

**AGGREGATE**

The crushed stone or alternative substance contained in concrete.

**AIR BRICK**

Ventilation built into brickwork to provide ventilation through the wall.

**ANT CAPPING**

Termite barrier (shield), usually of galvanised iron, placed over piers and dwarf walls to control the entry of termites.

**APEX**

The highest point of a gable.

**ARCHITRAVE**

A moulded section covering the joint between window and door frames and the wall lining.

**AUSTRALIAN STANDARD**

Approved standard for material, equipment, technique or procedure as set down by the Standards Association of Australia (SAA).

**BACKFILL**

To fill the earth, any remaining space after placing concrete, brickwork, timber, pipes etc in an excavation.

**BAGGING**

A masonry process in which thin mortar is applied to the face of the work with some coarse material.

**BALUSTRADE**

A series of balusters supporting stair handrail, landing, platform or bridge. They are also used as the collective name for the entire framed enclosure guarding the side of a stair, landing or platform.

**BALUSTER**

A small post, often turned or decorated, used to support a handrail or fill the space below a handrail.

**BARGE BOARD**

The board covering the roof timbers on the gable or skillion end of a roof, fixed parallel to the roof slope.

**BATTER**

The slope of a wall of buttress built at an inclination to the vertical plane.

**BAY WINDOW**

A window of varying shapes, projecting outward from the wall of a building, forming a recess in a room.

**BEAD**

A moulding, generally of small size in cross section.

**BEAM**

A horizontal load-bearing structural member.

**BEARER**

A member of floor framing, spanning piers and supporting joists.

**BEVEL**

An angle formed between two straight lines meeting at an angle other than 90°.

**BIRDSMOUTH**

A notch cut out of roof rafters to secure a firm bearing on top plates.

**BIT**

An interchangeable cutting tool inserted into chuck of drilling machine.

**BOND**

Pattern for laying bricks so that none of the perpends are in line in adjacent courses.

**BORERS**

Several species of insects and larvae that tunnel into timber.

**BOX GUTTER**

A gutter often with both sides built along the roof slope. Used in valleys or behind parapets.

**BRICKS****Common**

Blocks of material moulded from clay or cement used for building or paving purposes. Usually bricks burnt in continuous kilns; used in general work.

**Face**

Best quality bricks used for face or external work, or for other special work.

**BRICK CONSTRUCTION**

A construction where the external and internal walls are built of brick.

**BOWING**

Deformation of timber at right angles to its face.

**BUILDING BY-LAWS**

Regulations by which local authorities control building construction. No new building work or alteration of existing structures may be carried out unless these regulations are observed

## **BUILDING LINE**

A line established by the local council which is the minimum distance that must be maintained from the building to the street boundary.

## **BUILDING TRADES**

All trades which have a part in the construction of a building (eg carpentry, masonry, painting, plumbing, electricity, heating).

## **CAMBER**

A convexity (curve) upon an upper surface (eg beam, bridge, lintel).

## **CANTILEVER**

A projecting beam supported at one end, or a large bracket for supporting a balcony or cornice. Two bracket like arms projecting toward each other from opposite piers or banks to form the span of a bridge making what is known as a cantilever bridge.

## **CAPPING**

The uppermost part on top of a piece of work.

## **CARPENTRY**

Trade of preparing, cutting and fixing timber in building construction.

## **CAST IN-SITU**

Concrete cast or poured in its permanent position in prepared forms (eg concrete steps, hearth slabs, floors, beams, lintels).

## **CAVITY WALL**

A hollow wall, usually consisting of two brick walls erected 40 to 50mm apart and joined together with ties of metal.

## **CEILING**

### **Height**

The overhead internal lining of a room. The height of a room measured from floor surface to ceiling, or, where there is no ceiling, to the underside of the rafters.

### **Joist**

A structural member which binds the wall and roof framing together and carries the mass of the ceiling sheeting.

## **CHALK LINE**

Length of string thoroughly coated with chalk dust, used to strike a straight guide line on a material. Line which is made with a chalking line.

## **CHAMFER**

To take off the edge of any material to a small depth at an angle of about 45°.

## **CHASE**

A rough groove or recess cut into a masonry wall for water pipes, conduit i.e. electrics.

## **CLADDING**

Any material used to face a building or structure.

## **COLUMN**

Free standing vertical load bearing member

## **CONSTRUCTION**

The process of assembling materials and erecting a structure. The medium in which a building is built (eg wood, steel or masonry).

## **CORNICE**

Externally - overhanging moulding at the top of a wall to deflect dripping. Internally - plastered moulding covering the joint between the wall and ceiling

## **COURSE**

A single row or layer of bricks.

## **CRAZING**

Fine cracks that may occur on plastered or rendered surface.

## **CROSS BRACE**

Any crosspiece which diverts, transmits, or resists the pressure of a load.

