


# Inspiration Guide

## Facing Bricks

 | A wide range of more than 100 colours and textures



**VANDERSANDEN**

TOGETHER WE BUILD GREATNESS





Together we  
build greatness

Curious about how a brick can help to give your project a unique and characteristic look? Then rely on Vandersanden – the leading specialist in facing bricks.

We believe the best results are created by working together; by inspiring and challenging one another; by sharing ideas and by working in harmony to shape the future.

This brochure offers you an insight into our classic and innovative brick colours and textures. We have showcased the latest trends and highlighted the benefits of carefully combining materials and mortar joints.

Still need more ideas? Then visit [www.vandersanden.com](http://www.vandersanden.com).

[www.vandersanden.com](http://www.vandersanden.com)



## Bricks – centuries of versatility

Bricks have been a very popular construction material since Roman times. As a result, everyone knows what bricks are and what they look like.

If you ask someone to draw a brick, the result is very likely to resemble Fig.1. And they would be correct; the figure shows a brick. But the product has evolved greatly over time. Vandersanden alone has almost a hundred years' experience in developing new recipes and techniques. The result? A whole load of possibilities for architects, builders and renovators. And you can find them all in this brochure: over 100 unique facing bricks, each with their own soul and their own look and feel. All products are made using natural raw materials, unique techniques, love for the profession and a sustainable production process.



Fig. 1

## Always a unique mix of raw materials, designs and techniques

Each facing brick is made in a unique manner. We combine the right raw materials and use appropriate techniques to shape and fire the facing bricks in the correct dimensions. We can even use a finishing process. This has been demonstrated in Fig. 2.

Sounds complicated? No need to worry; useful icons tell you exactly how each brick in this brochure received its specific shape and appearance. See page 6.

### Raw materials

Types of clay / Types of sand / Minerals

### Design

Handmade / Waterstruck / Wire-cut

### Sizes

M50 / WF / M65 / DF / LF40 / HF / XL45 / ZERO / BDF / NF

### Techniques

Engobing / Sprinkling with cinders / Ageing / Oxidisation or reduction firing / Smoking / Cementing / Impression / Application

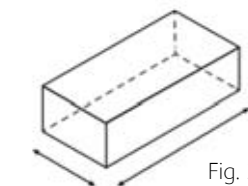


Fig. 2

# Production techniques

## Handmade

Texture that ensures depth and flair

Before the brick sector was industrialised, all facing bricks were made by hand. That's how this technique gets its name. The principle is simple: a ball of clay is rolled in a layer of sand and then expertly thrown into a mould. Once all excess clay has been cut away, the mould is turned and the shaped brick is removed.

Folds are created when the clay is thrown into the mould and give handmade bricks their typical veined structure. The forming process still remains the same today, but machines now take care of the heavy-duty work, which means everything is a lot faster.



## Waterstruck

Ultra-fine lines give your bricks character and a soft glaze

The clue is in the name: water plays a very important role in this special forming technique.

Unlike handmade bricks, clay is not rolled in sand before it is thrown into the mould. The mould has been moistened, which makes it easier to later remove the formed product. The use of water also helps to create the brick's typical structure, which is characterised by a smooth and slightly planed brick surface.



## Wire-cut

A clear-cut, streamlined arris defines the appearance of this brick

Bricks produced by extruding presses are not formed brick by brick, as with handmade and waterstruck techniques. In this case, clay is compressed using a die with the same dimensions as the required brick. This die creates a continuous strip of stiff clay, which is then cut to size using a wire-cutter.

The die thus determines the length and width of extruded bricks, while the wire-cutter determines the height. These bricks have a recognisable, smooth and angular appearance. Special techniques can help to create extra effects on the front surface of bricks.



