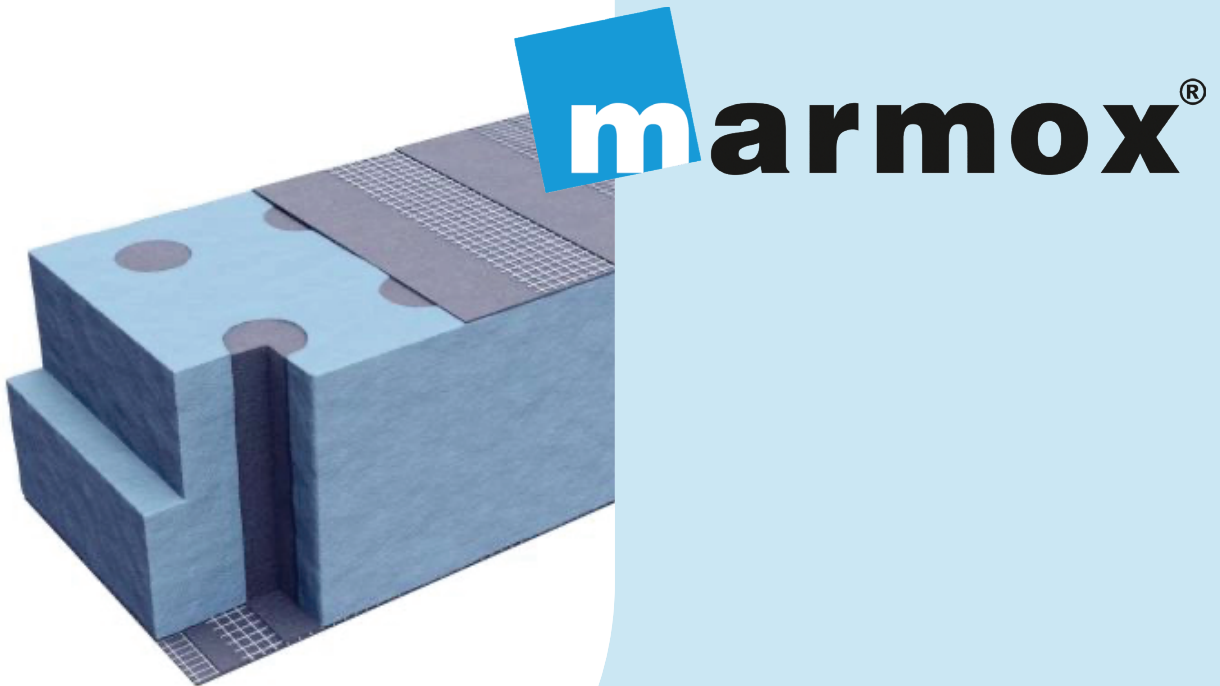


Thermoblock

M a n u a l



Marmox

IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT COUNTS



Thermoblock

M a n u a l

Table *of* contents

02.....	Introduction
04.....	Lower heating costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions
04.....	A healthier, more comfortable building
05.....	Applications and specifications
06.....	In-house Specifications
09.....	Important Installation Advice

