



Unit 005: Constructing Half Brick Walling

005: Constructing Half Brick Walling



6219-06 EL3/L1 Construction Skills



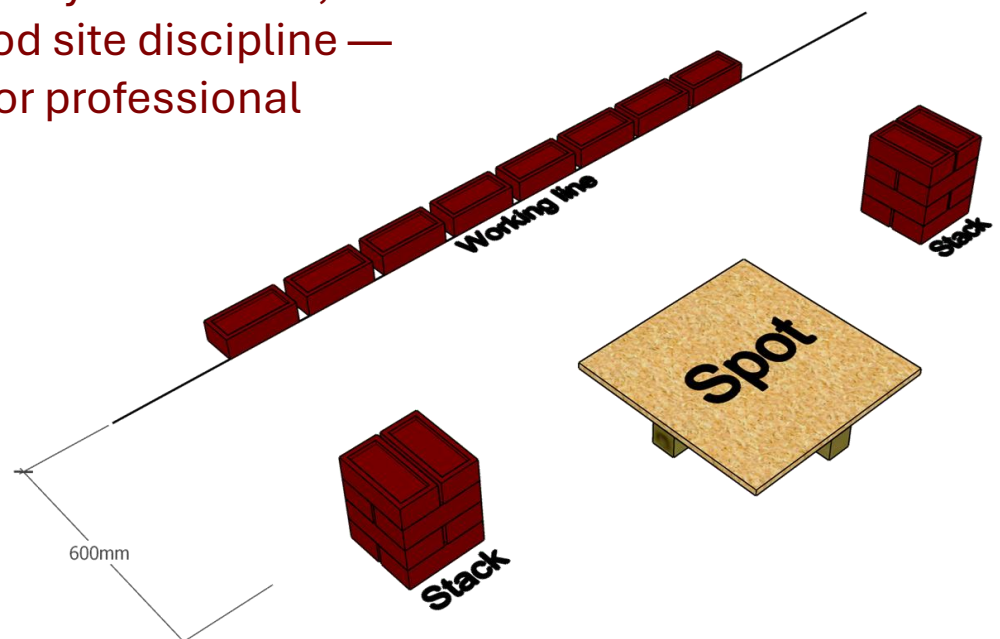
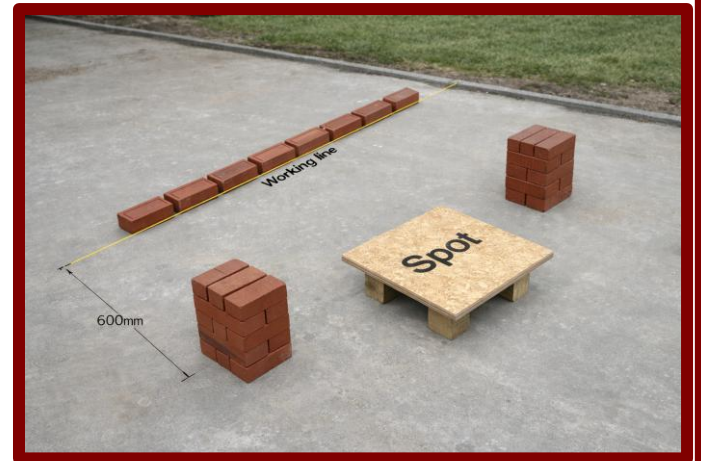
**City &
Guilds**

