



## **REPOINTING BRICK WORK**

### **INFORMATION SHEET**

Diligent Developments Limited is trading as Diligent Developments  
Directors – Ralph Lewars & Sebastian Stephenson  
Company Number – 5323384  
Registered Office – 51 FARNBOROUGH AVENUE, SOUTH CROYDON, CR2 8HG  
Tel:020 8657 7679 email: seb\_developments@yahoo.co.uk

WE COVER MANY ASPECTS OF DIFFERENT STYLES OF POINTING SUCH AS WEATHER STRUCK, BARELL, FLUSH etc.....

**Method:**

When raking out old mortar we use 5" angle grinders with 6mm mortar raking diamond blades which gives a clean cut to the top and bottom of the joint ready for new mortar application. In some cases power tools are not permitted so hand tools are used such as comb hammers and dogging tools. Before applying new mortar to the brickwork it is wet down using a spray applicator to wash away any existing dust and to give maximum hold to the brickwork. (This operation is not necessary if masonry is to be cleaned prior to pointing as masonry will be raked out before cleaning commences)

**How deep should the joints be raked out ???**

Some builders who do pointing occasionally will only scratch the old mortar back to get a key for the new mortar to stick. THIS IS WRONG if this method does occur over a short time the pointing will blow due to the different weather conditions i.e.: sun, rain & frost and will be a waste of time and money.

**When raking out:**

We take old mortar out to a depth of 18mm to 20mm as standard unless otherwise instructed.

**Applying mortar:**

We apply the new mortar manually with hand tools. We apply vertical joints with a 4" pointing trowel and the horizontal joints with a tray and slasher. This is a skilled operation.

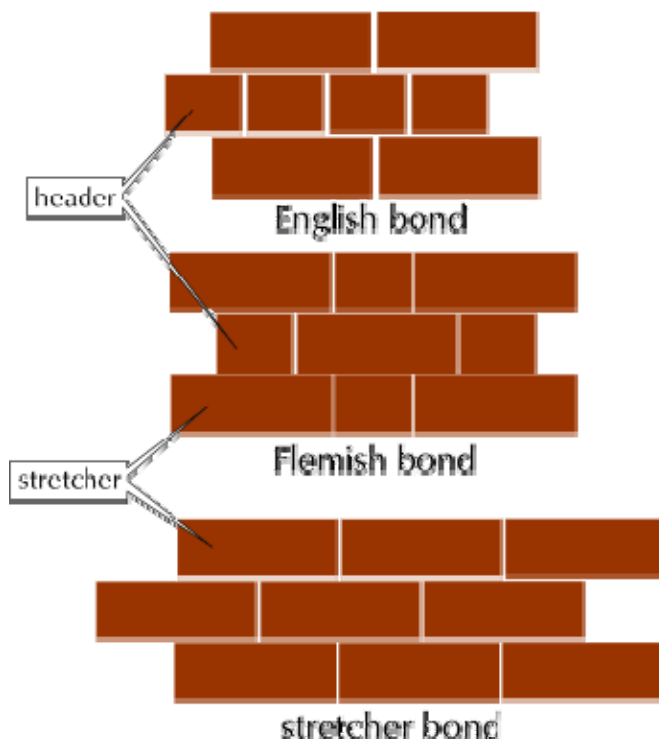
When performing a weather struck profile a Frenchman is used as a cutting device, (the Frenchman is a knife shaped tool witch hooks over at the tip). Also a rule is used to give a straight cut at the bottom of the joint as shown in some pictures in the photo studio.

## What does the new mortar consist of ?

The new mortar is 6.1.1 (6 sand to 1 cement and 1 lime as standard on lime mortar built properties), and 6.1 (6 sand to 1 cement as standard on sand and cement built properties) or as otherwise instructed.

The bond of the brickwork in which the bricks are placed in a pattern of headers and stretchers gives the wall strength and stability.

Three types of bond, the patterns in which the bricks are laid, are shown below:



Stretcher bond is only suitable for a single skin; in a modern house the inner skin is typically made from blocks, fixed to the outer brick skin by metal ties. English bond was not popular in the Victorian period. So the common bond is Flemish, with the alternate header-stretcher pattern.

Bricks are 'glued' together with mortar; until the 1920s, this was usually just a mix of sharp sand and lime. This is porous, flexible and matches the typically soft bricks it was used with. Cement has gradually taken the place of lime; it is much harder and largely impervious to water. It suits modern bricks which are much harder.