Handmade



Waterstruck



Wire-cut



Application



Cemented



Smothering



Aging



Tumbled



Engobing



Impression



Zero





125 Perla



14 Zena



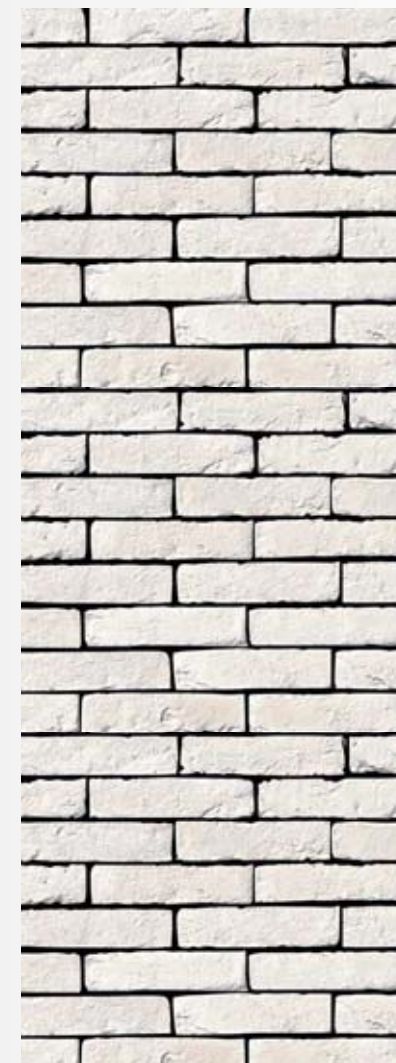
Arch. : Anja Visser

350 Rainbow White

## Discover our comprehensive colour range

Are you passionate about bricks? So are we. That is why we have been offering a comprehensive range of facing bricks for the past three generations – each brick being produced with passion and expertise.

So, continue reading to discover bricks that perfectly match your project.



350 Rainbow White



125 Perla



14 Zena

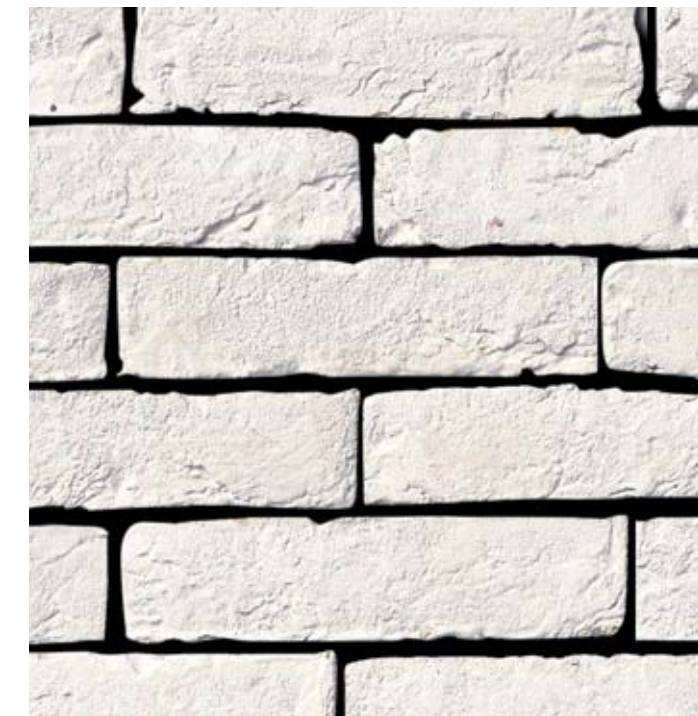




"The Rainbow White has turned our home into a sleek and almost luminous whole. The brick adds tranquillity, while also being illuminating at the same time."



Arch. : Anja Visiers



350 Rainbow White



Ann & Philippe





124 Lima



38 Crème







360 Rainbow Snowdust



351 Rainbow Silver



361 Hubertus Snowdust



363 Pesa Snowdust



362 Rainbow Greydust



## Cemented

The alternative to limewashing

For the development of cemented bricks, we were inspired by an old technique for covering fired bricks with a thin white layer of plaster; the technique was called limewashing. The process involves using a brush to spread a mix of water, slaked lime and sand on the façade. This allows you to create a nice rustic look which is perfect for country homes.

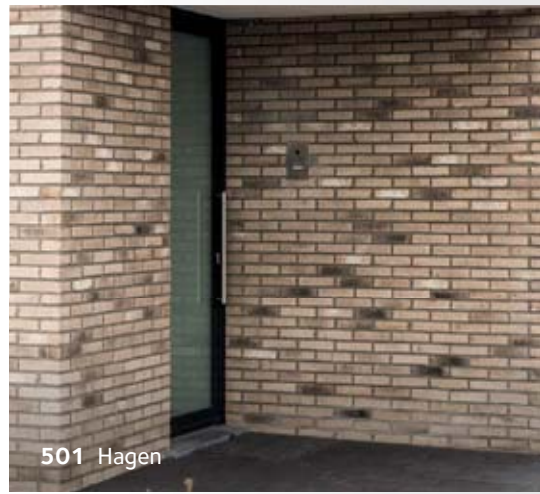
Cemented bricks in the Rainbow and Snowdust range have already been given a layer of limewash in the factory. If they are laid and finished with a suitable joint, you can create the same appearance as a limewashed façade. But you can also decide to glue them instead of using joints; the result will be a surprising modern look.







