



Standard Specification for Grout for Masonry¹

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This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the Department of Defense.

1. Scope*

1.1 This specification covers two types of grout, fine and coarse grout, for use in the construction of masonry structures. Each type (fine and coarse) is further classified as conventional grout (requiring mechanical consolidation by puddling or vibration when placed) and self-consolidating grout (not requiring mechanical consolidation when placed). Conventional grout is specified by (1) proportions or (2) strength requirements. Self-consolidating grout is specified by strength requirements.

1.2 The text of this specification references notes and footnotes that provide explanatory material. These notes and footnotes (excluding those in tables and figures) shall not be considered as requirements of this specification.

1.3 The values stated in inch-pound units are to be regarded as standard. The values given in parentheses are mathematical conversions to SI units that are provided for information only and are not considered standard.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- C5 Specification for Quicklime for Structural Purposes
- C143/C143M Test Method for Slump of Hydraulic-Cement Concrete
- C150 Specification for Portland Cement
- C207 Specification for Hydrated Lime for Masonry Purposes
- C260 Specification for Air-Entraining Admixtures for Concrete
- C404 Specification for Aggregates for Masonry Grout

¹ This specification is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee C12 on Mortars and Grouts for Unit Masonry and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee C12.05 on Grout & Grout Admixtures for Masonry.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

- C494/C494M Specification for Chemical Admixtures for Concrete
- C595 Specification for Blended Hydraulic Cements
- C618 Specification for Coal Fly Ash and Raw or Calcined Natural Pozzolan for Use in Concrete
- C989 Specification for Slag Cement for Use in Concrete and Mortars
- C1019 Test Method for Sampling and Testing Grout
- C1157 Performance Specification for Hydraulic Cement
- C1611/C1611M Test Method for Slump Flow of Self-Consolidating Concrete

3. Materials

3.1 Materials used as ingredients in grout shall conform to the requirements specified in 3.1.1-3.1.8.

3.1.1 *Cementitious Materials*—Cementitious materials shall conform to one of the following specifications:

3.1.1.1 *Portland Cement*—Type I, IA, II, IIA, III, and IIIA of Specification C150.

3.1.1.2 *Blended Cements*—Type IS, IS(MS), IS-A, IS-A(MS), IP, or IP-A of Specification C595 or types GU, HE, MS, or HS of Specification C1157.

3.1.1.3 *Quicklime*—Specification C5.

3.1.1.4 *Hydrated Lime*—Type S of Specification C207.

3.1.1.5 *Coal Fly Ash or Raw Calcined Natural Pozzolan*—Specification C618. Addition rates shall be in an amount governed by the portland-pozzolan cement category of Specification C595. The grout produced with blends of portland cement and fly ash or raw calcined natural pozzolan shall have the compressive strength specified (4.2.1.2 or 4.2.2.1).

3.1.1.6 *Granulated Blast Furnace Slag*—Specification C989. Addition rates shall be as governed by the portland blast furnace slag cement category of Specification C595. Grouts produced with blends of portland cement and granulated blast furnace slag shall have the compressive strength specified (4.2.1.2 or 4.2.2.1).

3.1.2 *Air-Entraining Admixtures*—Air-entraining admixtures shall conform to Specification C260.

3.1.3 *Aggregates*—Aggregates shall conform to Specification C404.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard.

TABLE 1 Conventional Grout Proportions by Volume

Type	Parts by Volume of Portland Cement or Blended Cement	Parts by Volume of Hydrated Lime or Lime Putty	Aggregate, Measured in a Damp, Loose Condition	
			Fine	Coarse
Fine grout	1	0– $\frac{1}{10}$	$2\frac{1}{4}$ –3 times the sum of the volumes of the cementitious materials	...
Coarse grout	1	0– $\frac{1}{10}$	$2\frac{1}{4}$ –3 times the sum of the volumes of the cementitious materials	1–2 times the sum of the volumes of the cementitious materials

3.1.4 *Water*—Water shall be clean and potable.

