

## THOMAS ARMSTRONG (CONCRETE BLOCKS)



# **INSULITE PREMIER**

Paint Grade Medium Density Blocks

Insulite Premier is a close-textured block whose smooth finish offers an ideal paint-grade finish. For unfinished, internal applications only, not for external use.

Insulite blocks are manufactured to BS EN 771-3 and are ISO 9001 Quality Assured, ISO 14001 Environmentally Certified and hold BES 6001 'Excellent'.

## **TECHNICAL PROPERTIES**

| Property                                 | Value  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Face Size (BS EN 771-3):                 | 440mm x 215mm                                    |  |
| Dimensional Tolerance (BS EN 772-16):    | Category D1                                      |  |
| Gross Dry Density (BS EN 772-13):        | 1450 - 1550 kg/m³                                |  |
| Mean Compressive Strength (BS EN 772-1): | 7.3, 10.4 N/mm²                                  |  |
| Manufacturing Category (BS EN 771-3):    | Category II                                      |  |
| Thermal Conductivity (BS EN 1745):       | 0.49 W/mK [inner leaf]<br>0.54 W/mK [outer leaf] |  |
| Moisture Movement (BS EN 772-14):        | < 0.6 mm/m                                       |  |
| Fire Resistance (BS EN 13501-1):         | Class A1 reaction to fire                        |  |
| Configuration (BS EN 1996-1-1):          | Solid - Group 1                                  |  |
| Available Texture, Finish:               | Premier paint-grade                              |  |

#### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

| Block Size<br>mm | <b>'R' Value</b><br>m²k/W | Walled<br>Weight<br>kg/m <sup>2</sup><br>See Note 1 | Sound<br>Reduction<br>Rw, dB<br>See Note 2 | Block<br>Weight<br>kg<br>See Note 3 | Fire<br>Resistance<br>Hours<br>See Note 4 |
|------------------|---------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------------|---|
| 75               | 0.18                      | 108   | 42   | 11.5                                | 2   |
| 90               | 0.21                      | 124   | 43   | 13.8                                | 3   |
| 100              | 0.24                      | 138   | 44   | 15.3                                | 4   |
| 140              | 0.33                      | 193   | 47   | 19.7                                | 4   |
| 190              | 0.45                      | 262   | 50   | 26.5                                | 4   |

1. Walled weight is for a single-leaf wall, plastered both sides.

2. Sound reduction R<sub>w</sub> values are based on wall assuming a plastered finish both sides.

 The block weights quoted above are approximate and include the typical additional weight from the moisture content.

4. Fire resistance periods to BS EN 1996-1-2 for a single-leaf, non-loadbearing plastered wall.



#### **APPLICATIONS**

- Manufactured to BS EN 771-3.
- Inner & outer leaf of external cavity walls. Not suitable for unfinished external applications.
- Internal partition walls.
- Acoustic separating party walls to Part E of the Building Regulations and Robust Details.
- Close-textured finish for internal painted applications; not suitable for unfinished fair-faced applications.
- Robust, accepts most standard fixings.

#### **PACK DETAILS**

| Block Size  | Blocks     | m² per       |
|-------------|------------|--------------|
| mm          | per pack   | pack         |
| 75          | 96         | 9.6          |
| 90          | 80         | 8.0          |
| 100         | 72 or 90   | 7.2 or 9.0   |
| (Void Pack) | (84 or 86) | (8.4 or 8.6) |
| 140         | 60         | 6.0          |
| (Void Pack) | (56)       | (5.6)        |
| 190         | 40         | 4.0          |

Pack details may vary slightly between manufacturing locations. Always check details with your nearest sales office.

#### Thermal

The table below shows examples of how cavity walls built with an Insulite Premier block inner leaf can meet a range of u-value targets. For specific calculations, please contact our technical department.

| U Value<br>W/m²K | Partially Filled Cavity<br>Brick outer leaf   50mm clear cavity<br>  plasterboard on dabs | Fully Filled Cavity<br>Brick outer leaf   Fully filled cavity<br>  plasterboard on dabs |  |
|------------------|---|---|--|
| 0.28             | 40mm PIR/PU @ 0.018<br>50mm PIR/PU @ 0.022  | 100mm batt @ 0.034  |  |
| 0.25             | 50mm PIR/PU @ 0.018<br>60mm PIR/PU @ 0.022  | 100mm batt @ 0.030<br>125mm batt @ 0.037  |  |
| 0.22             | 60mm PIR/PU @ 0.018<br>70mm PIR/PU @ 0.022  | 125mm batt @ 0.032  |  |
| 0.20             | 65mm PIR/PU @ 0.018<br>80mm PIR/PU @ 0.022  | 100mm batt @ 0.021  |  |
| 0.18             | 75mm PIR/PU @ 0.018<br>95mm PIR/PU @ 0.022  | 150mm batt @ 0.030  |  |
| 0.15             | 95mm PIR/PU @ 0.018<br>115mm PIR/PU @ 0.022   | 100mm batt @ 0.021 +<br>30mm insulated drylining  |  |

#### Acoustic

Insulite Premier blocks are suitable for use in acoustic separating party walls between dwellings and for internal partitions in accordance with Part E of the Building Regulations. They are also suitable for a range of Robust Standard Detail party walls. The figures below are predicted sound reduction ratings based on wall mass:

| Block<br>Thickness | Walled<br>Weight  | Predicted Sound Reduction, Rw |           |           |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| mm                 | kg/m <sup>2</sup> | Unfinished                    | Plastered | Dry Lined |
| 75                 | 108               | 42                            | 43        | 43        |
| 90                 | 124               | 43                            | 45        | 45        |
| 100                | 138               | 44                            | 46        | 46        |
| 140                | 193               | 47                            | 49        | 49        |

#### Painting

Insulite Premier blocks can be painted with water or solvent-based paints. Our recommendation for the most durable finish is a solvent-based masonry paint.

