



CONTRACTOR'S ALERT – 2023.12

2022 CBC Cleanout Requirements



2022 CALIFORNIA BUILDING CODE (CBC)

The primary purpose of a cleanout is to provide a convenient way to access, clean and inspect the interior of a masonry structure.

2022 CBC Section 2104.1 specifies masonry construction to comply with TMS 602 which requires the following:

TMS 602, Article 3.2 F Cleanouts — Provide cleanouts in the bottom course of masonry for each grout pour when the grout pour height exceeds 5 ft 4 in. (1.63 m).

OSHPD 1R, 2B & 5, 2022 CBC Section 2104.2.4.2.e requires:

2. Grout pours in excess of 4 feet (1219 mm) or 5 feet 4 inches (1651 mm) for 10-inch (254 mm) nominal or wider hollow unit masonry shall be subject to approval of the enforcement agency.
- e. Cleanout openings shall be provided at the bottom of each pour of grout.

DSA and OSHPD, 2022 CBC Section 2104A.1.3.5.3.e requires:

3. Grout pours in excess of 4 feet (1219 mm) or 5 feet 4 inches (1651 mm) for 10-inch (254 mm) nominal or wider hollow unit masonry shall be subject to the following:
- e. Cleanout openings shall be provided at the bottom of each pour of grout.

Note: A 'Grout Pour' is defined as the total height of wall to be grouted prior to the erection of additional masonry. A 'Grout Lift' is the height of grout placed in one continuous operation.

For exposed areas it may be beneficial to remove face shells for cleanout as it allows for cleaner look of the exposed wall. In closely spaced vertical rebar cases one option for access is to install inverted bond beam at first course, thus allowing complete access to the adjacent cells when cleanout spacing exceeds rebar spacing.

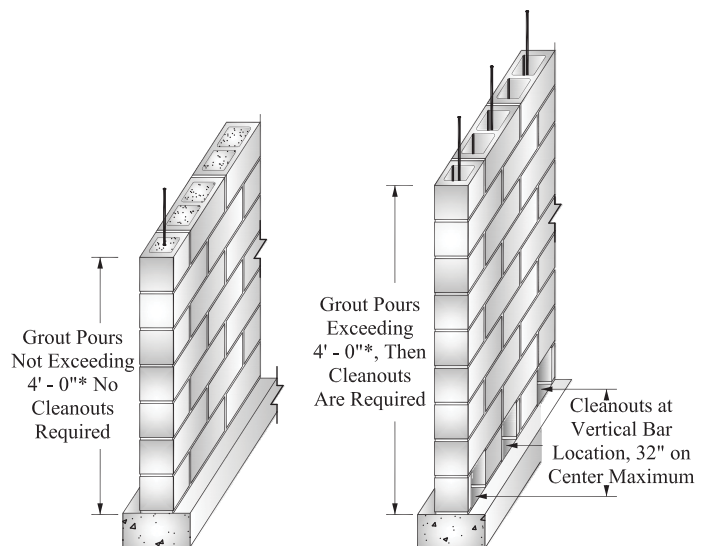
When cleanouts are provided, grout space at bottom of wall may be covered with a layer of loose sand during construction to prevent mortar droppings from sticking to the foundations.

GROUT SPACE REQUIREMENTS

Grout type ¹	Maximum grout pour height, ft	Minimum clear width of grout space, ^{2,3,5} in.	Minimum clear grout space dimensions for grouting cells of hollow units, ^{3,4} in. x in.	Cleanouts Required
Fine	1	$\frac{3}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2} \times 2$	No
Fine	4*	2	2×3	No
Fine	12.67	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$2\frac{1}{2} \times 3$	Yes
Fine	24	3	3×3	Yes
Coarse	1	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2} \times 3$	No
Coarse	4*	2	$2\frac{1}{2} \times 3$	No
Coarse	12.67	$2\frac{1}{2}$	3×3	Yes
Coarse	24	3	3×4	Yes

* May be increased to 5.33 ft when 10 in. or wider hollow units are used.

1. Fine and coarse grouts are defined in ASTM C476.
2. For grouting between masonry wythes.
3. Minimum clear width of grout space and minimum clear grout space dimension are the net dimension of the space determined by subtracting masonry protrusions and the diameters of horizontal bars from the as-built cross-section of the grout space. Select the grout type and maximum grout pour height based on the minimum clear space.
4. Minimum grout space dimension for AAC masonry units shall be 3 in. x 3 in. or a 3 in. diameter cell.
5. CBC Chapter 21A, Section 2104A.1.3.10.6 requires $2\frac{1}{2}$ " minimum clear width of grout for pours not exceeding 4 ft, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ " minimum for pours exceeding 4 ft.



*5' - 4" permitted for 10 in. or wider hollow unit masonry



MASONRY INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA
www.masonryinstitute.org



CONCRETE MASONRY
ASSOCIATION OF CA & NV
www.cmacn.org