

BS 7533-101:2021



BSI Standards Publication

Pavements constructed with clay, concrete or natural stone paving units

Part 101: Code of practice for the structural design of
pavements using modular paving units

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Published by BSI Standards Limited 2021

ISBN 978 0 539 12738 6

ICS 91.100.30

The following BSI references relate to the work on this document:

Committee reference B/507

Draft for comment 21/30410785 DC

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
<hr/>	

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Summary of pages

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Foreword

Publishing information

This part of BS 7533 is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 August 2021. It was prepared by Technical Committee B/507, *Paving units, kerbs, screeds and in-situ floorings*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

Supersession

This part of BS 7533 supersedes [BS 7533-1:2001](#), [BS 7533-2:2001](#), [BS 7533-8:2003](#), [BS 7533-10:2010](#) and [BS 7533-12:2006](#), which are withdrawn. This part of BS 7533 also partially supersedes [BS 7533-6:1999](#) and [BS 7533-7:2010](#).

Relationship with other publications

BS 7533 is published in the following parts:

- Part 101: *Code of practice for the structural design of pavements using modular paving units*;
- Part 102: *Code of practice for the construction and maintenance of pavements using modular paving units¹⁾*; and
- Part 13: *Guide for the design of permeable pavements constructed with concrete paving blocks and flags, natural stone slabs and setts and clay pavers*.

Information about this document

This is a full revision of the BS 7533 series, in which the principal change is to reduce 12 parts of the series to 3 parts. The following principal changes have been made:

- the combination of information on the structural design of rigid and flexible pavements (now retitled “bound and unbound pavements”), using concrete, clay and stone paving units, from the following parts of the withdrawn series:
 - Part 1: *Guide for the structural design of heavy duty pavements constructed of clay pavers or precast concrete paving blocks*;
 - Part 2: *Guide for the structural design of lightly trafficked pavements constructed of clay pavers or precast concrete paving blocks*;
 - Part 8: *Guide for the structural design of lightly trafficked pavements of precast concrete flags and natural stone slabs*;
 - Part 10: *Guide for the structural design of trafficked pavements constructed of natural stone setts and bound construction with concrete paving blocks*;
 - Part 12: *Guide to the structural design of trafficked pavements constructed on a bound base using concrete paving flags and natural stone slabs*;
- the removal of repetition between the parts of BS 7533 listed above;
- updating of references and test methods; and
- clarification and removal of ambiguity and anomalies.

¹⁾ In preparation

This publication can be withdrawn, revised, partially superseded or superseded. Information regarding the status of this publication can be found in the Standards Catalogue on the BSI website at bsigroup.com/standards, or by contacting the Customer Services team.

Where websites and webpages have been cited, they are provided for ease of reference and are correct at the time of publication. The location of a webpage or website, or its contents, cannot be guaranteed.

Use of this document

As a code of practice, this British Standard takes the form of recommendations and guidance. It is not to be quoted as if it were a specification. Users are expected to ensure that claims of compliance are not misleading.

Users may substitute any of the recommendations in this British Standard with practices of equivalent or better outcome. Any user claiming compliance with this British Standard is expected to be able to justify any course of action that deviates from its recommendations.

Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its recommendations are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “should”.

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Where words have alternative spellings, the preferred spelling of the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary is used (e.g. “organization” rather than “organisation”).

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Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

1 Scope

This British Standard provides recommendations and guidance on the design of pavements surfaced with:

- a) concrete paving blocks produced in accordance with BS EN 1338;
- b) concrete paving flags produced in accordance with BS EN 1339;
- c) natural stone slabs produced in accordance with BS EN 1341;
- d) natural stone setts produced in accordance with BS EN 1342;
- e) clay pavers produced in accordance with BS EN 1344;

constructed in accordance with [BS 7533-3](#), [BS 7533-4](#), [BS 7533-7](#), [BS 7533-9](#)²⁾.

It also provides guidance on the use of:

- 1) concrete kerbs produced in accordance with BS EN 1340; and
- 2) natural stone kerbs produced in accordance with BS EN 1343;

constructed in accordance with [BS 7533-6](#)²⁾.