Marmox

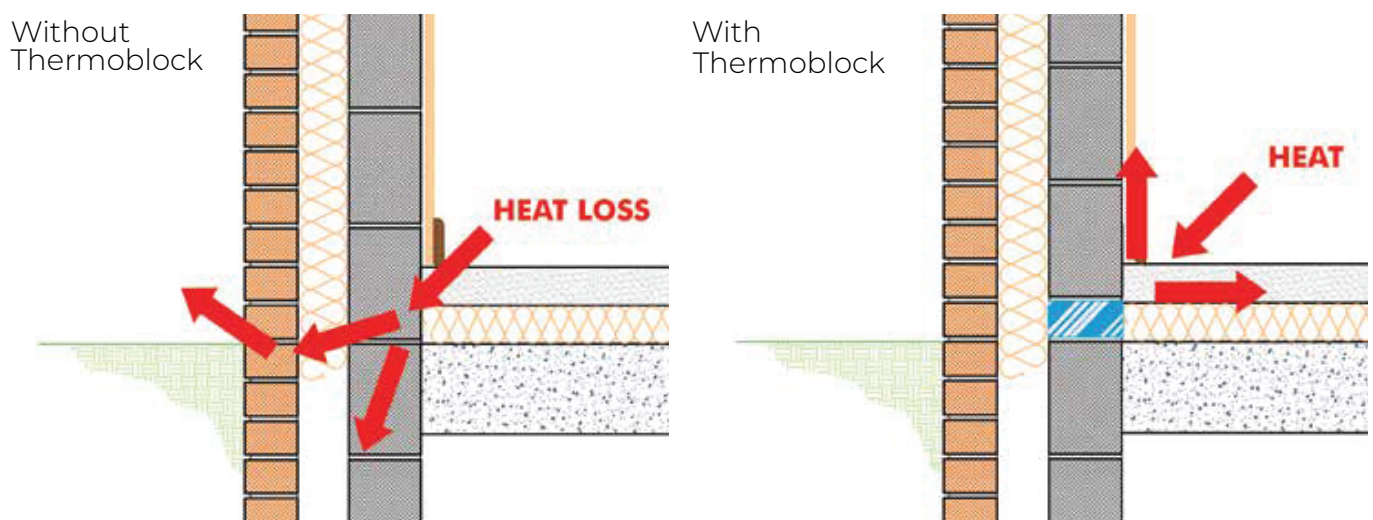
IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT COUNTS



What is Thermoblock

Cold bridges occur where the wall meets the floor but until recently it was impossible to place insulation under a supporting wall because the insulation would have been crushed. It was for this reason that Marmox

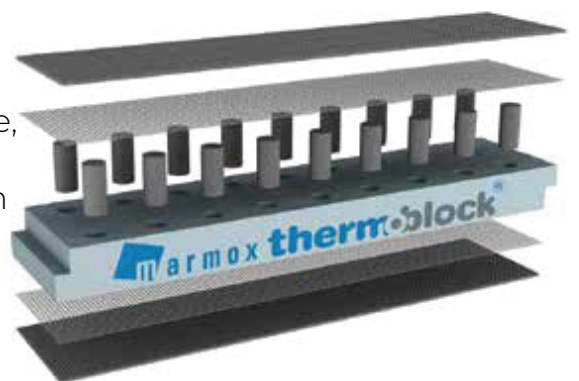
Thermoblock was developed. Thermoblock is a block of load-bearing insulation material with a thermal conductivity of 0.047W/mK strong enough to withstand a load of 9N/mm^2 . Its function is to eliminate or reduce the thermal bridge at the wall to floor junction.



Marmox Thermoblock is used in masonry AND timber-framed AND steel-framed walls.

What a Thermoblock is

The standard Marmox Thermoblock comprises of a 60mm thick core of fire resistant XPS insulation encasing two rows of high strength, low conductive, epoxy-concrete columns. These are fixed to the top and bottom surfaces of the block, which are 2.5mm thick layers of fibre reinforced polymer concrete incorporating the latest innovation in building technology - Carbon Nano Tubes.

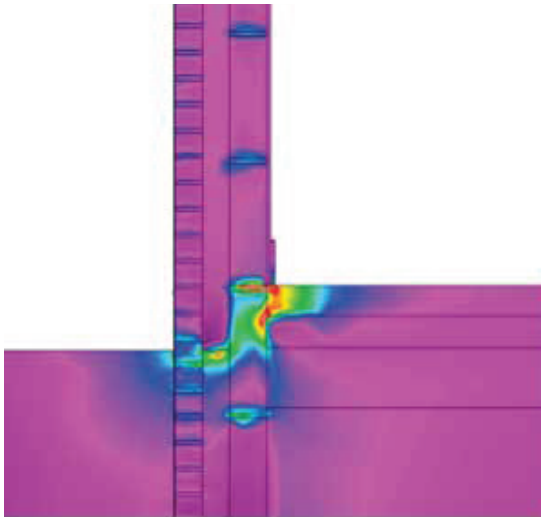


What a Thermoblock is not

A Thermoblock is NOT a thermal block/aerated block/AAC/aircrete block which are light-weight thermally insulating building blocks. Marmox Thermoblock is a thermal bridging block, typically used at the base of a wall made of thermal, aerated blocks, specifically to eliminate the cold bridge.

