

Brick Bonds

stretcher - flemish - english - american

Stretcher Bond



Stretcher bond is the commonest bond used today and the least interesting in appearance. It can be made more interesting by laying a course of different coloured bricks or to lay such bricks to form a pattern on a wall.

- Stretcher bond wall
- Stretcher bond wall with piers
- Stretcher bond piers

Flemish Bond



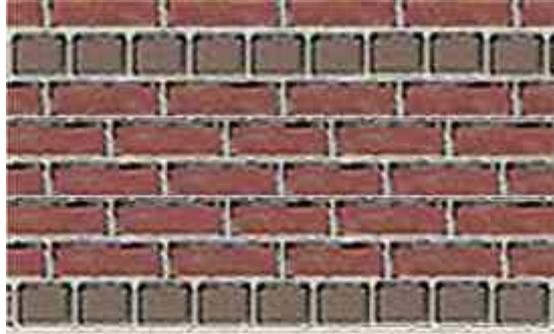
Flemish bond consists of alternating headers and stretchers along each course with the headers centred on the stretchers above and below.

English Bond



English bond consists of alternating courses of headers and stretchers, with the alternative headers centred over and under the vertical joints of the stretchers.

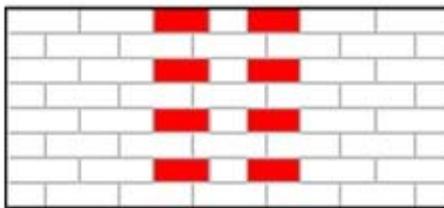
American common bond



American common bond is similar to the English Bond but the courses of headers are separated by approximately five courses of stretchers.

Stretcher Bond Brick Walls

[*English bond - Flemish bond*](#)

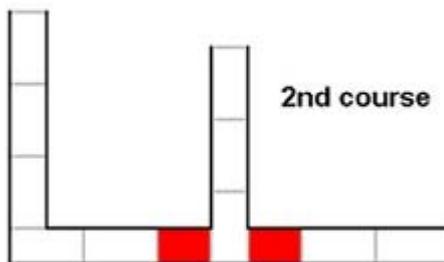


Elevation

Walls built using the traditional Stretcher bond are just a half brick wide. As with any wall built of brick, no two adjacent vertical joints should be in line.

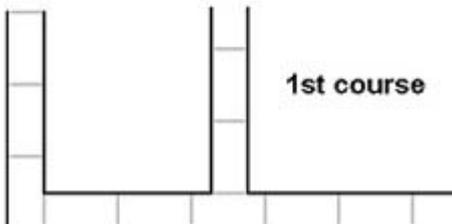
With a straight wall this is not a problem, just offset each course by half a brick.

When turning a corner at the end of a straight run again causes no problems, just interlock the two runs of bricks on every other course.



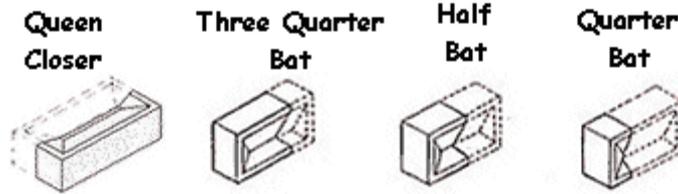
2nd course

When joining into a wall part way along the wall, it's necessary to use two 3/4 bats (coloured red - one on either side) on the main face of the wall on every other course.



1st course

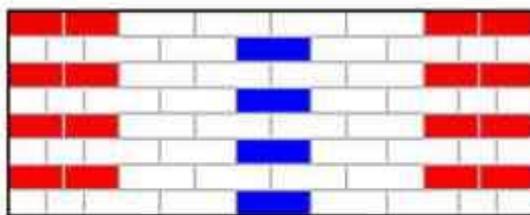
Bricks and Bats



Stretcher Bond Walls with Piers

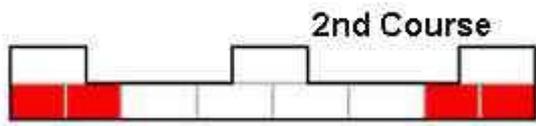
Walls built using the traditional stretcher bond are just a half brick wide and as such are relatively unstable and generally if they are higher than about 40 cm (5 courses), piers are required to strengthen them.