It applies to areas subject to pedestrian and vehicular loading permissible under The Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 [1] with axle loads up to 11 000 kg and a cumulative design traffic of up to 30 million standard axles (msa).

It specifically excludes design traffic above the specified maximum and areas of higher vehicle loading such as aircraft pavements and those in ports and specialized industrial areas.

NOTE 1 Specialist engineering guidance is advised when considering the use of modular paving in applications not covered by this standard.

NOTE 2 Due to historic precedent, it might be preferred to use paving units which are outside the dimensions of the EN standards.

NOTE 3 This standard does not address the specific requirements for applications of tactile paving or other assistance devices. Pedestrian access paving needs to be designed to include appropriate tactile indicators as required by current standards and legislation.

The design of permeable pavements which collect, attenuate and provide a drainage feature are not within the scope of this standard. Refer to [BS 7533-13](#).

Reused materials may be used provided they meet the recommendations of the appropriate clause(s).

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes provisions of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

Standards publications

[BS 1377-4](#), *Methods of test for soils for civil engineering purposes – Part 4: Compaction-related tests*

[BS 7533-3](#), *Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers – Part 3: Code of practice for laying precast concrete paving blocks and clay pavers for flexible pavements*

²⁾ These parts of BS 7533 are expected to be merged into the new BS 7533-102, which is currently in preparation.

[BS 7533-4](#), *Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers – Part 4: Code of practice for the construction of pavements of precast concrete flags or natural stone slabs*

[BS 7533-6](#), *Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers – Part 6: Code of practice for laying natural stone, precast concrete and clay kerb units*

[BS 7533-7](#), *Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers – Part 7: Code of practice for the construction of pavements of natural stone paving units and cobbles, and rigid construction with concrete paving blocks*

[BS 7533-9](#), *Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers – Part 9: Code of practice for the construction of rigid pavements of clay pavers*

[BS 7533-13](#), *Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers – Part 13: Guide for the design of permeable pavements constructed with concrete paving blocks and flags, natural stone slabs and setts and clay pavers*

[BS 7932](#), *Determination of the unpolished and polished pendulum test value of surfacing units*

BS 8500 (all parts), *Concrete – Complementary British Standard to BS EN 206*

BS 8666:2020, *Scheduling, dimensioning, bending and cutting of steel reinforcement for concrete – Specification*

BS EN 206-1, *Concrete – Part 1: Specification, performance, production and conformity*

BS EN 932-2, *Tests for general properties of aggregates – Part 2: Methods for reducing laboratory samples*

BS EN 933-3, *Tests for geometrical properties of aggregates – Part 3: Determination of particle shape – Flakiness index*

BS EN 1097-1:2011, *Tests for mechanical and physical properties of aggregates – Part 1: Determination of the resistance to wear (micro-Deval)*

BS EN 1097-2, *Tests for mechanical and physical properties of aggregates – Part 2: Methods for the determination of resistance to fragmentation*

BS EN 1338:2003, *Concrete paving blocks – Requirements and test methods*

BS EN 1339, *Concrete paving flags – Requirements and test methods*

BS EN 1340:2003, *Concrete kerb unit – Requirements and test methods*

BS EN 1341, *Slabs of natural stone for external paving – Requirements and test methods*

BS EN 1342, *Setts of natural stone for external paving – Requirements and test methods*

BS EN 1343, *Kerbs of natural stone for external paving – Requirements and test methods*

BS EN 1344:2013, *Clay pavers – Requirements and test methods*

BS EN 12371, *Natural stone test methods – Determination of frost resistance*

BS EN 12372, *Natural stone test methods – Determination of flexural strength under concentrated load*

BS EN 12617-4:2002, *Products and systems for the protection and repair of concrete structures – Test methods – Part 4: Determination of shrinkage and expansion*

BS EN 12620:2002+A1:2008, *Aggregates for concrete*

BS EN 12697-19, *Bituminous mixtures – Test methods – Permeability of specimen*

BS EN 13036-4, *Road and airfield surface characteristics – Test methods – Part 4: Method for measurement of slip/skid resistance of a surface: The Pendulum Test*