## **CROSS CUTTING**

Cutting timber across the grain.

## **CURING**

Treatment of concrete or cement rendering to facilitate hardening

## **DADO**

Finishing of the lower part of an interior wall from skirting to waist height, usually in a darker colour than the rest of the wall

## **DAMP PROOF COURSE (DPC)**

A barrier, usually physical, built into masonry to prevent moisture migrating up from the ground or down from above, eg chimneys, parapets.

## **DATUM**

A predetermined level on a site from which all other levels are established.

## **DORMER**

Vertical window through a sloping roof, usually provided with its own pitched roof

## DOOR(s)

### Flush

A smooth-faced door.

### Hollow core

A door with infill of expanded cardboard.

### Solid core

A door with blockboard fill

## DOOR FRAME

A frame into which a door is fitted.

## DOOR HEAD

The upper part of the frame of a door.

## DOOR JAMBS

The two vertical members of a door frame.

## DOOR LEAVES

In wide openings, a door may be made up into two or more individual sections or "leaves", which are hinged together.

## DOWEL

A wood or metal pin used to strengthen a joint by its insertion partly into each of the joined pieces.

## DRESSED

Timber that has passed through a planing machine to produce smooth surfaces.

## DUMPY LEVEL

An optical levelling instrument.

## EAVE

The lower part of a roof that overhangs the walls.

## EFFLORESCENCE

A white or coloured powder sometimes formed on the surface of masonry by deposit of soluble salts

## ELEVATION

A geometrical drawing of a facade of a building

## END MATCHING

Milled tongue and groove on the ends of flooring boards

## ENGINEER

A professionally qualified person, who when associated with building and planning, designs, supervises and manages Civil, Structural and Services components of projects.

## EXPANSION JOINT

A joint in a building to permit thermal movement or creep

## EXPANSION STRIP

A soft, resilient material used to fill the void provided for the expansion and contraction of any two adjacent substances

## FANLIGHT

Glazed opening over the door but within the doorframe

## FASCIA

A board fixed horizontally to the lower ends of the rafters, to which guttering may be fixed. Also forms the outside board of a boxed eave

## FLASHING

A strip of impervious material used to prevent the ingress of water between two surfaces

## FOOTING

The construction whereby the weight of the structure is transferred from the base structure to the foundation

## FOUNDATION

The ground upon which the footings of a building are constructed

## FRETWORK

Wood cut into decorative patterns (with a fret or jigsaw)

## GABLE

The triangular end of a house formed at the end of a pitched roof, from eaves level to apex

## GRAIN

Description of direction of growth of wood

## GROUND LINE

The ground level or natural grade line

## HEADER

A brick laid with its short end to the face of the wall

## JOINERY

Doors, windows, cupboards, manufactured in a joiner's shop

## KEYING

**Carpentry:** timber or metal wedges used across or between two or more members to act as a tightening agent.

**Plastering:** the roughening of a surface to form a bond for subsequent work

## LINING

Internal covering to walls of framed construction

## **MASONRY**

Brick, concrete, stone, artificial stone or terra cotta laid in mortar.

## **MILLED**

Timber that has passed through a moulding machine and is of a specific profile.

## **MITRE**

Half the angle of a joint.

## **MOISTURE BARRIER**

Material which is used to retard the flow of vapour or moisture into floor or walls.

## **MORTAR**

A composition of lime and/or cement and sand mixed with water in various proportions.

## **MULLION**

Vertical dividing member of a frame between door or window lights.

## **NEWELS**

Posts placed at top and bottom of flights of stairs to secure handrails, strings.

## **NON-LOAD-BEARING PARTITION OR NON-LOAD-BEARING WALL**

One which supports no vertical load except that of its own weight and merely defines spaces.

## **OVERFLASHING**

The flashing which is built into the wall surface and sits over the upturned apron flashing.

## **PANE**

Single piece of glass in a window or door.

## **PARAPET**

Low wall at the edge of a roof, balcony, bridge or terrace.

## **PARTICLEBOARD (MDF)**

A manufactured material formed by bonding together flakes of wood and pressing them into a dense sheet.

## **PARTY WALL**

The wall between two adjoining buildings but common to and used to advantage of both buildings.

## **PERPENDS**

The vertical joints in a masonry wall.

## **PIER**

A vertical member of base structure.

## **PITCH**

The angle of inclination to the horizontal of a roof or stair.

## **PLASTERBOARD**

A rigid insulating board made of plastering material covered on both sides with heavy paper.

## **PLY OR PLYWOOD**

Two or more thin sheets of wood glued together, with the grain of adjacent layers usually at right angles to each other to form a sheet.

## **POINTING**

Raking out mortar joints and pressing into them a surface mortar to finish a masonry wall.

## **PRE-CAST CONCRETE**

Concrete manufactured away from its ultimate location.

