

Build a BETTER BASEMENT with CONCRETE BLOCK

THE COMMON SENSE BASEMENT FOR YOUR HOME

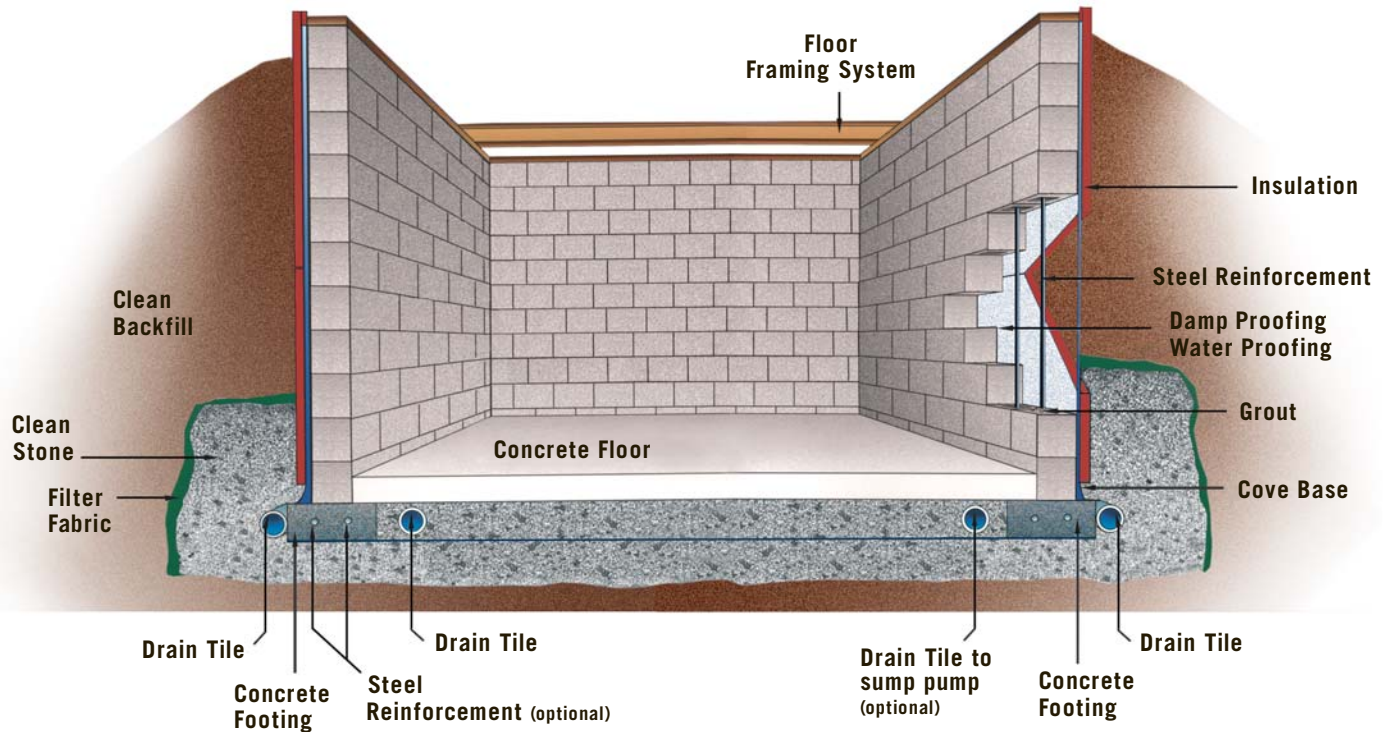


Think Smart - increase your living space with a **COST EFFECTIVE, ENERGY EFFICIENT** and **DRY** block basement.

WHY Concrete Block? Look inside and see...

www.blockbasement.com

COMPLY WITH THE INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE® & BUILD A SOLID FUTURE USING THIS RECOMMENDED BASEMENT SYSTEM.



CONCRETE FOOTING

- + Monolithic solid concrete base for the beginning of the concrete block basement system.
- + Soil bearing capacity must be a minimum of 1,500 psi.

CONCRETE BLOCK

- + Use certified ASTM C90 load bearing units. Test reports are available by request.

REINFORCING STEEL & GROUTING

- + US Grade 60 is the minimum requirement for steel reinforcing bar.
- + When required, reinforcing steel should be placed in the proper position in the block.

MORTAR

- + Type S or M mortar should be used in mortar joints.

DAMP - PROOFING / WATERPROOFING

- + Must be applied to the exterior of the wall from the top of the footing to the finished grade.
- + These are required by the IRC and several types of materials can be used.

INSULATION

- + If insulation is required, it can be easily installed on the interior, exterior or inside of the concrete block wall. There are three climate zones in PA with a minimum

requirement of R9. Through the US Government authorized software program, REScheck, trade offs for the amount of insulation are dependent on other building elements. These elements include but are not limited to windows, doors, heating and air conditioning equipment.