Marmox

IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT COUNTS



Why Thermoblock should be used

Comply with building regulations

As buildings become more energy efficient with better insulation it is important to address the thermal bridge at the wall floor junction which can contribute up to 30% of a building's total heat loss.

With approximately 40% of all the world's greenhouse gases coming from buildings, by reducing or eliminating thermal bridges, these greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced by almost a third.

It typically connects the wall insulation to the floor insulation by insulating below the supporting wall - it provides a layer of insulation with the compressive strength of a load carrying block.



The heat loss through thermal bridges is accounted for in the SAP and SBEM, or in Ireland the DEAP and NEAP energy assessment calculation. This combines all the individual ψ values into a single Y value which is then added to the U value to give the total energy loss.

Each thermal bridge in a building will have its own value but the thermal bridge at the wall to floor junction is easily the most significant one with a value usually in excess of all the other thermal bridges put together.

Not addressing the wall to floor junction could result in that the building not meeting regulations.

1

Thermoblock Manual

Lower heating costs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions



Studies have shown that the cost to heat an average home can be reduced by approximately £200 by incorporating Marmox Thermoblock in the wall to floor junction detail thereby removing or reducing that thermal bridge.

Clearly, such an effective method in reducing a building's energy consumption will have a positive contribution in reducing CO₂ emissions from power stations and consequently in global warming.

2

A healthier, more comfortable building

A thermal bridge at the base of a wall will cause that wall's surface to be colder. When there is little air movement, the chances of surface condensation and subsequently mold growth occurring are greatly increased. Mold growth is not only unsightly but can exacerbate health issues such as asthma and respiratory diseases. In drawing heat out of the wall, surface condensation can reduce the effectiveness of the wall insulation.

Building Regulations require f_{Rsi} or the surface temperature factor to be greater than 0.75 in homes or greater than 0.5 in non-residential properties to ensure there will be no mold growth. Incorporating Marmox Thermoblock at the base of the internal wall will almost always result in f_{Rst} values in excess of 0.75.



Marmox

IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT COUNTS

3

Thermoblock
Manual

Applications and specifications



Specifications of the three highlighted models are shown in the following pages.

Other common examples of where to use are:

- Underneath a concrete slab, below a timber frame
- Underneath a solid wall
- Underneath a door threshold
- Internal and party wall junction to the floor
- Wall junctions with non-ground floors
- Roof eave to wall junction
- At the base of parapets

Marmox

IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT COUNTS

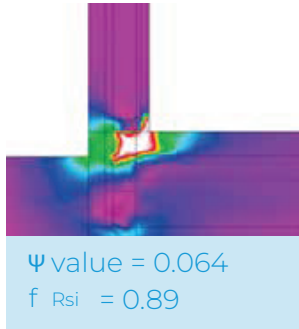
4

Thermoblock

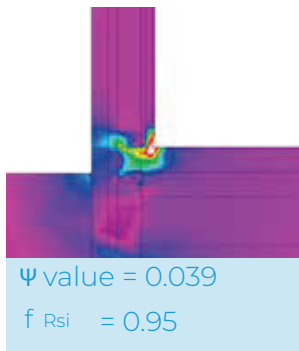
Manual

In-house Specifications

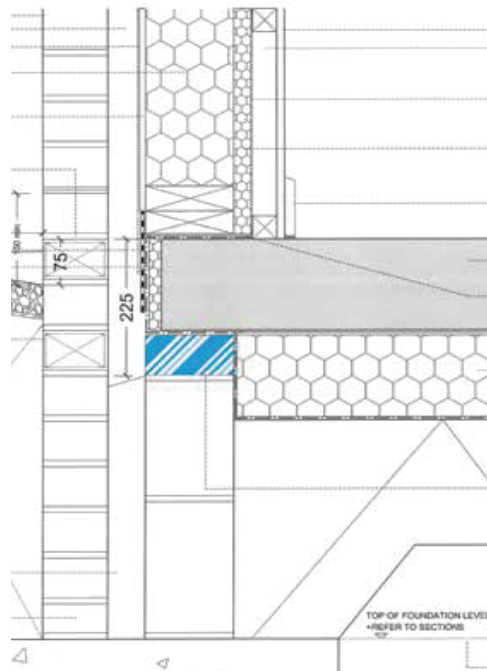
1. Underneath a concrete slab, below a timber frame