## **PVC (POLYVINYL CHLORIDE)**

A widely used plastic - the main uses include water pipes, waste pipes and floor covering.

## **QUAD**

Moulding having a profile of a quarter of a circle.

## **QUOINS**

Dressed stones at the corners of buildings, usually laid so that their faces are alternately large and small. Originates from the French word 'coin' (corner).

## **RAFTER**

One of the sloping pieces of timber forming the roof framework and supporting the roof covering.

## **REBATE**

A step-shaped reduction cut along an edge or face or projecting angle of wood.

## **RETAINING WALL**

Any wall subjected to lateral pressure other than wind pressure and built to retain material.

## **REVEAL**

The thickness of wall from the wall face to the door or window frame. The remainder of the thickness of wall is known as the 'jamb'.

## **ROOF**

### **GABLE ROOF**

A roof shape consisting of two sloping surfaces.

### **HIPPED ROOF**

A roof with an end roughly pyramidal in shape, with surfaces sloping upwards from all three eaves.

### **SKILLION**

A roof shape consisting of a single sloping surface.

**RAFTER (COMMON)**

In roof construction, a timber framing member providing the principal support for the roofing material

**RIDGE**

The horizontal member at the highest point of a roof where the common rafters meet.

**ROOF PITCH**

The angle formed between a sloping roof surface and a horizontal line.

**ROOF TRUSS**

A frame designed to carry the loads of a roof and its covering over the full span without intermediate support.

**SARKING**

A covering of water-proof building paper beneath the external roof covering.

**VALLEY**

The internal angle formed by two inclined slopes of a roof of an internal corner.

**ROUGH SAWN**

Timber direct from the saw.

**S- TRAP**

A trap in which the outlet leg is vertical and parallel with the inlet leg.

**SARKING**

Pliable, water-resistant membrane located beneath the roof covering or external wall cladding to collect and discharge water that may penetrate. often combined with reflective foil to provide thermal insulation benefits.

**SILL**

The horizontal member at the bottom of a window frame.

**SKIRTING**

Moulding to cover the joint between floor and wall flooring.

**SOLID PLASTER**

Solid plasterers apply material of a mortar like consistency (usually made of cement mixed with sand and water) covering rough walls of a building to produce a smooth finish.

**SPAN**

Face to face distance between points of support for loadbearing structural members.

**SPLICE JOINT**

Joint used to extend timber in length.

**STIRRUPS**

In reinforced concrete beams, vertical or inclined rods to resist shear stress.

**STUD**

Vertical member in wall framing.

**SUSPENDED CEILINGS**

A ceiling which is suspended from and is not in direct contact with the floor or roof construction above and generally used to conceal services.

**TEMPLATE**

A guide for forming work to be done.

**THRESHOLD**

Step or sill of timber or other material at the foot of an external door.

**TRENCH**

In joinery, a groove. In drainage and plumbing, the excavation in which pipes are laid. In foundations, the excavation in which footings are placed.

**UNDERPINNING**

The construction of new footings and walling under the footings of an existing structure which have failed or may fail.

**WALL PLATE**

Timber laid longitudinally on top of the wall where ends of rafters are placed.

**WALL TIE**

A steel wire tying brickwork to timber frame.

**WATERPROOF**

Materials and construction which will prevent water from passing through walls and joints.

**WEDGES , Folding (Fox Wedges)**

Timber wedges used in pairs for lifting and tightening. In Australia commonly called 'fox-wedges'.

**WEEP HOLES**

Openings sometimes left in the perpend of a brickwork course over flashings, and at the bottom of wall cavities for drainage purposes.

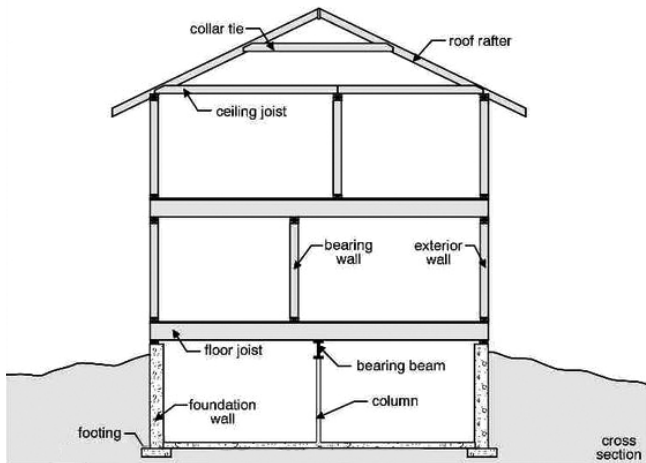
**WIND BRACE**

A structural member, either a tie or a strut, used to resist lateral wind loads.

**WIND LOAD**

The estimated pressure or force exerted upon a structure by the wind, which must be provided for in the design of the structure.

## Overview of house structure



## Sloped roof shapes