James Rix

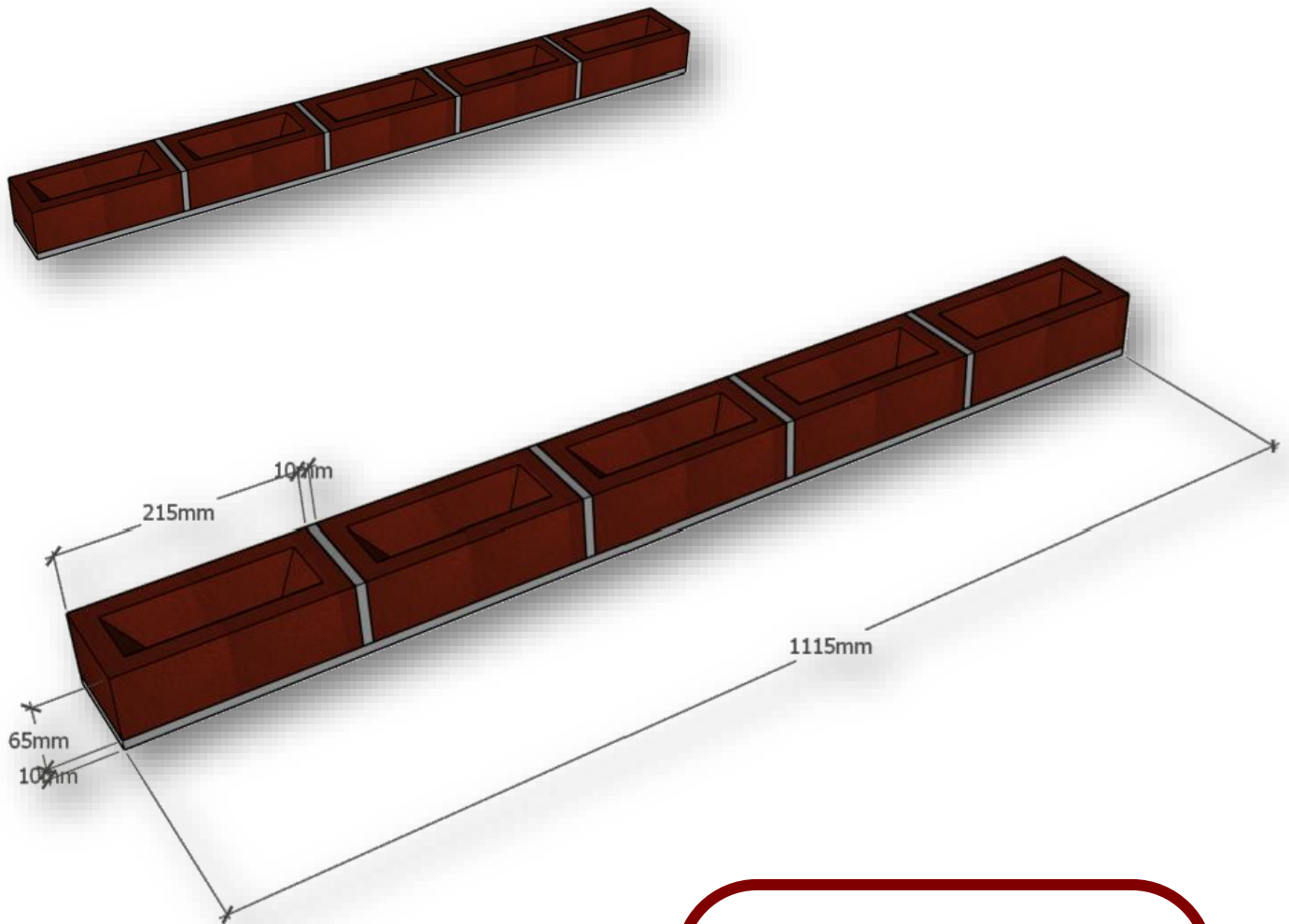
Setting up the work area.



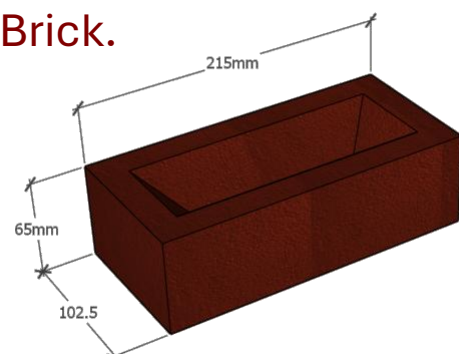
Setting out your work area is a crucial first step before beginning any bricklaying task. The aim is to create an organised, safe, and efficient workspace that supports accuracy and productivity. Start by positioning your spot board centrally, ensuring it's stable and at a comfortable working height for applying mortar. Place your brick stacks on either side of the spot board, close enough for easy reach but far enough to maintain a clear working space. Establish a working line 600 mm from the spot board to define the build area and guide alignment. This setup helps maintain consistent spacing, reduces unnecessary movement, and promotes good site discipline — essential habits for professional bricklayers.



Task 1: 5 in a Row.



Common Brick.



