, a guide (chalk line, laser, etc.) can be used every two or three feet to ensure level coursing. It may be difficult to align an entire panel of brick, so using guidelines makes it easier to stay on course and ensures a panel-to-panel match of coursing runs.

The brick layout should be checked just prior to pouring concrete to make sure all bricks are flat. Shining a high-level intensity flashlight along the surface of the brick at the same plane will show floaters before the pour.

When placing chairs (if used), care should be taken not to place them on the corners of the bricks. Pressure on the corners could cause the brick to become dislodged during the pour.

Glue can be used to help hold the bricks in place in a vertical application, although gluing typically is not necessary. Scott System recommends 3M Hot Melt Adhesive 3748 or similar product. Follow all product directions and safety precautions. Vertical or cast-in-place forms should use the Rim Snap system to hold bricks in place.

A chamfer strip or rustication strip should be used as an edge detail when transitioning from brick coursing to a smooth band of concrete, or at the top or bottom of the coursing when the bricks do not abut the form edge. If a chamfer detail is undesirable, glue can be used to hold an accent band of Brick Snap on the bed or slab.

C. CUTTING THE BRICK AND SNAP

If a Brick Snap needs to be cut, a wet tile saw should be used. The brick should be cut while in the Snap.

To complete a half-inch mortar joint on a cut brick, an End Cap is used. End Caps are purchased separately.

Cutting an empty Snap can be done by many different methods; however, a pair of chamfer/molding cutters will work as well.

D. CORNER APPLICATION

The vertical half-inch brick on a corner return can be held on a wooden form with small staples (in the Snap), hot glue, a rubber band or a cut Snap as a clip to hold the brick in place.

On corners, the Brick Snap or the full Snap is cut (empty Snap) at the small score line near the end of the Snap. The corner brick is then placed in the Snap, and the Add-A-Corner is attached to the short leg of the corner brick. Please note that the Universal Corner Snaps are used for 2"x8" size brick. When cutting the empty Snap, make sure to cut the correct end so that the tabs line up with the other corner Snaps. Now the corner brick is ready to be placed in the form.

E. POURING THE CONCRETE

Generally no special measures are required in pouring the panel.

If the Brick Snap are left in the sun all day and become hot to the touch, they should be "misted" with water prior to pouring concrete, or allowed to cool overnight. This reduces the possibility of the concrete flash setting before filling the joints.

If a chute is used in pouring, care should be taken not to let the concrete hit the brick from the side in a fashion that might knock it loose from its Snap.

Acceptable methods of vibration include stingers, grid vibrators, vibrating screeds, and vibrating beds. The grid vibrator has been used successfully. Normal vibration should be used; however, external vibration or vibrating beds may cause loosening of bricks when the concrete wythe is two inches or less. Vibrating with a stinger is satisfactory but avoid placing the tip straight on the brick in a vertical position.

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When pouring thin panels of only two inches, it is not recommended to use vibrating screeds at a high level of vibration. If using self-compacting concrete, make sure to check the mockup for excessive leakage. Self-compacting concrete is an excellent alternative to traditional concrete and eliminates the need for vibration.

F. FINISHING THE PANEL: STRIPPING THE SNAPS

The Brick Snap should be removed as soon as possible after the brick face is exposed to the sun and air. If removed right away, the Snaps will be much easier to remove.

A one-inch putty knife or like tool can be used to loosen Snaps in the same area to start the "peel."

The Snaps can be discarded or recycled by a plastic recycler.

G. FINISHING THE PANEL: CLEANING THE PANEL

High Pressure (2,500 - 3,000+ psi) hot water (160°F) will remove any concrete leakage and the protective wax coating on the face of the brick.

In many cases, Snaps can be removed with a high-pressure washer with an isolating head attachment. This eliminates one step in the process by removing the Snaps and cleaning the panel simultaneously.

Areas of small concrete leakage around mortar joints can be removed with a putty knife; however, a certain amount of this may be desirable for aesthetic effect.

Section 4: Shipping and Storage

SHIPPING: Although careful measures are taken at the factory to protect your shipment, occasionally freight arrives in poor condition. You have the option to refuse shipment if it is damaged. Contact supplier immediately. If your shipment is damaged upon arrival at the job site, please make a note of it on the driver's delivery ticket. Your note must include the nature of the damage, which parts have been damaged, date and time of delivery, contact information, and photographs of the damage. Scott System does not ship torn or damaged goods. Claims need to be made immediately.

STORING: We recommend protecting Brick Snap from the elements. Brick Snap should be stored on pallets out of direct sunlight.

Thank you for your purchase of Scott System Formliners.

Please call us at 518-383-0500 for any assistance with our products.