Heat flux without Thermoblock



Heat flux with Thermoblock



Product Type:
140mm
Marmox XPS
Thermoblock

Junction Type:
Wall to Ground
floor (insulation
below slab)

Specification:

A single course of Marmox Thermoblock: 600mm(l) x 100/140/215mm(w) x 65mm(ht) is fixed using normal mortar on to top of the foundation blocks (inner leaf) directly underneath the load bearing concrete slab on which the timber frame is fixed.



Additional fixing instructions

The compressive strength of Thermoblock is 9N/mm² ensure this conforms with the requirements of the foundation wall blocks.

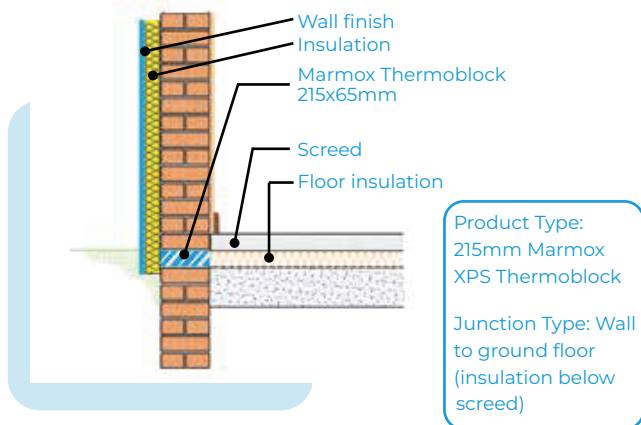
The foundation blocks below the Thermoblock must not be narrower than the width of the Thermoblock. The edge of concrete slab above must be no more than 15mm away from the edge of the Thermoblock.

Marmox

IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT COUNTS

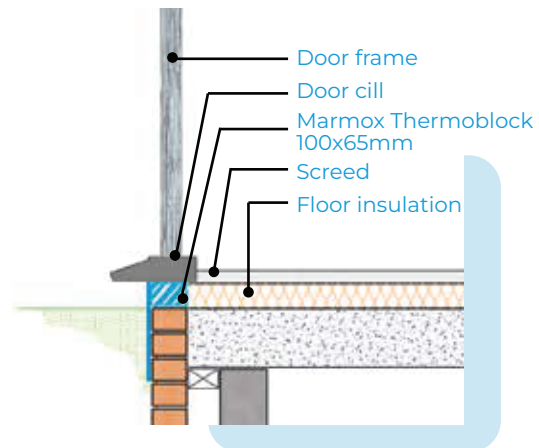
In-house Specifications

2. Underneath a solid wall



Marmox Thermoblock does not absorb water so can therefore be used in a damp environment with no effect on its insulation. To protect the floor insulation from moisture, ensure that the block edges are sealed together using Marmox sealant. Thermoblocks can be in contact with the soil but to discourage damage by rodents, the vertical surfaces should be protected, typically with a render.

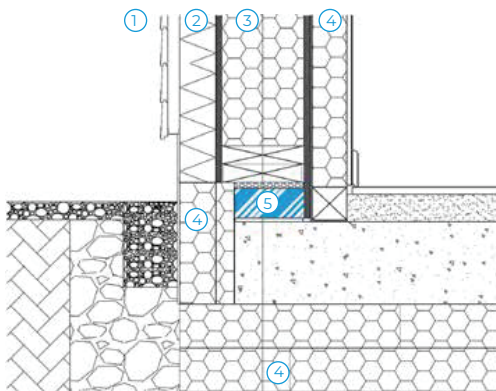
3. Underneath a threshold



Marmox Thermoblock is suitable to use in the outer skin provided that its sides are protected from sunlight.

The frame is mechanically fixed to the brickwork underneath the with a bolt or screw passing through the middle of the Thermoblock. Provided that the frame imposes its load evenly over the whole width of the Thermoblock, it may overhang the Thermoblock. Marmox sealant seals the Thermoblock to the frame.