As with any wall built of brick, no two adjacent vertical joints should be in line.



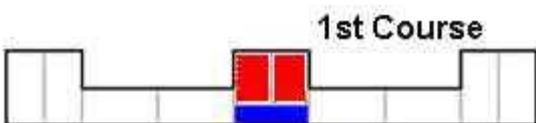
Elevation

For piers at the ends of a wall, the first (and alternate) course should have two full bricks placed at right-angles to the run of the wall. The second (and alternate) course should use two 3/4 bats (coloured red) in the face of the wall and a full brick behind.



2nd Course

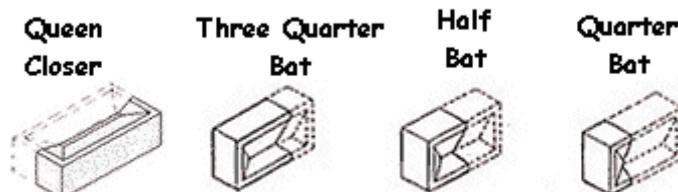
For piers in the run of the wall, the first (and alternate) course needs a 'Queen Closer' (coloured blue) in the face of the wall with two 3/4 bats (coloured red) behind. The second (and alternate) course uses full bricks in the face and a full brick behind.



1st Course

The piers can be strengthened by embedding a piece of mat reinforcement into the mortar of alternate courses.

Bricks and Bats

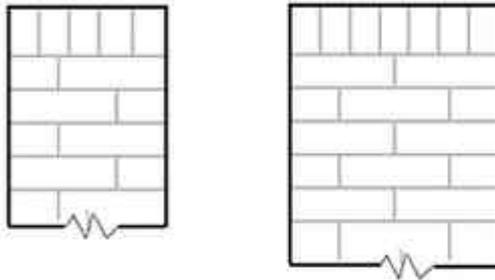


Stretcher Bond for free standing Brick Piers

A free standing brick pier (or isolated pier as it is sometimes called) is a pillar of brickwork not connected to a wall. It can be used to carry the ends of beams to form a pergola, the base of a sundial or bird bath, or for hanging garden gates.

Piers vary in size (both in width and height) and types of bond used.

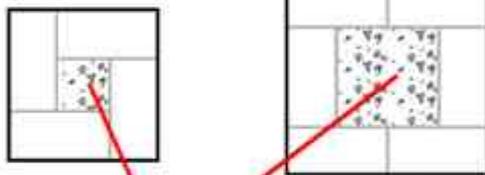
Elevations



On this page we show a couple of simple stretcher bond piers, Both designs only use full bricks so there is no need for the bricklayer to cut any bricks.

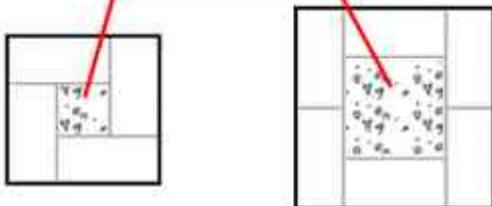
The bricks will leave a hollow centre which should be filled with concrete once the mortar has been allowed to harden (wet concrete will exert an internal pressure which could cause the brick mortar to fail if the concrete is inserted too soon).

2nd course



concrete fill

1st course



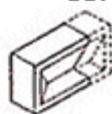
The centre concrete should be inserted in one go so that it can form one block of from the base of the pier to the top without any weak joints within the concrete. If considered necessary, steel reinforcing rods can be inserted into the centre concrete fill.

Bricks and Bats

Queen
Closer



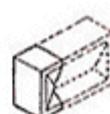
Three Quarter
Bat



Half
Bat

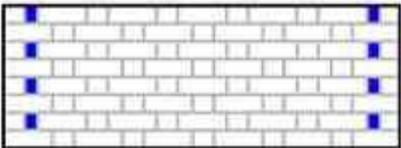


Quarter
Bat



Flemish Bond Brick Walls

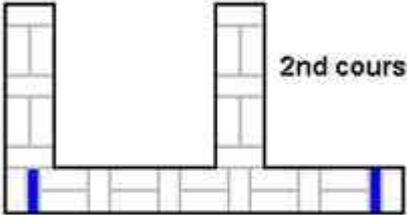
[english bond](#) - [stretcher bond](#)



Elevation

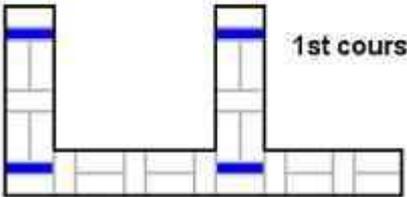
Garden walls built using Flemish bond are one bricks wide. As with any wall built of brick, no two adjacent vertical joints should be in line.

