

Reclaimed Clay Brick

Applies to all reclaimed products
Doc TDS-R-1 | Revised 29 August 2026

Genuine salvaged brick. Real brick reclaimed from demolished buildings, not new brick made to look old. Supplied as full brick, as thin wall veneer, and as 1 in. floor veneer, all cut from salvaged face brick. No ASTM product standard exists for salvaged masonry units; acceptance is by approved sample and by testing of the salvage lot supplied.

Product Identity

Material	Reclaimed clay brick, salvaged from demolished structures
Origin	Varies by product. See Products in This Line below.
Forming	Molded, rather than extruded, characteristic of the period the material comes from. This accounts for the softer arrises, surface irregularity and sand texture.
Product standard	None. ASTM publishes no product standard for salvaged masonry units, so no ASTM compliance is claimed and none should be assumed.
Basis of acceptance	Approved sample of not less than ten units showing the full range of the lot, together with lot testing where required for the application
Back face	Fresh saw cut
Sizes offered	See Sizes and Coverage below

Regional Character

The city in the product name is a sourcing statement, not a style label. Clay and shale differ from one part of the country to another, and those differences carried through to the fired brick, so salvage from one region does not look like salvage from another. A New York used brick and a Chicago used brick are recognizably different materials. When a client describes the used brick they have in mind, they are usually describing the brick of the region they know.

Products in This Line

PRODUCT	REGION OF ORIGIN	COLOUR RANGE	FORMATS OFFERED	RECOMMENDED OVERAGE
Brick It New York Used®	New York	Multicolour, tan, brown, brick red, terracotta	Wall veneer MOD and CLO; floor paver; full brick cube	10 %
Chicago Used	Chicago	Multicolour, peach, coral, rose	Wall veneer MOD and CLO; floor paver	10 %
Milwaukee Used	Milwaukee	Multicolour, tan, buff	Wall veneer MOD and CLO; floor paver	13 %
St. Louis Used	St. Louis	Multicolour, brick red	Wall veneer MOD and CLO; floor paver	10 %

Everything in this data sheet applies to every product listed above. The products differ in region of origin, colour and character. They do not differ in the standard they are supplied against, in the basis of acceptance, or in the handling and installation requirements, because reclaimed brick carries no certified per-product properties. Where a project requires physical property data, the lot supplied is tested and the report is furnished for that lot.

Sizes and Coverage

SIZE	FACE DIMENSION, H × L	THICKNESS	UNITS PER SF •	PER BOX	SF PER BOX •	CORNER UNITS PER LF •
Modular (MOD)	2 1/4 in. × 7 5/8 in.	3/4 in.	6.86	40 units, 34.0 lb	5.83	4.6
Closure / Econo (CLO)	3 5/8 in. × 7 5/8 in.	3/4 in.	4.50	20 units, 39.2 lb	4.44	3.0
Paver (PAV) floor veneer	3 5/8 in. × 7 5/8 in.	1 in.	4.50	[] units, [] lb	[]	—
Full brick cube (New York Used only)	2 1/4 in. × 7 5/8 in.	3 5/8 in.	6.86	504 units, 2,318 lb	—	—

- Calculated from the face dimension and a 3/8 in. joint. Box quantities and weights are as recorded in the product system, captured 19 August 2026; confirm before quoting. Corner units and edge caps are supplied in the wall veneer sizes. The floor paver shares the face dimension of the CLO wall unit and is distinguished from it by thickness, 1 in. against 3/4 in.; confirm which is intended when ordering. Paver box quantity and weight are not yet recorded and are shown as blanks rather than estimated. Reclaimed units vary dimensionally more than new brick, so treat coverage as an estimate and order the overage stated for the product above.
- Calculated from the face dimension and a 3/8 in. joint, and from the unit weight of the size. Reclaimed units vary dimensionally more than new brick, so treat coverage as an estimate and order overage as stated under Ordering. Packaging quantity: [] units / [] SF per box.

Physical Properties, Lot Tested

Where the application requires it, the salvage lot supplied is tested in accordance with ASTM C67/C67M and a dated Lot Test Report is furnished with the shipment. Request lot testing at the time of order; it is performed at the purchaser's expense and adds lead time.