Objective:

Students must demonstrate the correct procedure for laying five bricks in a straight line, ensuring the work is level, plumb, and aligned to the working line.

Task 1: 5 in a Row.



Instructions:

1. Prepare your work area with a clean spot board, brick stacks, and a taut line set to the correct height.
2. Apply an even bed of mortar along the base using your trowel.
3. Lay five bricks in sequence, maintaining consistent joint thickness (approximately 10 mm).
4. Use a spirit level to check each brick for level and plumb as you progress.
5. Adjust as necessary by tapping lightly with the handle of your trowel.
6. Once complete, check the entire row for alignment along the working line and uniformity of joints.



Achieved

Yes

No

Mortar joints consistent and neatly finished.
(Approx 10mm)

Wall level horizontally and plumb vertically.

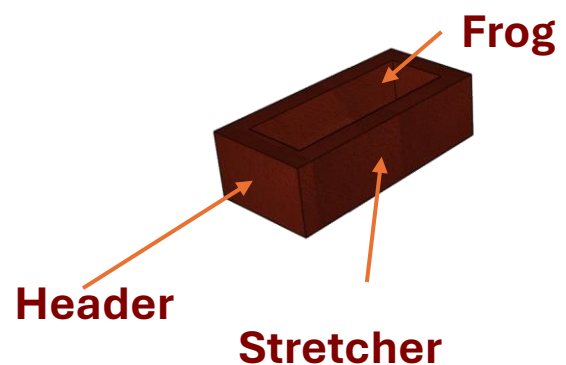
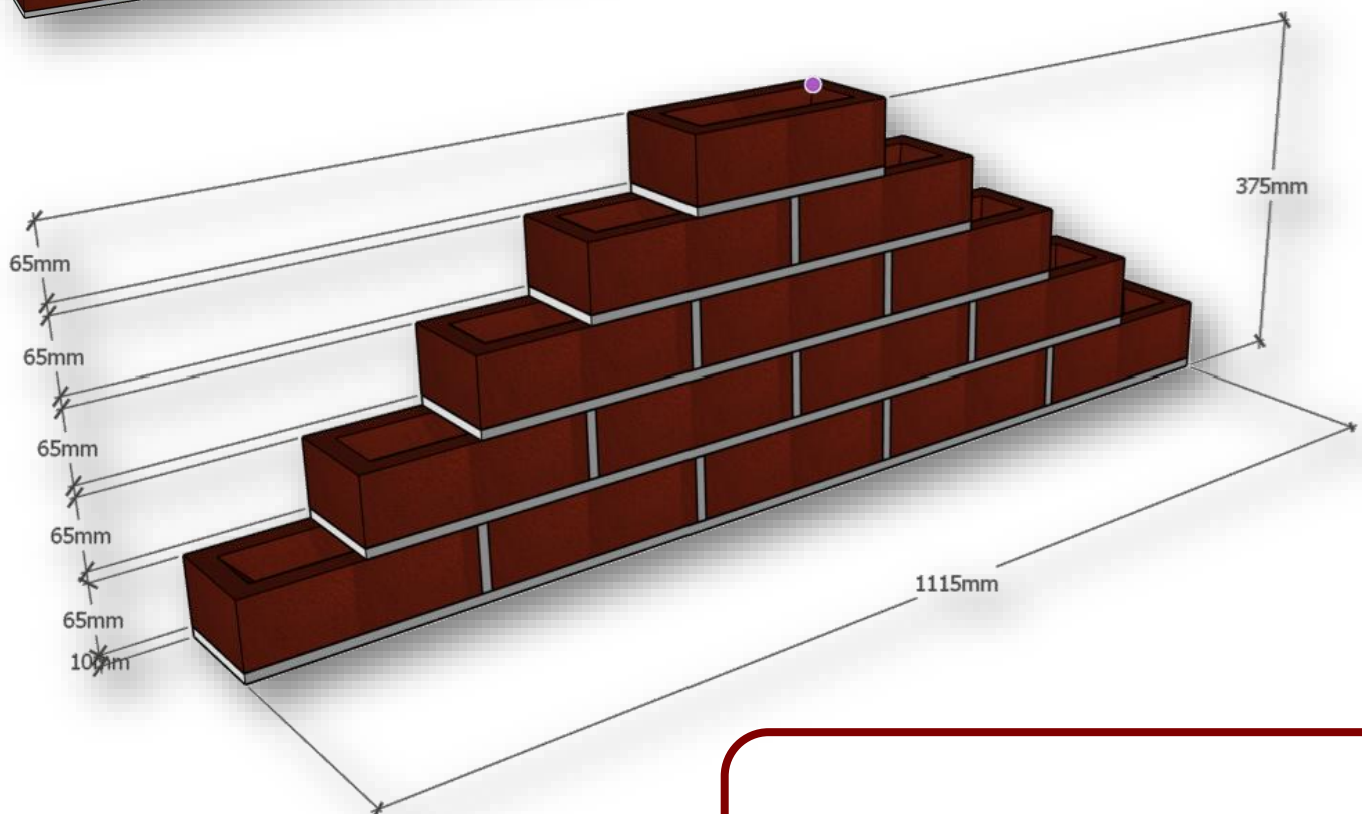
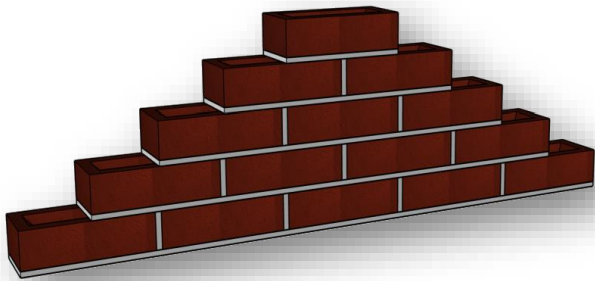
Safe and tidy working practice maintained throughout.