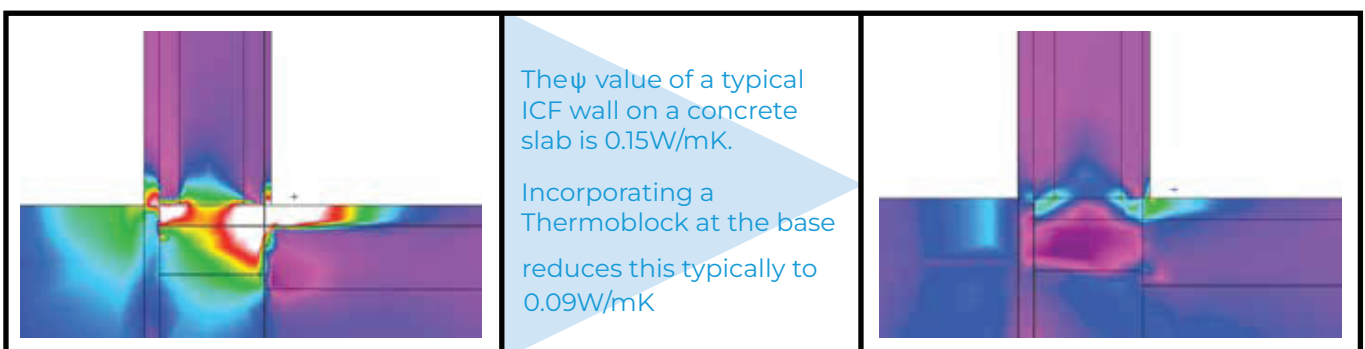
4. Achieving ψ value of 0.01W/mK on a Passivhaus design



Marmox Thermoblocks are often incorporated into Passivhaus designs such as the example here. In addition to having a primary energy demand less than 120kWh/m², very low U values, to achieve Passivhaus or zero carbon standards, the buildings need to be effectively thermal bridge free which means having a ψ value no more than 0.01W/mK. When used in the following design, Thermoblock resulted in making the junction a thermal bridge free.

1. Timber cladding
2. Breathable external insulation
3. Insulating timber frame
4. Rigid phenolic insulation
5. Marmox Thermoblock 215mm wide, 100mm high

5. At the base of an ICF wall



If the ICF unit is designed so that the width of the concrete component inside is at least the same width as the Thermoblock, the ICF unit is laid directly on top of the Thermoblock. For example, a 170mm wide ICF unit incorporates a 120mm wide section of concrete. This can be placed onto a 100mm wide Thermoblock but not a 140mm wide Thermoblock. If the width of the concrete component inside the ICF is narrower than the Thermoblock width, a starter course of aircrete is incorporated.