PROPERTY	TEST METHOD	REFERENCE LIMIT, ASTM C1088 GRADE EXTERIOR
5-hour boiling water absorption, average of 5	ASTM C67/C67M	17.0 % max
24-hour cold water absorption	ASTM C67/C67M	8.0 % max (absorption alternative)
Saturation coefficient, average of 5	ASTM C67/C67M	0.78 max
Freeze thaw, 50 cycles	ASTM C67/C67M	Weight loss 0.5 % max, no cracking

The limits above are shown for reference only. They are the requirements a new thin brick would meet; reclaimed units are not certified to them and no result is published here. A salvage lot is a separate population and its results belong to that lot alone, so results are issued on a Lot Test Report that accompanies the shipment, not on this data sheet.

Why Exposure Is a Deliberate Decision

Buildings of the era most salvage comes from used hard-fired brick on the outside of the wall and softer, under-fired brick, historically called salmon brick, as backup behind it. Demolition mixes the two, and after decades of weathering and mortar contact they cannot be reliably told apart by eye. The pale pink and buff units that give reclaimed brick much of its character are often the softer ones. Because a lot is a mixture of two grades rather than one uniform material, an average test result describes neither grade accurately.

Reclaimed brick is therefore best suited to interior and sheltered decorative use. It is supplied for exterior use, and it is used that way, but exterior exposure should be a deliberate decision made by the design professional for the project, taken after the lot has been tested. Contact Brick It before ordering for an exterior application.

Reference: Brick Industry Association Technical Note 15, Salvaged Brick.

Handling and Installation

Factory processing	Thin brick is cut wet from the salvaged unit at the Brick It facility and rinsed with municipal water before packing. Full brick supplied in cube form is not cut or rinsed; it is supplied in its salvaged condition.
Cleaning before setting	Residual mortar and dirt remain in the pores of the original faces. Cube brick in particular should be cleaned before setting, as adhesion depends on it. Do not dry sweep or dry brush salvaged material; wet it or use a HEPA-filtered vacuum. See the Brick It Clay Brick Safety Data Sheet.
Bond	The face that bonds to the setting bed is a fresh saw cut rather than a weathered original surface, which removes much of the adhesion concern that applies to relaying whole salvaged brick.
Brick It installation systems	Designer Metal Grid (DMG), US Patent 4,773,201. G-60 galvanized carrier panel. Interior and exterior, over wood stud, steel stud, concrete and masonry. Moisture Control System (MCS), US Patent 8,141,310. G-90 panel with offset weep holes and drainage mat, for exterior walls requiring drainage and ventilation behind the veneer. Continuous Insulation and Moisture Control System (CI), US Patent 9,512,621. G-90 panel with continuous insulation and batten attachment, for commercial steel stud construction with exterior gypsum sheathing.
Panel and unit	Carrier panel height is selected to suit the specified brick height. Custom panel heights are available for any brick height, including European formats, and custom panel lengths are available. Starter channels and special corner panels are not required.
System selection, reclaimed	Reclaimed units install on any of the three systems. Where reclaimed brick is used on an exterior wall, the Moisture Control System is the preferred choice, because its drainage mat and weep holes move water away from a material whose absorption is higher and less uniform than new brick.
Sealers	Exterior: do not apply film-forming or impermeable sealers. Under-fired units deteriorate faster when coated, because trapped moisture cannot escape and freezes. This overrides the general sealer recommendation in the carrier panel installation instructions. Interior floors: a breathable penetrating sealer is acceptable and is normally required for maintenance. Film-forming coatings remain inadvisable, as they wear unevenly over units of differing hardness. Test on the approved sample first; sealers alter the colour of reclaimed brick more than they alter new brick.
Ordering	Order the overage stated for the product in Products in This Line, and order the full quantity from a single lot at one time. Salvage lots are finite and a later lot will not match the approved sample.
Tolerances	ASTM C1088 tolerance, warpage and chippage limits do not apply. Dimensional variation, chipped arrises, spalled faces and wear are characteristic of the material and are judged against the approved sample under diffused lighting at 20 ft.