Newly built walls will be damp and should be left to dry out thoroughly before applying paint. Surfaces should be free of dust and debris, and the paint applied in two coats; the first coat being thinner and left to dry before the second coat is applied. Watered-down mist coats are not recommended.

#### **Fire Resistance**

Insulite Premier blocks are non-combustible with zero spread of flame and are classed as Class 'A1' in accordance with BS EN 13501-1. Notional fire resistance periods are:

| Block | Loadbea                 | Loadbearing Wall |           | Non-loadbearing Wall |  |
|-------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------|----------------------|--|
| mm    | nm No Finish VG Plaster |                  | No Finish | VG Plaster           |  |
| 90    | 1 hour                  | 2 hours          | 3 hours   | 3 hours              |  |
| 100   | 2 hours                 | 4 hours          | 4 hours   | 4 hours              |  |
| 140   | 3 hours                 | 4 hours          | 4 hours   | 4 hours              |  |

"VG" = vermiculite / gypsum plaster or pearlite plaster 13mm thick applied to both faces of single leaf walls.

#### Mortars

Insulite Premier blocks offer a good surface for accepting mortars and no pretreatment is required other than ensuring that all dirt and debris is removed. Generally, in order to avoid unsightly cracking, the weakest mortar mixture appropriate to the structural requirements should be selected as per BS 5628-3. For most applications, we recommend that grade iii mortar is used.

|              | BS 5628-3<br>Mortar Class | Recommended mix proportions of materials by volume<br>(as per BS 5628-3) |   |  |
|--------------|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| Above<br>dpc | iii                       | 1:1:5 to 6<br>1:5 to 6<br>1:4 to 5<br>1:3½ to 4                          | Cement : Lime : Sand<br>Cement : Sand<br>Masonry Cement : Sand (with non-lime filler)<br>Masonry Cement : Sand (with lime filler) |  |
|              | iii                       | A stronger (class ii) mix is preferred - see below                       |   |  |
| Below<br>dpc | ii                        | 1 : ½ : 4 to 4½<br>1 : 3 to 4<br>1 : 2½ to 3½<br>1 : 3½ to 4             | Cement : Lime : Sand<br>Cement : Sand<br>Masonry Cement : Sand (with non-lime filler)<br>Masonry Cement : Sand (with lime filler) |  |

#### **External Rendering**

Insulite standard texture blocks are the preferred Insulite grade for rendering. For rendering Insulite Premier blocks the mortar joints should be raked back and a spatterdash or stipple coat of cement:sand slurry should be applied and left to cure before rendering. This increases the mechanical surface key for adhesion of the render. Please refer to our website for further details.

#### Wall Ties & Movement Joints

Generally under normal conditions, wall ties should be embedded 50mm into the mortar on each leaf, staggered in alternate courses and spaced in accordance with the following:

| Leaf<br>Thickness<br><sup>mm</sup> | Cavity<br>Width<br><sup>mm</sup> | Horizontal<br>Spacing<br><sup>mm</sup> | Vertical<br>Spacing<br><sup>mm</sup> | Ties per m² |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Less than 90mm                     | 50 - 75                          | 450                                    | 450                                  | 4.9         |
| Over 90mm                          | 50 - 150                         | 900                                    | 450                                  | 2.5         |

For unreinforced masonry panels, the typical recommended spacing between vertical movement joints is as follows:

Internal Walls: 8m – 12m External Walls: 6m – 9m

#### **Good Site Practice & Safe Handling**

- Packs should be stored on firm, level ground no more than 2 packs high and protected from severe weather to preserve their quality. Care must be taken when removing the plastic bands as individual blocks may fall out. Never un-band packs above shoulder height.
- In the absence of a revised version of the HSE guidance given in their withdrawn Construction Sheet 37 'Handling Building Blocks' the following principles should be followed: There is a risk of injury in the repetitive handling of blocks heavier than 20kg. Repetitive manual handling of blocks over 20kg should be subject to a risk assessment and a safe system of work should be established before block-laying commences.
- Blocks should not be laid if the temperature is at or below  $3\,^{\rm o}\!C$  and falling.
- Blocks should always be laid on a full bed of mortar and vertical joints filled.
- Do not wet the blocks before laying. Where necessary, adjust the consistency of the mortar to suit the suction of the block.



Product details and availability may vary between manufacturing locations. Please contact your nearest regional sales office for sales, product and technical advice.

North East Region : Cumbria, North Lancashire and Borders Region : Yorkshire, Humber and Lincolnshire Region : North West, Cheshire, Saffordshire and West Midlands Region :

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