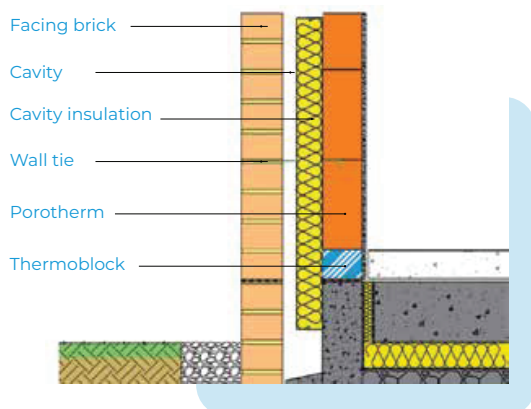
Marmox

IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT COUNTS

Specification

In-house Specifications

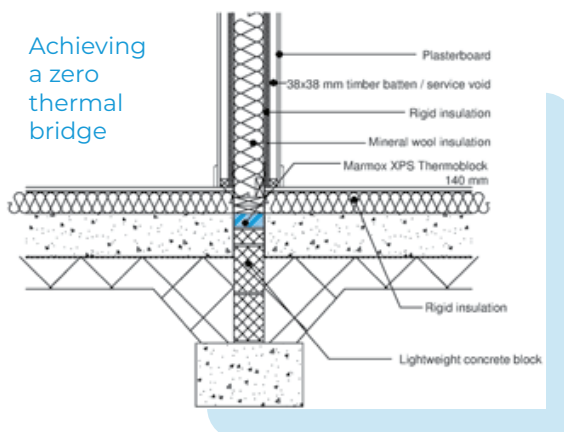
6. Use with cellular clay blocks



Specification

The cellular clay block (e.g. Porotherm T8) is fixed onto the Thermoblock with 12mm bricklayers mortar (min. mean compressive strength of 25 N/mm²). The cellular clay brick wall is laid directly on top of the Thermoblock if the combined dead and imposed load is 2N/mm^2. For loads in excess of 2N/mm^2 , an aircrete block is laid on the Thermoblock to form the starter course of the cellular clay block wall.

7. Internal wall



Achieving a zero thermal bridge

Specification

A timber frame partition wall is mechanically fixed to the foundation blocks/concrete slab through the centre of the Thermoblock. The width of the wall is the same width as the Thermoblock. Fixings are placed every 600mm and the interface is sealed with Marmox sealant. The Thermoblock course should not be directly adjacent to the floor insulation on both sides of the wall. The Thermoblock should either be adjacent to the screed level or used in combination with a proprietary insulated fire stop

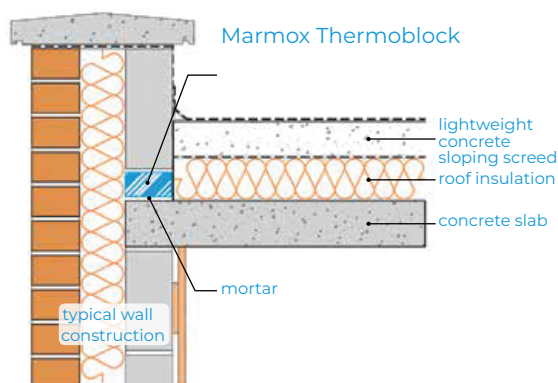
8. Base of parapets

Parapet walls can act as thermal fins accounting for significant heat loss since, in many situations, it has not been possible to integrate a thermal break between the inner leaf of the parapet wall with the inner leaf of the room below. A layer of Marmox Thermoblock can be safely and efficiently placed at the base of the external section.

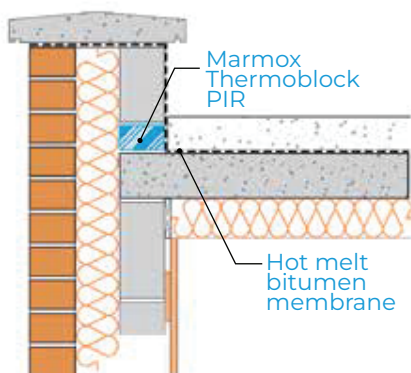
A. Standard application

Heat can be lost from a room below a flat or sloping roof that supports a parapet wall. In addition to wasting energy, parapet walls can result in condensation and mold growth on the walls underneath.

In most designs, the normal XPS Thermoblock is suitable, there is just one specific application when a variant needs to be used.



B. Hot melt bitumen membrane



If applying a hot-melt bitumen membrane to a roof junction with a parapet wall using a flame torch, Marmox Thermoblock-PIR should be specified as this version is resistant to distortion which the standard block may experience if in contact with the flame gun. The PIR version has a slightly lower thermal conductivity (0.041W/ mK), is 53mm high and like the standard version a compressive strength of 9N/mm

Marmox

IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT COUNTS

5

Thermoblock Manual

Important Installation Advice

Sealing the blocks together

Marmox sealant should be used to seal the ends of the Thermoblocks together to prevent moisture creeping up between blocks and to ensure air tightness of the building.

Not an alternative to aircrete blocks

Thermoblock should be used with, not instead of lightweight aircrete / thermal / AAC blocks. These blocks typically provide a values between 0.11W/m.K (for 3.6N blocks) to 0.22W/m.K (for 7.3N blocks) whereas the Marmox Thermoblock's a value is 0.047 W/m.K.

Not an alternative to a DPM

Although when sealed together Thermoblock creates a permanent waterproof barrier, a Damp Proof Membrane must be applied to the detail as though the Thermoblock were simply another normal block in the wall. The DPM can be fixed above or below the Thermoblock layer.