Tutor Feedback.

Tutor Signature

Date

Task 2: Pyramid.



Objective:

Students must continue from Task 1 and construct a stepped pyramid wall using the same working line and setup. This task develops precision in bonding, alignment, and vertical accuracy.

Task 2: Pyramid.

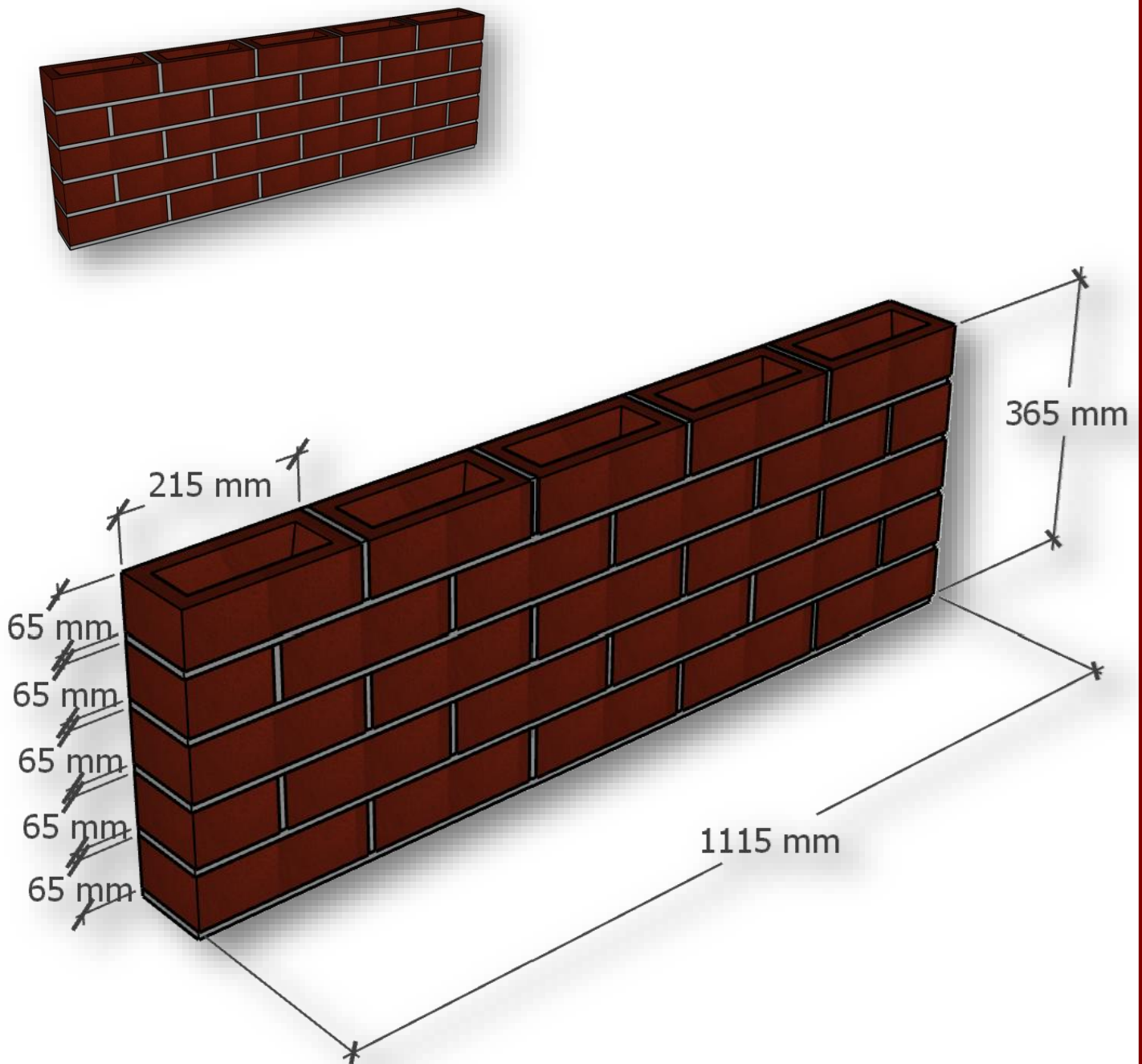


Instructions:

1. Begin directly from your completed Task 1 wall.
2. Lay each successive course with one brick fewer than the course below, ensuring the structure forms a symmetrical pyramid shape.
3. Maintain consistent mortar joints (approximately 10 mm) and ensure each brick is level and plumb.
4. Use a spirit level and line to check alignment after every course.
5. Keep the work area tidy and mortar joints neatly finished.

Dimensional Accuracy. Any task over the specified tolerance must be repeated.	Achieved	
	Yes	No
Pyramid shape correctly formed with even reduction per course.		
