

BUILDING TERMS V

VACUUM CLEANING OR CENTRALIZED VACUUM CLEANING PLANT

Vacuum-cleaning plant, permanently installed in a building, ovmcuuM consists of an exhauster fan and filter, usually in the basement, connected to all floors through a network of smooth-bore pipes and operated at high velocities.

VACUUM HEATING

A steam-heating system for buildings in which a vacuum pump is connected to the return main and removes condensate and air from the radiators and returns the water to the boiler feed tank.

VALLEY

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

VALLEY BOARDS

Boarding fixed on the top of the valley rafters to form a base or support for the valley gutter.

VALLEY FLASHING

Pieces of lead, tin, of sheet metal worked in with construction materials along the valley of a roof.

VALLEY TILE

Trough-shaped roofing tile for use in valleys.

VALVE, Flap

A fitting with a flap, hinged at the top, attached to the end of a pipe that discharges externally above ground level from a floor waste, to stop entry of insects or foreign matter.

VANE

Flat piece of metal attached to an axis in an elevated position and readily moved by the force of the wind (e.g. a weathercock, weather vane).

VAPOUR BARRIER

Material of low permeability to vapour or moisture built into a structure thus preventing condensation. (Note: This is often combined with insulation.)

VAPOUR HEATING

A steam heating system which operates under pressure which returns the condensation to the boiler or receiver by gravity.

VARNISH

A preparation of resin in solution with oil, turpentine or alcohol, used to make a hard, transparent glossy film to coat unpainted timber.

VAULT

- **An arched structure of masonry usually forming a ceiling or roof.**
- **Specially constructed space for security of documents.**

VENEER

Thin slices of a material used as a facing on other elements of a structure. Timber veneer is commonly used as a facing. This veneer is produced by rotary cutting or slicing logs or billets.

VENEER, Ceramic

Terra cotta veneer.

VENEERED CONSTRUCTION

Construction in which a thin layer of facing material is applied to the external surface of steel, reinforced concrete, or frame walls.

VENEER WALL

A wall to which is attached but not bonded a masonry facing to form an integral part for purposes of load bearing and stability, generally used in domestic construction.

VENETIAN BLIND

A window blind composed of numerous thin slats strung on cords, horizontally, one above another so as to be capable of adjustment at any angle desired to admit or exclude a varying amount of light.

VENT, Back or Anti-Siphonage

A vent pipe from an individual trap to the open air or to each a main or branch vent pipe, for the prevention of loss of water seal in the trap.

***Educt:* A pipe for the exit of air from and the induction of draught in a soil pipe, waste pipe, combined waste pipe, or drain.**

***Induct:* A pipe for the admission of air to a soil pipe, waste**

pipe, combined waste pipe, or drain.

VENTFACE (Ventilator face)

A perforated cover applied to a small opening in a wall used or ventilation. A vent face may be applied both internally and externally.

VENTILATING BEAD

A piece of board of timber covering the bottom sash of a window, which allows for ventilation at the meeting rail while keeping the bottom of the window closed.

VENTILATING BRICK

A brick which has been cored to provide an air passage for ventilation.

VENTILATION

The process of changing or circulating the air in a space by either natural or artificial means.

VENTILATOR

A device permitting the circulation of air into or from any enclosed space or area.

VERANDA(H)

A roofed space attached to a building.

VERGE

The edge of the roof at a gable. Public area adjoining a road.

VERGE BOARD

Same as BARGEBOARD

VERGE RAFTER

An exposed rafter on the end of a gable roof.

VERMICULATED

Material with the surface appearance of being worm-eaten.

VERMICULITE

A material closely related to mica, which when heated expands to form lightweight material with insulating properties.

VERTICAL CLADDING

A cladding whose longest dimension is vertical

VERTICAL SASH

Any window sash which operates by an up and down movement- See WINDOW, double-hung

VITREOUS

Glassy or resembling glass

VITRIFIED TILE ORVITRIFIED PIPES

Tiles or pipes made of clay baked hard and then glazed so they are impervious to water.

VOUSSOIR BRICK

Brick made especially for constructing arches so formed that the face joints radiate from a common centre

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