3.1.5 *Admixtures*—Integral waterproofing compounds, accelerators, or other admixtures not mentioned definitely in the specification shall not be used in grout for use in reinforced masonry without approval from the purchaser.

3.1.5.1 *Admixtures for Self-consolidating Grout*—High-range water-reducing admixtures conforming to Specification **C494/C494M**, Type F or G, and viscosity-modifying admixtures conforming to Specification **C494/C494M**, Type S, for producing self-consolidating grout are permitted.

NOTE 1—Polycarboxylate-based high-range water-reducing admixtures are best suited to achieve the water reduction and slump flow values required for self-consolidating grout. While viscosity-modifying admixtures are acceptable for producing self-consolidating grout, there currently are no ASTM specifications specifically for these admixtures. The **C494/C494M** requirements for Type S (specific performance) admixture provide a means of determining that the viscosity-modifying admixture will not have adverse effects on fresh, hardened and durability properties of the grout. Admixture suppliers should be consulted to ensure that the particular high-range water-reducing admixture and viscosity-modifying admixture being used are suitable for production of self-consolidating grout.

3.1.6 *Pumping Aids*—Pumping aids are permitted to be used in cases where the brand, quality, and quantity are approved in writing by the purchaser or are definitely stipulated in the specification.

3.1.7 *Antifreeze Compounds*—No antifreeze liquids, salts, or other substances shall be used in grout to lower the freezing point.

3.1.8 *Storage of Materials*—Cementitious materials and aggregates shall be stored in such a manner as to prevent deterioration or intrusion of foreign material or moisture. Any material that has become unsuitable for good construction shall not be used.

NOTE 2—If the grout is to be used to bond masonry units to reinforcing bars, the use of air-entraining materials or air-entraining admixtures is not recommended.

4. Grout Type and Proportions

4.1 *Type*—Grout type shall be specified as fine or coarse.

4.1.1 Fine grout shall be manufactured with fine aggregates.

4.1.2 Coarse grout shall be manufactured with a combination of coarse and fine aggregates.

NOTE 3—Building code provisions and grout space dimensions should be reviewed when selecting grout type or types.

4.2 *Proportions of Ingredients*—Proportions shall be determined as follows:

4.2.1 *Conventional Grout*—Proportions shall be determined by one of the following methods:

4.2.1.1 Requirements of **Table 1**.

4.2.1.2 *Specified Compressive Strength*—Proportions established by 28-day compressive strength tests in accordance with Test Method **C1019** that equal or exceed the specified compressive strength. The grout shall be mixed to a slump of 8 to 11 in. (200 to 280 mm) as determined by Test Method **C143/C143M** and shall have a minimum compressive strength of 2000 psi (14 MPa) at 28 days.

4.2.2 *Self-consolidating Grout*—Proportions shall be determined by the following method:

4.2.2.1 *Specified Compressive Strength*—Proportions established by 28-day compressive strength tests in accordance with Test Method **C1019** that equal or exceed the specified compressive strength. The grout shall be mixed to a slump flow of 24 to 30 in. (610 to 760 mm) as determined by Test Method **C1611/C1611M** and shall have a Visual Stability Index (VSI) of not greater than 1 as determined by Appendix X1 of Test Method **C1611/C1611M**. The grout shall have a minimum compressive strength of 2000 psi (14 MPa) at 28 days.

NOTE 4—The value for T_{50} as described in Appendix X1.1 and Note X1.1 of Test Method **C1611/C1611M** is a property of self-consolidating concrete and can be used as an indicator of batch-to-batch quality, consistency and performance in-situ of self-consolidating grout. While there is no consensus as to the appropriate T_{50} for all self-consolidating grouts, average values from 1.5 to 4 sec, with variations of ± 0.5 sec from the average value, determined for the particular self-consolidating grout, typically provide proper viscosity and indicate batch-to-batch consistency.

NOTE 5—Building code provisions should be reviewed when selecting the specified compressive strength of grout.