Bricks laid straight, level, and plumb.		
Mortar joints uniform and clean. (Approx 10mm)		
Safe and tidy working practice maintained throughout.		
Tutor Feedback.		
Tutor Signature	Date	

Task 3: Small Wall.



Objective:

Students must continue from Task 2 and complete the wall in full, ensuring all courses are level, plumb, and correctly bonded as shown in the reference image. This task demonstrates accuracy, consistency, and finishing technique.

Task 3: 5 Small Wall.

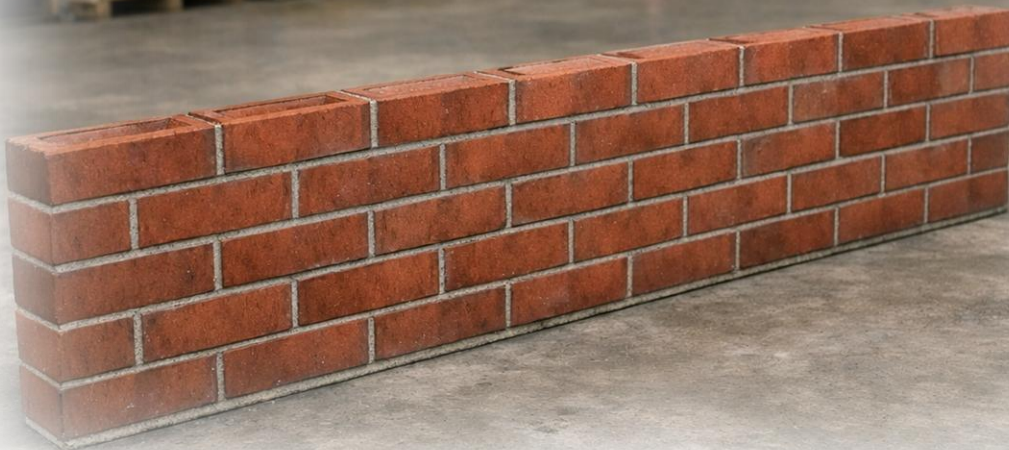


Instructions:

1. Begin from your existing pyramid section and extend the wall to full height and length.
2. Maintain the running bond pattern with uniform 10 mm mortar joints.
3. Use a spirit level to check each course for level and plumb.
4. Keep the working line tight and ensure all vertical joints are aligned correctly.
5. Finish the top course neatly, removing excess mortar and cleaning the face of the bricks.