152 Antro



501 Hagen



503 Berit



43 Argentis



# Smothering

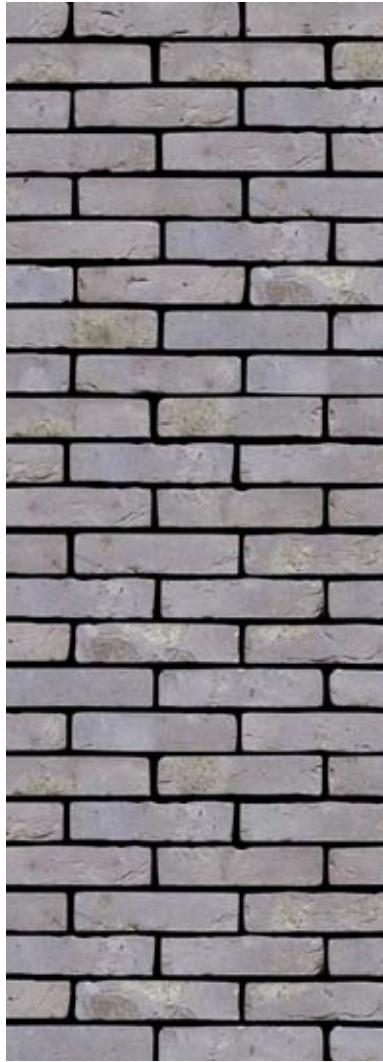
Unique grey tints

Smothering involves placing already fired bricks into the kiln for a second time. Not to fire them again, but to influence their colour.

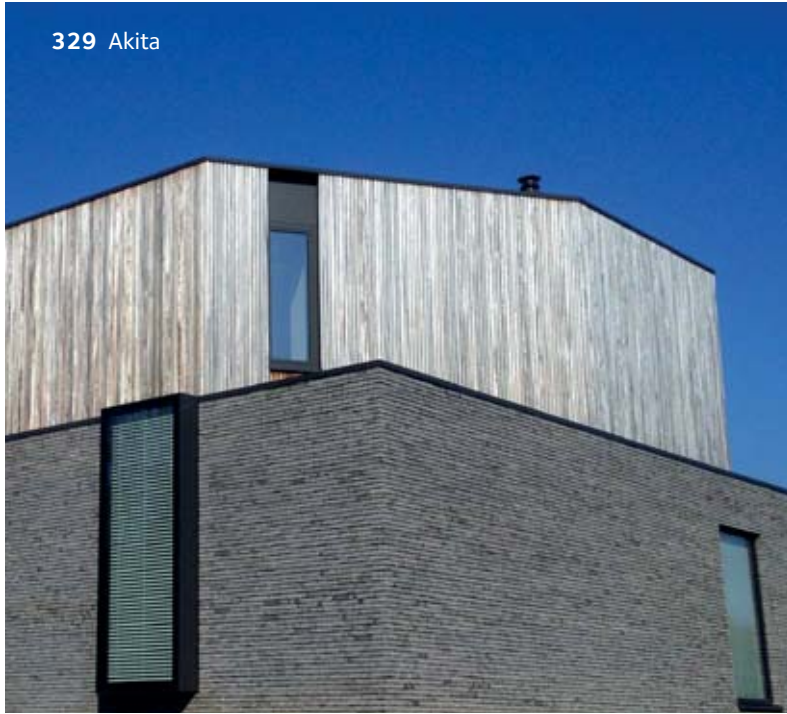
During the smothering process, it is crucial to create an intense, oxygen-free kiln atmosphere. The gas in the kiln will then extract oxygen from the bricks themselves. The iron oxide in the bricks will change colour and give the bricks their typical grey colour. The colour will be determined by the type of bricks in the smothering kiln. White bricks will later become light grey. Yellow, orange, red or brown bricks will have tints ranging from grey to dark grey after the smothering process. If the initial brick has multiple colours, this will result in a smothered version featuring several tints of grey. These hues are often very intense and add character: they look stunning in creative architecture.







329 Akita



334 Lupus



328 Alu



"This brick has helped to make our home up-to-date and modern, while keeping it warm and humble. Exactly what we were looking for."



75 Quartis



**Nicole & Hugo**





75 Quartis



75 Quartis



123 Rega



123 Rega





"Because the bricks have been placed in different directions, the colour of the façade is whimsical yet still tranquil. Our home is contemporary and perfectly reflects our personal style."



123 Rega



**Laura & Eric**





107 Cronus Antiek



4 Platina



58 Mistral



74 Sao Paulo

4 Platina



147 Imperia



79 Anicius



147 Imperia

new





"First and foremost, our home had to have a modern yet warm appearance. This brick is everything we wanted and we are very proud of the end result!"