5. Measurement and Production

5.1 *Measurement of Materials*—Measure materials for grout such that the required proportions of the grout materials are controlled and accurately measured.

NOTE 6—When converting volume proportions to batch weights, use the following material bulk densities:

Material	Weight, lb/ft ³ (kg/m ³)
Portland cement	94 (1505)
Blended cement	Obtain from bag or supplier
Other cementitious materials	Obtain from bag or supplier
Hydrated lime	40 (640)
Lime putty ^A	80 (1280)
Sand, damp and loose	80 (1280) of dry sand
Coarse aggregate	Refer to C404 to determine weight per cubic foot.

^A All quicklime should be slaked in accordance with the manufacturer's directions. All quicklime putty, except pulverized quicklime putty, should be sieved through a No. 20 (850- μ m) sieve and allowed to cool until it has reached a temperature of 80°F (26.7°C). Quicklime putty should weigh at least 80 lb/ft³ (281 kg/m³). Putty that weighs less than this may be used in the proportion specifications if the required quantity of extra putty is added to meet the minimum weight requirements.

5.2 *Production Methods*—Grout shall be produced using one of the following procedures:

5.2.1 *Grout Materials Mixed with Water at the Job Site:*

5.2.1.1 *Conventional Grout:*

(1) Individual cementitious materials and aggregates stored at the job site shall be mixed in a mechanical mixer for a minimum of 5 min with sufficient water to achieve the desired consistency.

(2) Individual ingredients transported to the job site in suitable compartments shall be mixed with water at the job site using continuous volumetric proportioning equipment to achieve the desired consistency. Mix with an auger of appropriate length to provide adequate mixing.

(3) Factory pre-blended grout materials delivered to the job site shall be mixed in a mechanical batch mixer for a minimum

of 5 min or in a continuous mixer following mixer manufacturer's recommendation with sufficient water to achieve the desired consistency.

NOTE 7—Conventional grout may be hand-mixed on small jobs with written approval of the mixing procedure by the specifier.

5.2.1.2 *Self-consolidating Grout:*

(1) Individual ingredients transported to the job site as part of a self-consolidating grout manufacturer's system, shall be mixed at the job-site with water, per the manufacturer's recommendations, using continuous volumetric proportioning equipment to achieve the desired consistency. Mix with an auger of appropriate length to provide adequate mixing.

(2) Factory preblended grout materials delivered to the job site shall be mixed in a mechanical mixer with sufficient water, per the self-consolidating grout manufacturer's recommendation, to achieve the desired consistency.

(3) Job site proportioning and mixing of individual materials that are not part of a self-consolidating grout manufacturer's system shall not be permitted.

5.2.2 *Ready-Mixed Grout Transported to the Job Site:*

5.2.2.1 *Conventional Grout*—Grout shall arrive at the job site in a ready-mixed condition. Slump shall be adjusted as necessary, and grout shall be re-mixed at mixing speed for at least 1 min before discharging to achieve the desired consistency.

5.2.2.2 *Self-consolidating Grout*—Grout shall arrive at the job-site in a ready-mixed condition. The addition of water at the job site is permitted in accordance with the self-consolidating grout manufacturer's recommendations.

6. Keywords

6.1 aggregates; cement; compressive strength; grout; masonry; portland cement; proportions; self-consolidating grout

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Committee C12 has identified the location of selected changes to this standard since the last issue (C476 – 09) that may impact the use of this standard. (Approved June 1, 2010.)

- (1) Subsection 1.1 was revised to clarify types of grout.
- (2) Conformance to C494/C494M Type S for viscosity-modifying admixtures in self-consolidating grout was added to 3.1.5.1.
- (3) Additional information on C494/C494M Type S specification was added to Note 1.

- (4) Subsection 5.2.1.2 was revised to clarify the provisions for job site mixing of self-consolidating grout.
- (5) Note 4 was added to provide guidance on the use of the T₅₀ value for self-consolidating grout. Subsequent notes were renumbered accordingly.

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