DRAIN TILE & STONE FILTER FABRIC

- + Helps keep the water away from the foundation and must be below the top of the footing.
- + Drain tile can also be placed inside the structure below the concrete floor and covered with approved filter membrane.
- + The drain tile is placed on a minimum of 2 inches of clean crushed stone with a minimum of 6 inches of clean crushed stone placed above top of the footing.
- + Filter fabric is placed on top of the stone to separate the stone from the backfill.

BACKFILL

- + Use clean backfill and slope grading away from the house as directed in the IRC.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS NOT REQUIRED BY THE IRC

- + We recommend a minimum of 2 feet of 1 inch clean crushed stone above the top of the footing.
- + A 45 degree bed of mortar on top of the footing to drain water from foundation.
- + Steel reinforcement may be added to the concrete footing for additional strength.

THE BASEMENT IS THE FOUNDATION OF YOUR HOME.

Concrete block has withstood the test of time — 100 plus years of dependable use. Can you say that about other systems? An experienced local mason contractor will build your new durable and sustainable basement system according to the International Residential Code. Why trust any other product for your new home?

The benefits of a concrete block basement

ECONOMICAL

Least expensive basement system for first cost investment and requirements for block basements have not changed in the recently updated building codes. Other concrete wall systems have additional reinforcement requirements and more on site inspections which raise costs and add time to the project.

Benefit: Use the money you will save to enhance the kitchen, family room or other part of your home.

SUSTAINABLE - GREEN BUILDING

Block basements allow for more living space within the home on a smaller lot.

Block has a 66% less carbon footprint than other concrete products thus conserving our environment.

Block does not give off any VOCs for a healthier indoor environment.

Little construction waste is created on the jobsite.

Benefit: Saving the environment.

ENERGY EFFICIENT

The thermal mass of concrete block contributes to lower energy costs. Insulation installed to meet the R Value for your climate zone according to the IRC will also lower heating and cooling costs.

Benefit: Lower energy costs throughout the life of your home saving you money. Conservation of our natural resources.

LOCALLY PRODUCED

Concrete block are produced in your local area and installed by local masons. It is truly a product that is made in the USA.

Benefit: Supporting business in your community.

MOLD & TERMITE RESISTANT

Concrete masonry is NOT a food source for mold or termites. It dries while other materials hold the moisture or deteriorate.

Benefit: If mold occurs concrete masonry can be cleaned and does not need to be replaced.

QUICK & VERSATILE

Block is readily available with no need to wait for custom panels. Before a precast panel is delivered on site, your block basement can be in place.

Block basements can be constructed in any shape to easily conform to your house plan and lot specifications. Add doors and windows with ease during construction. The flexibility of block walls allows you to renovate or add an addition any time in the future. A window or door can be cut out of a block basement wall for future remodeling much easier and with less cost than other wall systems.

Benefits: Design changes can be easily made during construction to meet your needs without costly delays.

EGRESS

Windows, doors and other forms of egress can be designed into the house to make it easier to convert your basement into livable space.

Benefit: Flexibility for future home remodeling.

DECK ATTACHMENT

As of the 2009 IRC, decks can be attached to concrete masonry easier than with other materials.

Benefit: Your family enjoying the outdoor space.

FINISHING OF INTERIOR WALL

For minimal cost concrete block basement interior walls can be finished to provide you with an enjoyable living space.

Benefit: Family Room, Workout Room, Home Entertainment Room, or Hobby Shop can be added easily.

ALL CONCRETE BLOCK HOME

For the added benefits of energy efficiency, noise control, fire protection, wind and hurricane resistance, termite control and more, consider concrete block exterior walls from the basement to the roof. Save a tree while creating a safe and secure home for your family.



Build a BETTER BASEMENT with CONCRETE BLOCK

TESTIMONIALS

Williams & Ports Architecture & Design, Inc. has traditionally worked with concrete block foundations and basements throughout our career. We find block to be the most versatile and economic choice, all things considered. Concrete block is easy to work with for the mason. It can be core-filled and reinforced when needed and is locally made and available.

Jim Williams

Williams & Ports Architecture & Design

"I like the versatility of block and rely on its durability. Building foundations with block is an economically favorable option which an organization like Habitat needs to consider."

Steve Munchel, Construction Manager
York Habitat for Humanity



As the owner of Village Craft Iron & Stone Inc., I have purchased and installed thousands of concrete block. Our company and its employees believe block foundations are the most affordable system for the housing industry. I have installed many different veneers on pre-cast foundations and have had many problems. Concrete walls are also very difficult to install manufactured stone veneer as the walls are too dense. Block are more porous and the stone veneer adhere well.

Joe Mannino

Village Craft Iron & Stone Inc.



Pennsylvania Concrete Masonry Association

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