Dimensional Accuracy. Any task over the specified tolerance must be repeated.	Achieved	
	Yes	No
Tutor Feedback.		
Tutor Signature	Date	

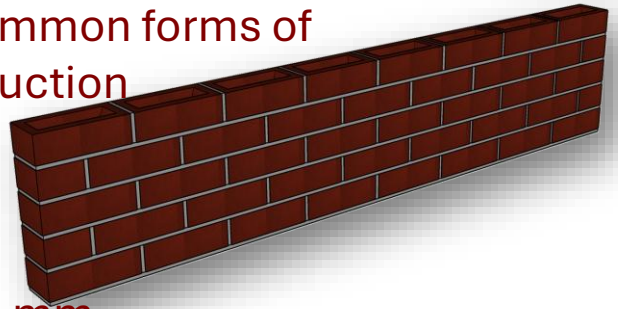
Practical Assessment



Half Brick Walling.



A half-brick wall is one of the most common forms of brickwork used in training and construction practice. It is built with bricks laid lengthways so that the wall's thickness equals half the length of a standard brick—approximately 102.5 mm.



This type of wall is ideal for non-load-bearing partitions, garden walls, or decorative features, as it provides a neat appearance while using fewer materials than a full-brick wall. When constructing a half-brick wall, maintaining consistent joint thickness (around 10 mm) and ensuring each course is level and plumb are essential for structural integrity and visual accuracy. The running bond pattern, where each brick overlaps the one below by half its length, helps distribute weight evenly and prevents vertical joints from aligning, giving the wall strength and stability despite its reduced thickness.