147 Imperia



**Xavier, Max & Elena**





8 Lindebloem



7 Geel Zilverzand



52 Toscane



325 Garda



301 A Mirabel



31 Kuststeen





302 Hubertus



64 Corum







101 Oud Blanckaert



20 Oude Kuststeen





## Aging

The appearance of a reclaimed brick with the quality of a new, contemporary brick

You can give your home authentic character by using old bricks in the façade. However, reclaimed bricks are rare and expensive. And they offer no quality guarantee whatsoever.

But there's no need to worry, because Vandersanden's aged range offers the same appearance without making concessions in quality. Our personally developed and patented forming procedure helps to create facing bricks that cannot be distinguished from reclaimed bricks. In essence, we add a finishing process to the handmade technique. After the drying process, extra pigment is added to the surface of unfired facing bricks, they are then tumbled in an industrial sized drum. Only then are bricks placed inside the kiln for firing.

This 'aging' looks very natural because the unfired product offers much higher plasticity than the fired version. Aged facing bricks are generally used in more rural styles of architecture. But recent realisations show they can also offer a creative twist in modern styles.







81 Ligure



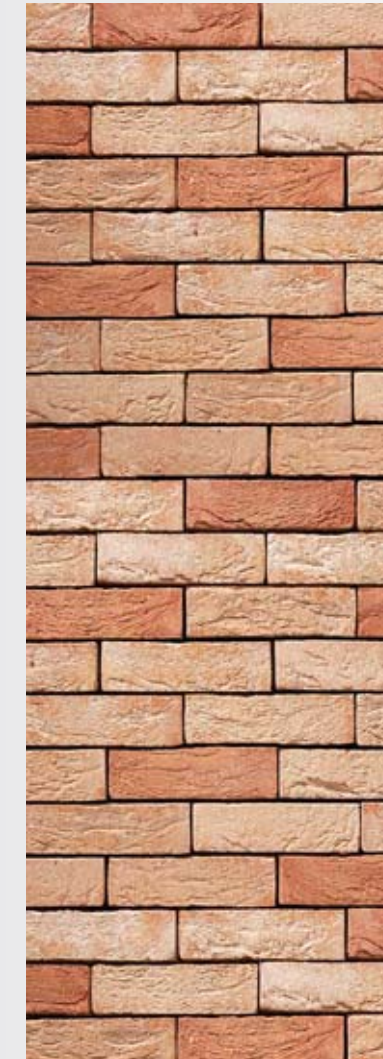
28 Mosa



304 Terra Cotta



6 Rosé

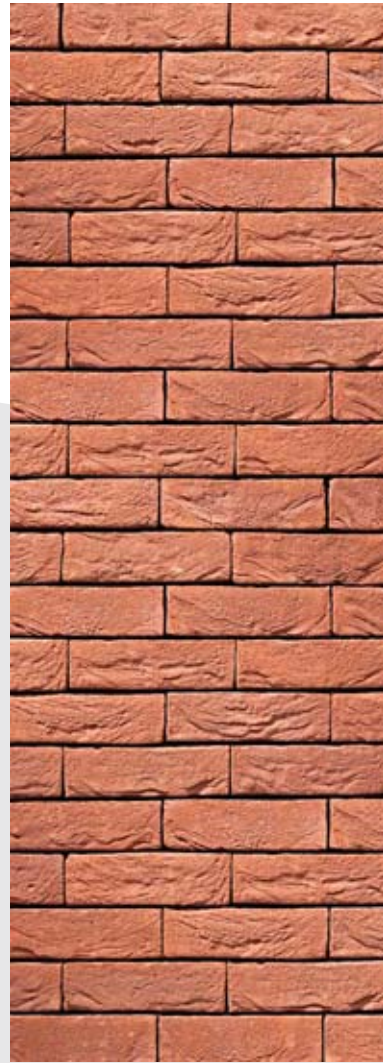


3 Neo Magnolia



3 Neo Magnolia





2 Heidebloem



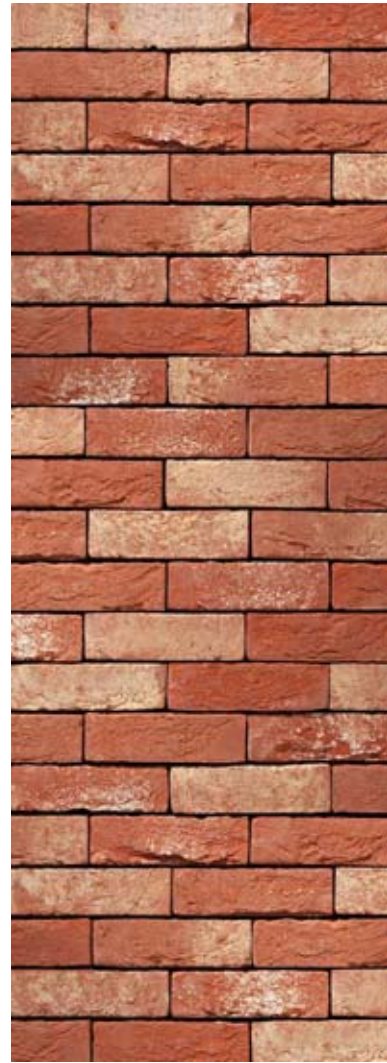
22 Lyssoise



15 Azalea



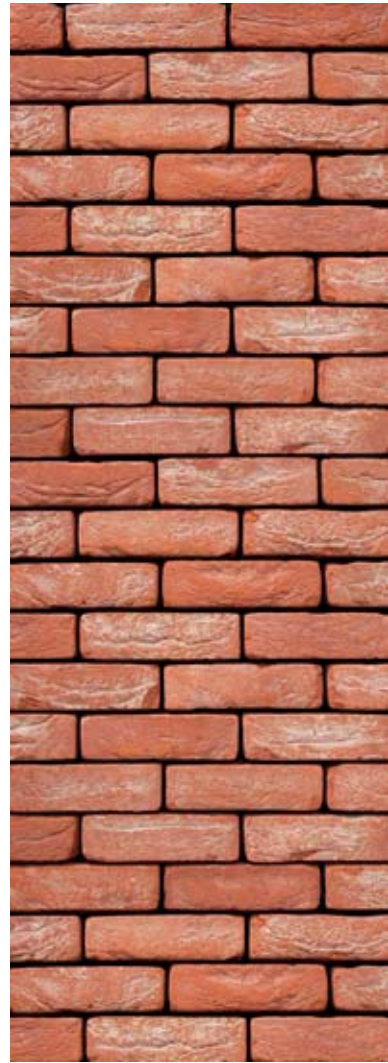
63 Cayenne



61 Affligem



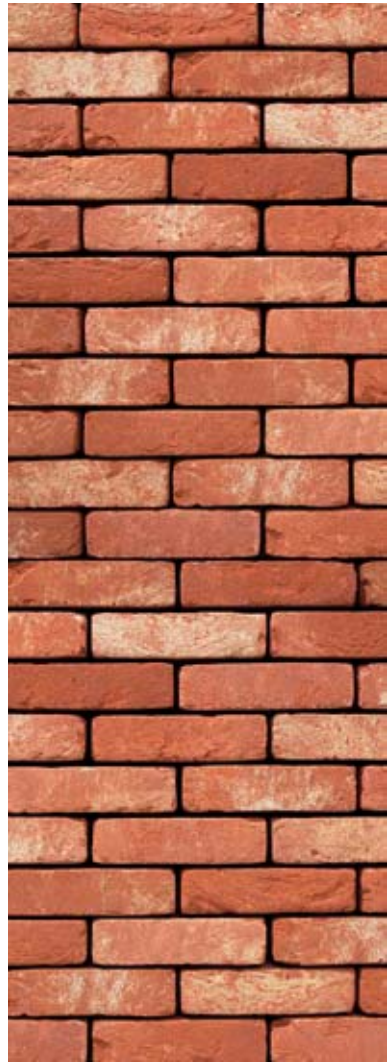
new



63 G Oud Capitool



new



61 G Oud Gilde



## Tumbled

The cousin of our aged facing bricks

Not all bricks in our range with a reference to 'Oud' are produced using the aging process. Oud Warande is a tumbled facing brick (Oud Brabant and Old Coachhouse are aged bricks).

What is the difference? Unlike aged facing bricks, they are tumbled after the firing process. For the Old Victorian, cement pulp is also added to the drum to create extra colour effects. Tumbled bricks have a slightly rougher structure compared to their aged cousins but have the same authentic and timeless appearance.







102 Oud Halewijn



60 Oud Brabant



60 Oud Brabant



60 Oud Brabant





"We were determined to build our home in classic vicarage style.  
This brick made it possible and the result perfectly matches our taste."