With a straight wall this is not a problem, just offset each course so that the header bricks are centred on the stretcher bricks on the course below.



2nd course

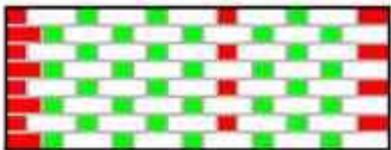
When turning a corner at the end of a straight run, a Queen Closer (coloured blue) is required on each course.



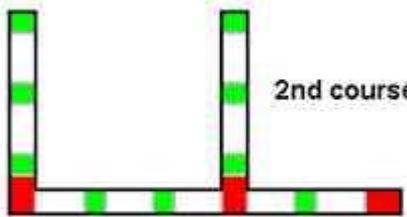
1st course

Joining into a wall part way along the wall, is the same as for the end turn except that a Queen Closer is only needed on every other course.

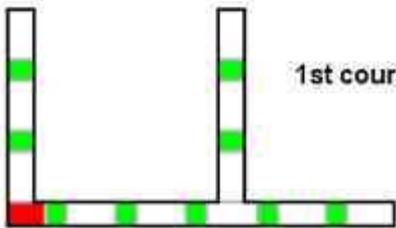
Use Flemish bond for a half brick width wall can give a decorative finish but does require the use of quite a few half bats (coloured green) and three quarter bats (coloured red).



Elevation



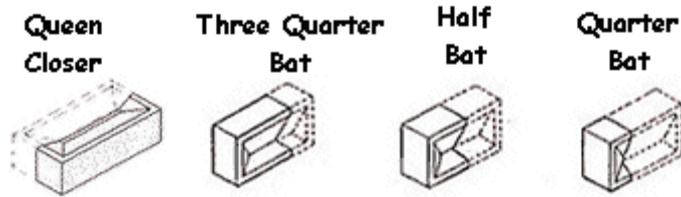
2nd course



1st course

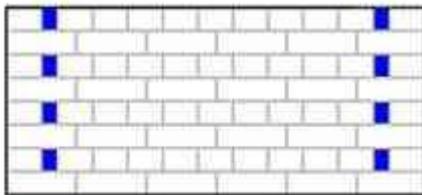


Bricks and Bats



English Bond Brick Walls

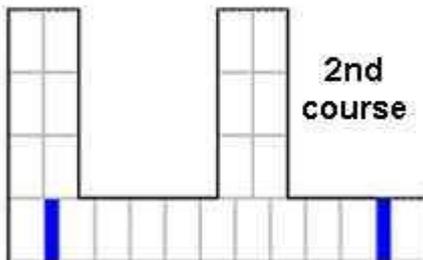
[stretcher bond](#) - [flemish bond](#)



Elevation

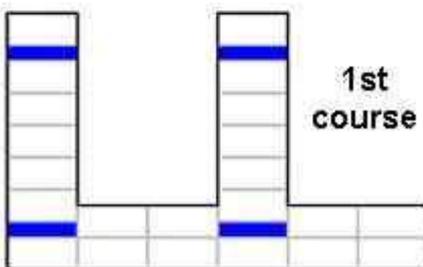
Garden walls built using English bond are one brick wide. As with any wall built of brick, no two adjacent vertical joints should be in line.

With a straight wall this is not a problem, it's just alternate courses of headers and stretchers with each joint on the stretcher course centred on a header brick on the course below.



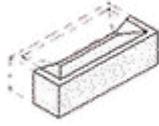
When turning a corner at the end of a straight run needs the use of a Queen Closer (coloured blue) on each course.

Joining into a wall part way along the wall, is the same as for the end turn except that a Queen Closer is only needed on every other course.

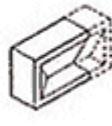


Bricks and Bats

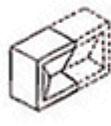
**Queen
Closer**



**Three Quarter
Bat**



**Half
Bat**



**Quarter
Bat**