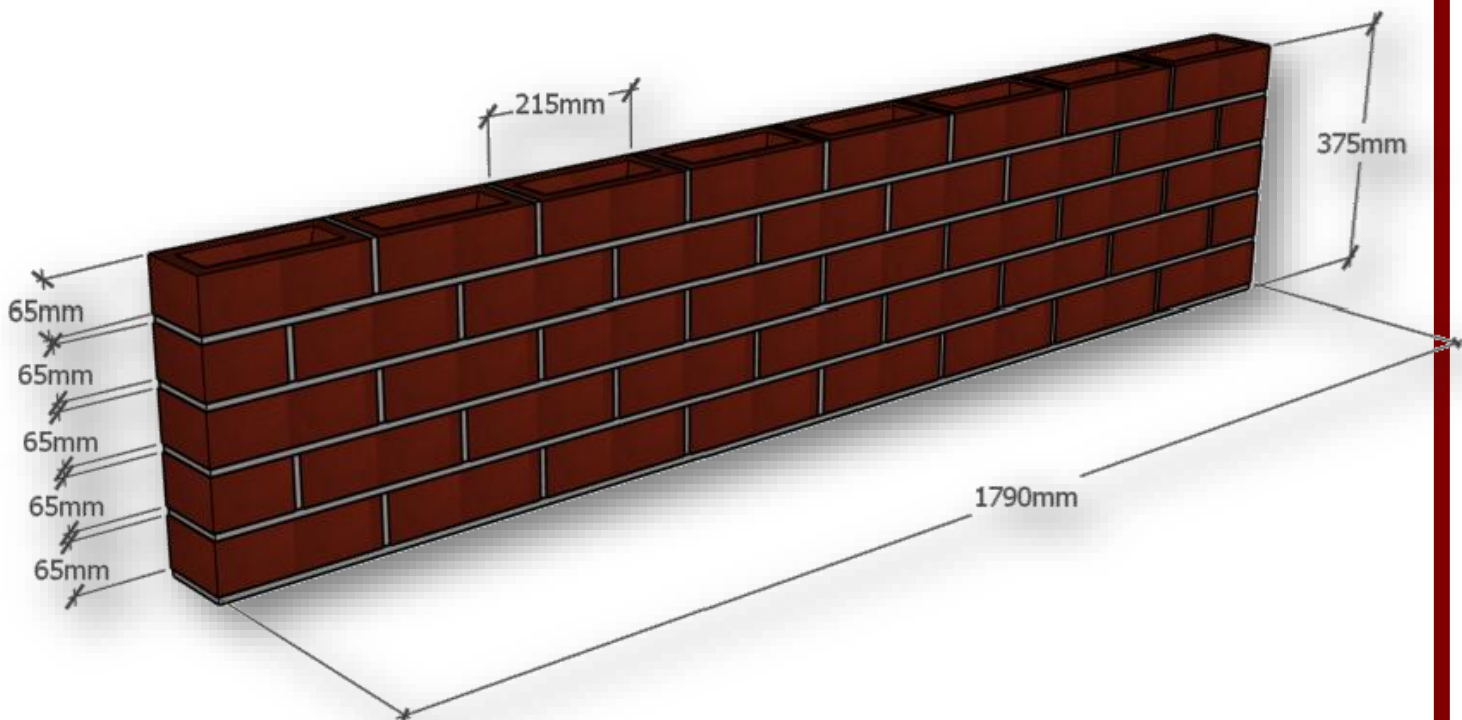


Fig 1.

Front Elevation

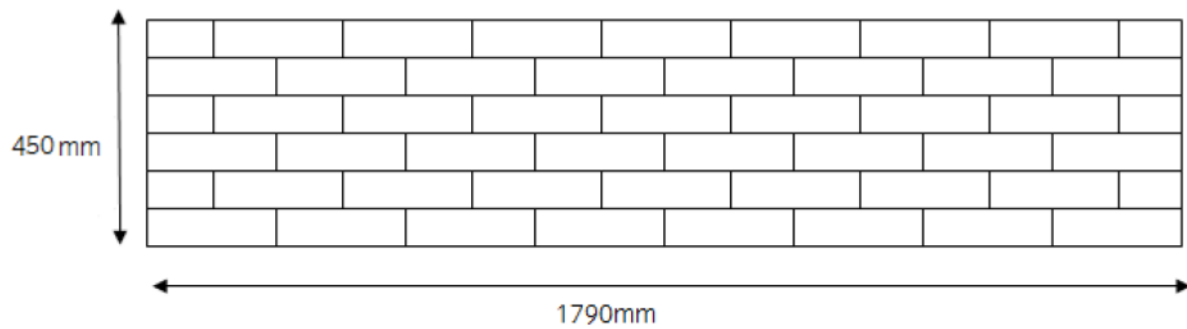
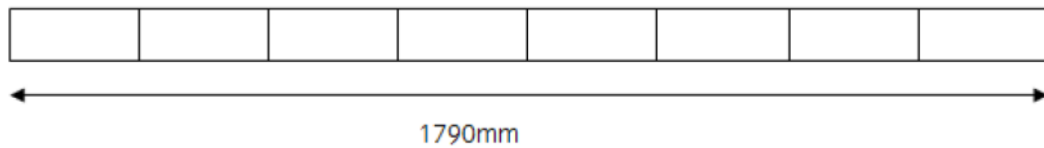


Fig 2.



Plan of first course

Candidate name _____

Assessor name _____

Centre name _____

To pass the assignment, candidates are required to complete each task to the minimum standard indicated below.

The candidate has:		Pass	Merit	Distinction
identified and used the personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate to building a half brick thick wall		☐		
identified selected and used the materials required to build a half brick thick wall		☐		
identified selected and used the tools and equipment required to build a half brick thick wall		☐		
measured and set up profiles to a given specification		☐		
dry bonded the brickwork		☐		
calculated the correct number of bricks required		☐		
set up a mortar board and stacked the bricks		☐		
demonstrated safe setup of the work area		☐		
built half brick thick wall to the specifications provided and within the following tolerances:				
• setting out	+/- 40mm in 1790mm	☐		
• level	+/- 40mm in 1790mm	☐		
• cross joints	10mm +/- 8mm	☐		
• range measured diagonally	+/- 40mm	☐		
maintained a clean and safe working area and has followed health and safety guidelines		☐		
cleared work area of surplus materials and debris on completion of the job		☐		
cleaned all tools and equipment ready for re-use		☐		
correctly answered question (refer to Assessor Guide)		☐		

Assignment passed? Yes/No

Assessor signature _____

Date _____