60 Oud Brabant

**Sarah & Jonathan**





40 Oud Maasland



40 Oud Maasland



90 Oud Warande

90 Oud Warande



17 Gala



70 Oud Herve



599 Prado



17 Gala





11 Terra Rood



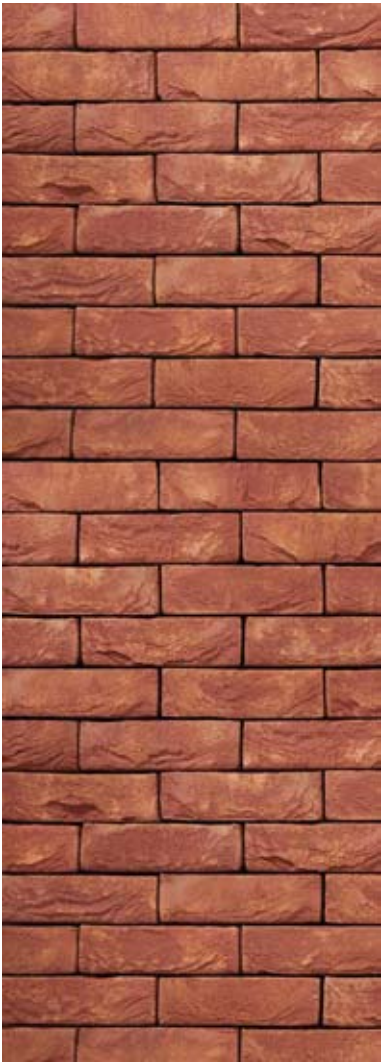
11 Terra Rood



86 Boston



new



126 Floria



86 Boston

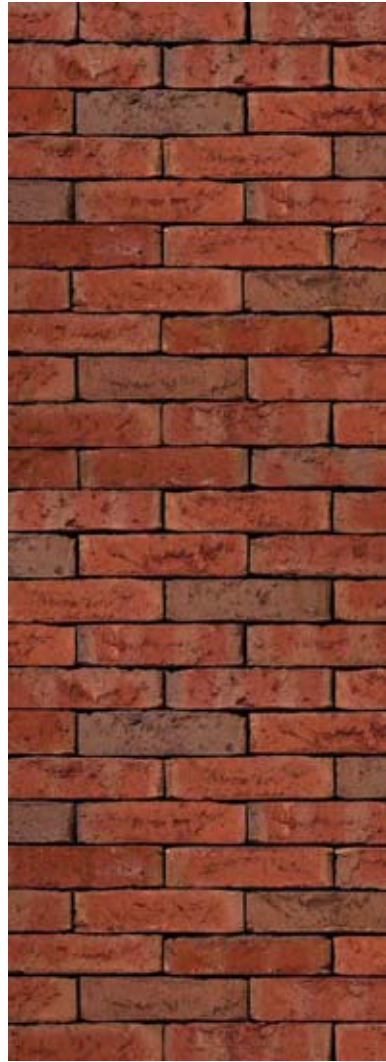




new



127 Omega



523 Exelsa



new



510 Torben



513 Billund





# Engobing

For original colour combinations

Our experienced brick-makers can create many colours by varying the choice of clay and sand. However, if we are unable to achieve the desired colour combination, we rely on another technique: engobing.

Engobes are colorants that primarily consist of clay minerals and oxides. When mixed with water, a liquid mass is created that can be sprayed as a thin layer on unfired bricks using special spraying heads. Once in the kiln, these engobes harden on the brick surface. Engobe stains can cover all or part of the brick's surface. They exist in all colours of the rainbow.







96 A5 Nubia



24 Barok



23 Romance



24 Barok



27 Avondrood



26 Alpenroos



18 Viola Light



27 Avondrood





312 Castello Rood



95 Scala



13 Viola



565 Reno



68 Safora







"We wanted to add a wellness room to our single-family home. Both elements had to come together as a whole, so we decided to use the same style for our extension and our existing home. The result was in perfect harmony, but a change in mortar helped to create a subtle distinction between our private home and the spa area."