Can a Thermoblock be laid on top of each other?

No. All independent testing has been carried out with just one course of Thermoblock we are unable to provide a characteristic compressive strength when more than one layer is used.

In nearly all situations, the 65mm high version is sufficient in reducing the γ value however a 100mm high version of Thermoblock is also available if necessary.

What is fixed above or below the Thermoblock must NOT be narrower

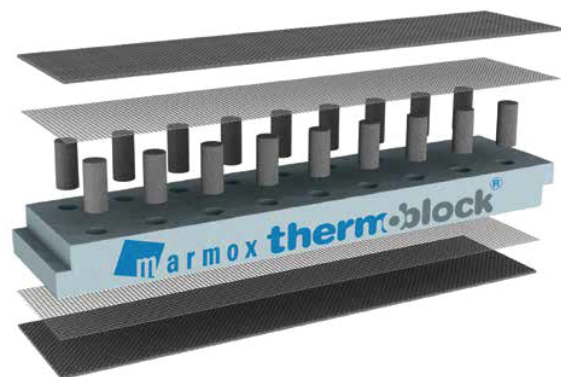
Thermoblock derive their strength from rows of concrete columns located along each side. What is sitting on top of a Thermoblock must therefore distribute its weight evenly over both sides. In other words, what's on top (and below) the course of Thermoblock must not be narrower than the width of the Thermoblock.

Can it be used as a Cavity Barrier?

No, if used to bridge two combustible insulation materials the core material could melt creating a conduit for flame to enter one living space from another. Therefore a cementitious covering such as a cement board should be fixed to one of the sides.

How are Thermoblocks installed?

Thermoblock can be cut on site using a brick saw, or through the polystyrene-only sections with a hand-saw. They are laid using ordinary bricklayers' mortar.



Important Installation Advice

Table of characteristics

Property	Units	European Standard	Standard Thermoblock	Extra thick Thermoblock	Thermoblock PIR (Parapet)
Total Thickness	mm	EN 823	65	100	53
Thickness of insulation	mm	EN 823	60	95	47
Width	mm	EN 822	100	100	100
			140	140	140
			215	215	
Length	mm	EN 822	600	600	600
Weight	kg	EN 822	100mm = 1.6 140mm = 1.9 215mm = 2.5	100mm = 2.2 140mm = 2.6 215mm = 4.0	100mm = 1.4 140mm = 1.7
Thermal conductivity (λ) of insulant	W/m.K	EN 12664 EN 13165	0.028	0.028	0.026
Thermal conductivity of (λ) of support columns	W/m.K	EN 12667	0.130	0.130	0.130
Thermal conductivity of (λ) of slurry coating	W/m.K	EN 10456	1.15	1.15	1.15
Effective thermal conductivity of (λ) of insulation core	W/m.K	EN 12664/5/7	0.047	0.047	0.041
Vertical thermal resistance (R) of insulation core	m ² K/W	EN 12667	1.4	2.1	1.1
Declared compressive strength (f_b)	N/mm ²	EN 772-1	9.0	9.0	9.0
Characteristic compressive strength (f_k)	N/mm ²	EN 771-4	100mm = 6.6 140mm = 8.0 215mm = 8.0	100mm = 6.6 140mm = 8.0 215mm = 8.0	100mm = 6.6 140mm = 8.0 215mm = 8.0
Characteristic shear strength (f_{vk}) in masonry wall	N/mm ²	Eurocode 6	0.18	n/a	n/a
Expansion coefficient	Mm/m.k	EN 53752	0.07	0.07	n/a
Water absorption	%	EN 771-3	3.1%	2.2%	6.4%
Maximum operating temperature	°C	EN 14706	75°	75°	250°
Fire resistance	Euroclass	EN 13164	E	E	E
Fire resistance	Minutes	EN 1365-1	>120mins	>120mins	>120mins

Marmox

IT'S WHAT'S UNDERNEATH THAT COUNTS

 1300 783 693

 info@marmox.com.au

 www.marmox.com.au

 PO BOX 2207 Taren Point
Business Centre Taren Point
NSW 2229 Australia