

BUILDING TERMS M

MAIN(S)

Street reticulation service provided by the supply authority, e.g gas, water and sewerage.

MANHOLE

A covered opening in a ceiling or a floor to allow access into roof space, or below floor level.

MANHOLE, Sewerage

Provided for the purpose of inspecting and cleaning drains and is constructed at the most important points along a drain for these purposes.

MANSARD ROOF

A roof built of two pitches, the steeper pitch commencing at the eaves and the flatter pitch finishing at the ridge.

MANTEL

A shelf over a fireplace.

MANTLE

The outer covering of a wall surface when the outer surfaces of different material from the inner surface.

MANUFACTURING DIMENSION

See DIMENSION, Manufacturing

MASONRY

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

MASTER KEYING

A system by which all locks within a building are capable of being operated by one key. Often there are a series of sub-masters.

MASTIC

A water proof adhesive plastic compound.

MATCHED BOARDS

Boards finished to hold a tongue and groove joint securely in place, or finished with a rebated edge for close fitting.

MATRIX

The mixture of sand and cement that binds together the aggregate of concrete.

MAT WELL

A low level area in an entrance way to provide for a fibre mat.

MAXIMUM DIMENSION

See DIMENSION, Maximum

MEAN HORIZONTAL CANDLEPOWER

The average candle power measured on a horizontal plane in all directions from the lamp filament.

MEAN SPHERICAL CANDLEPOWER

The average candle power of a lamp measured in all directions from the lamp filament.

MECHANICAL CORE

Core of a building containing the majority of mechanical services.

MEMBER

A definite part of a building, or structure (e.g. beams, rafters, cornice, base).

MESH

Material consisting of a network formed by the crossing of wires or strings.

METAL CONDUIT

Iron or steel pipes (either thin wall or rigid) in which electric wires and cables are installed.

METAL LATH

Sheets of metal which are split and expanded to form openings on which plaster is spread. Same as expanded metal lath.

METAL STRIP

A term sometimes applied to metal flashing cased on water tables or around chimneys to prevent water seeping into the roof or walls. See Damp-PROOF COURSE, FLASHING

METAL TIES

A type of steel tie used to bond two separate wall sections

together in cavity type walls.

METAL TRIM

Pressed metal sheeting, used to trim openings (e.g. door or window openings).

METER

In the commercial distribution of electricity, water and gas, an instrument for measuring the quantity of service supplied to a consumer.

METER BOARD

An insulating panel to which a meter is attached.

MEZZANINE

A space within a room, between an intermediate floor within the room and the ceiling which does not extend over the full area of the room.

MINERAL WOOL

Material for insulating buildings, produced by sending a blast of steam through molten slag or rock (e.g. rock wool, glass wool, slag wool).

MINIMUM DIMENSION

See **DIMENSION, Minimum**

MITRE

Joint or junction between two pieces of material usually joined at an angle

MOBILE HOMES

Movable independent dwellings fitted with wheels at the time of manufacture and capable of being moved by a truck but not a car, designed for continuous living, at least 8.8 m long, including the towing gear, and usually at least 3 m wide. They differ from the much smaller highly mobile caravan or dependent unit (without its own bathroom and toilet) which is not regarded as a mobile home.

Compare with **TRANSPORTABLE**.

MODULAR CONSTRUCTION OR MODULAR DESIGN

Construction or design in which the size of the materials used is based upon a common unit of measure or module,

MODULAR COORDINATION

See **COORDINATION, Modular'**.

MODULAR SYSTEM

The planning of buildings and their components to fit a planning grid related to a module.

MODULATED CONTROL

A modulated control does not switch plant on or off abruptly, but reduces or increases the heat flow gently and is therefore more responsive, and quieter.

MODULE

A unit of length used as a basis for dimensional co-ordination and by which the planning of buildings can be to some extent standardized.

Basic Module (M): A dimension of 100mm used as the fundamental increment in Modular Co-ordination.

Sub-module: (M/n) An agreed sub-division (1/n) of the Basic Module (100mm) where n is a whole number.

Multi module (Mn): An agreed multiple, n, of the basic Module (100mm) where n is a whole number.

Modular: A descriptive term that indicated the use or application of the basic Module (100 mm) or a multiple thereof.

NOTE: The use of the term Modular as an abbreviation for the term Modular Co-ordination is discouraged.

MOISTURE BARRIER

Material which is used to retard the flow of vapor or moisture into walls, and thus prevent condensation within them.

MOISTURE PROOFING

The process of making a material resistant to change in moisture content, especially to the entrance or absorption of moisture or vapor.

MONITOR ROOF

A flat roof with parallel raised portions called 'monitors', for the admittance of natural light.

MONOLITHIC

Any structure made of a continuous mass of material or cast as a single piece.

MORTAR

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

MORTAR, Hair

Lime mortar reinforced by the addition of teased cowhair (also used in plastering).

MORTAR JOINTS

Types of joints in finishing the mortar in stone or brick work. (See JOINT, flush)

MORTICE

See MORTISE

MORTISE

A recess in a piece of wood to receive a tenon or lock. (See also TENON, Mortise and

MORTISE LOCK

A lock designed to be fixed into a mortise in the closing or lock style of a door.

MOSAIC

Combination of small colored stones, glass, or other material to form a decorative surface design, inlaid usually in a ground of cement or stucco.

MOULD, Bolection

A raised moulding on the panel of a door.

***Half Round:* A mould, semi-circular in cross-section, used to cover joints, e.g. in wallboards.**

***Insertion:* A mould placed around the edges of a door panel within the general plane of the door face, either to keep the panel in position or to improve its appearance.**

***Quadrant (quad or quarter round):* See QUAD**

MOULDED INSULATION

Insulating material which can be replaced in a mould and pressed into shape.

MOULDING

When any work is wrought into long regular channels or projections, forming curves, flutes, hollows, it is said to be moulded, and each member is a moulding.

MULLION

A vertical member dividing a window frame.

MULTIPLE EARTH NEUTRAL SYSTEM (M.E.N. system)

A low or medium pressure alternating electric current system, the neutral conductor of which is earthed, without the insertion of a current-limiting resistance, a cut-out or a

circuit breaker at the source of supply, and at one or more points along the distribution lines, service lines, and or in consumers' installation.

MULTI UNIT DWELLING

A building containing two or more dwelling units.

MUNTIN

Intermediate vertical member in a panelled door.

MUNTZ METAL

An alloy of 3 parts of copper and 2 parts of zinc.