68 Safora

**Valerie & Frank**





99 Marron



99 Marron



35 Salvia



35 Salvia



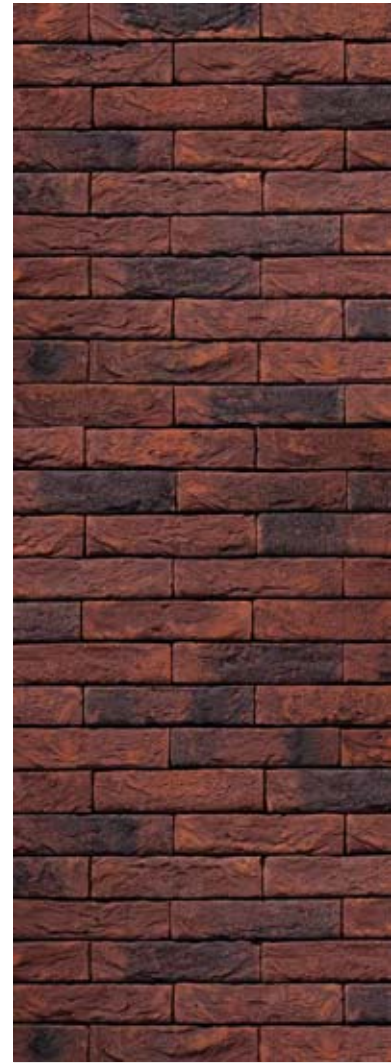
19 Sepia







535 Medoc



47 Salvia Gesinteld



33 Parma



76 Carbon

47 Salvia Gesinteld



33 Parma



76 Carbon



461 Greifswald



455 Cottbus





401 Amsterdam Impression



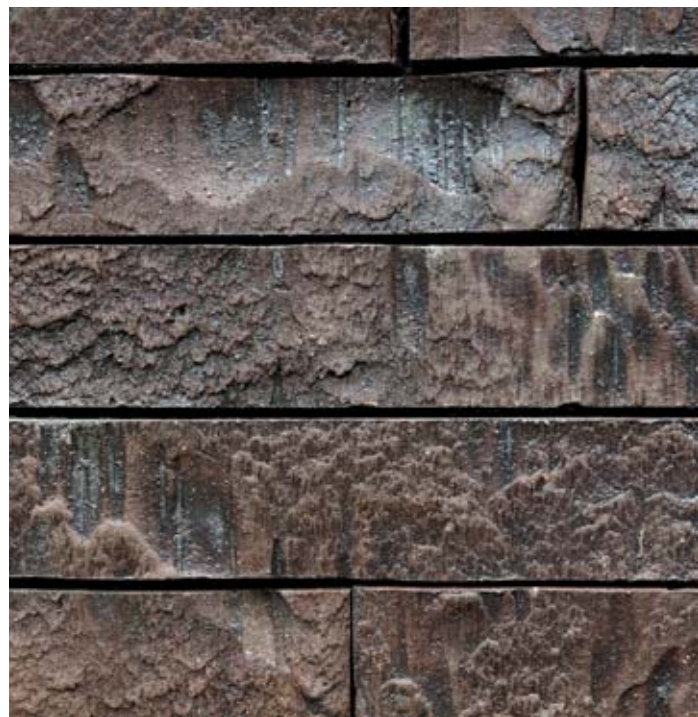
401 Amsterdam Impression



402 Praag Impression



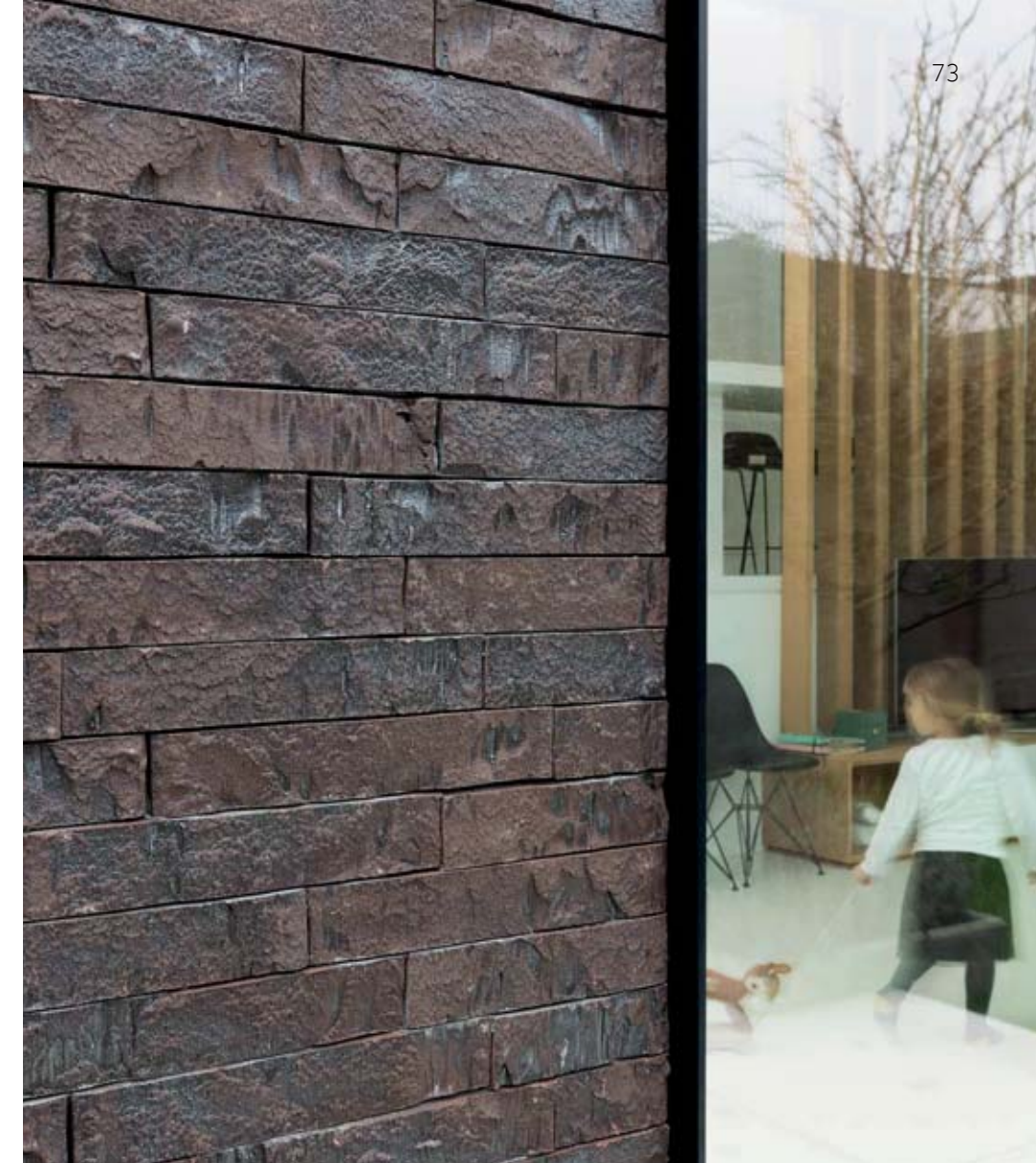
"We really wanted a glued façade where the joints were almost invisible. Its rough face and subtle shades of colour immediately appealed to us. We opted for an extra-long and thin size, which helped to reinforce the horizontality of our façade."