Specify under	Brick It Clay Thin Brick Guide Specification, Section 04 21 00. Article 2.4 covers reclaimed units; Article 2.5 covers the installation systems.
----------------------	--

Floor Applications

Floor veneer is supplied in the Paver format, 3 5/8 in. × 7 5/8 in. at 1 in. thick, in all four products. Floors are a different application from walls in three respects, and each should be settled before the material is ordered.

Not a carrier panel application	The Brick It DMG, MCS and CI systems are wall systems. Floors are set in a bonded mortar bed or by thin-set over a suitable floor substrate, following tile industry practice for the substrate, movement joints and deflection. Design floor deflection not greater than L/360, and not greater than L/720 where a rigid setting bed is used.
Abrasion resistance	Not tested and not certified. A salvage lot mixes hard-fired and under-fired units, so wear will not be uniform: softer units burnish, wear and dust under traffic sooner than hard-fired units in the same floor. In a residential or light commercial interior this reads as patina and is usually the intent. It is not suitable for heavy traffic, wheeled loads or wet commercial floors.
Slip resistance	Not tested. Unglazed reclaimed brick has an irregular, textured face, but no dynamic coefficient of friction value is published for it. Where a project requires a DCOF value under ANSI A137.1, or a slip resistance value for code compliance, this material cannot supply one and a tested product should be specified instead.
Reference standards	New clay paving brick is specified to ASTM C902 for pedestrian and light traffic, or ASTM C1272 for heavy vehicular traffic. Reclaimed brick is not supplied to either standard and no compliance is claimed. They are named here only so a specifier knows which standard has been set aside.

Floor use of reclaimed brick is a deliberate decision by the design professional, made on the same basis as the exterior exposure decision above: the material is chosen for its character, and its performance is accepted as uncertified.

Fire Performance

Combustibility	Noncombustible, fired clay, per ASTM E136
Surface burning	Class A: flame spread 0, smoke developed 0, per ASTM E84
Assembly ratings	Fire resistance ratings apply to tested wall assemblies (ASTM E119 / TMS 216), not to the unit alone.

Sustainability

Category	Material reuse, not recycled content. The unit itself is used again rather than reprocessed. Under LEED v4.1 Sourcing of Raw Materials, material reuse is valued at 200 % by cost , double the value of recycled content.
LEED v5	Contributes under the Circular Economy criteria of the Building Product Selection and Procurement credit.
Embodied carbon	Substantially lower than new brick, because the firing that dominates a brick's footprint already occurred decades ago. Published peer-reviewed research on reclaimed brick reports 86 to 88 % lower fossil GWP and 94 to 95 % lower total GWP against virgin brick, cradle to gate.

Waste diversion	Material diverted from demolition waste. Offcuts are inert.
Historic work	Period-appropriate salvaged material suited to rehabilitation and historic tax credit projects.

The published figures above are cited as research on reclaimed brick generally. They were measured on full-size ready-to-reuse brick and do not include the cutting step in Brick It's process, so they are not stated as Brick It's own result. A product-specific assessment is [in progress] [available on request].

Availability

Target ship date	Standard, 7 to 15 business days. This is a target Brick It aims to ship within, not a commitment. Larger orders draw on a finite salvage lot; confirm quantity and lot availability at time of order.
Lot continuity	Salvage lots are finite. Confirm quantity availability before specifying.

Related Downloads

Guide specification	Brick It Clay Thin Brick Guide Specification, Section 04 21 00, Article 2.4 covers reclaimed units
Material statement	Project-specific statement of material, source lot and test results, on request
Safety data sheet	Brick It Clay Brick SDS
Sustainability letter	Project-specific LEED contribution letter, on request

This document is furnished for informational purposes only and is not intended as an expressed warranty. Reclaimed material is not manufactured to a product standard and its properties vary by lot. All information should be independently evaluated by a qualified design professional in the context of the specific circumstances in which it is applied. [INSERT BRICK IT STANDARD WARRANTY AND LIABILITY LANGUAGE.]