MASONS
Designed Smart, Built Tough.

Weep Hole

Tutorial

Weep holes and vents are components of brick design intended to assist with drainage and airflow within the brick cavity. Masons Vents bring the benefits of a clean cavity, with a neat and tidy professional finish.

Ventilation is the process of replacing air in any space with the intention of improving air quality. For the brick cavity this means replacing moist air within the cavity with drier air from the outside. 'The Brick Vent' can be used in conjunction with any cladding system that requires a ventilated cavity, including, bricks, blocks, stone or plastered masonry veneer finish.

The Building Code E2/AS1 provides two acceptable methods for venting brick veneer:

- Vertical vents installed as per the weep hole instructions below; or
- Leaving a 5mm gap around the top of the veneer.

You can view these E2/AS1 requirements in Section 9.2.6(d) and Figure 73E here: E2/AS1 (part4).

Installation Brick Veneer

- Along the BASE - Install a weep hole of 80mm x 10mm every 800mm or alternatively 1 every 1000mm linear meter of wall.
- Along the TOP - Install weep holes in the second brick from the top. This ensures that the bond of the bricks on the top row is not weakened.
- Weep hole requirements also need to be met across the heads of doors, windows and openings.
- Vent holes are generally not required under window sills as air can move freely around the frame. Except where windows exceed 2.4m in length that 1 or 2 vent holes are evenly spaced under the sill.
- Any weep hole wider than 13mm requires vermin proofing.

Plastered or Painted Brick Veneer

Where a brick veneer is plastered or painted, there are less weep holes required.

Installation Plastered or Painted Brick Veneer

- Along the BASE - Install a weep hole every 1m or 500mm^2/linear meter of wall or alternatively 1 every 1600mm along the wall.
- Along the TOP - Vent holes are still required for plastered or painted veneer however designers should check with their local council as requirements vary. Install weep holes in the second brick from the top. This ensures that the bond of the bricks on the top row is not weakened.