402 Praag Impression



Arch.: Popp-Aert Architecten



Nathalie & Timothy



# Impression

Impressive wire-cut press bricks catch the eye

In general, wire-cut bricks – which are also known as mechanical bricks – are characterised by a uniform colour, a smooth surface and straight corners. The smooth aspect certainly does not apply to bricks in the Impression series.

Clay dies have actually been impressed with varying motifs for the visible side. That's how the series gets its name. This results in a brick with a remarkably rough surface and a subtle shine. Besides the Amsterdam and Prague Impressions, these anthracite grey bricks also come in a Briljant Zwart Impression.





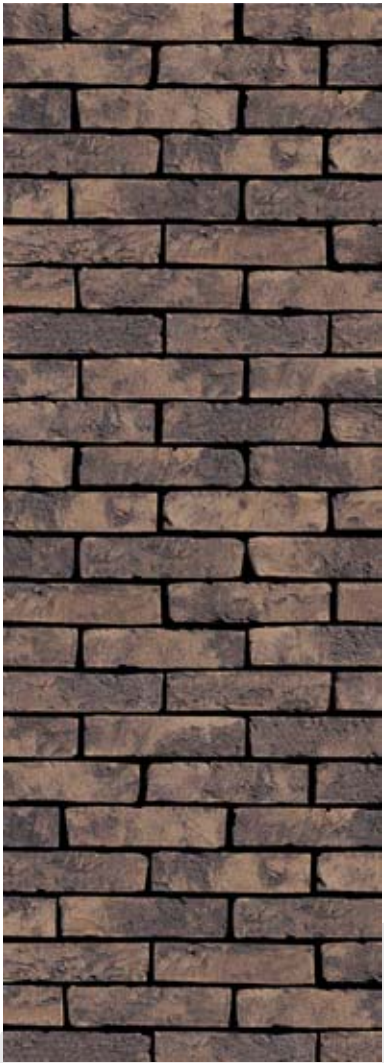


327 Lagos

155 Vecto



9 Java



319 Cambio



155 Vecto



122 Brama



## Zero

Traditional masonry with a joint-free appearance

Several construction techniques can be used to create a brick-only façade, without joints. Gluing bricks is the most well-known technique, but you can also work with thin-bed mortar, which is something in between glue mortar and classic masonry mortar.

But there is also a third possibility. Vandersanden has developed a brick with a patented shape. Zero® bricks have a special cavity at the top and an oval opening in the centre. Bricklayers can use a trowel to place mortar on the mortar bed (which features a hole) as they normally would. The joint between brick layers should be reduced to around 3 mm at the front, as during gluing. The content center at the back of this brochure tells you which brick colours are available for this unique brick format.







45 Lithium

45 Lithium



71 Cortona



73 Leto



73 Leto



## Applikation

Extra cachet and sleekness



Our German brick factory in Oberlausitz, which is close to Dresden, specialises in the production of extrusion bricks and clay clinker bricks. A completely new technique was recently developed for enhancing the surface of bricks.

This involves placing a mix of engobes and cinders on the clay die. This results in special colour nuances that contrast nicely with the smoothness of extrusion bricks. Everything is finished using special shine effects. Greifswald, Chemnitz and Brandenburg are the first developments with this technique and have a dark red, brown and black basis respectively. Discover them in this brochure.







**330** Nevado Light



**335** Atlas



**516** Flemming



**335** Atlas



**458** Chemnitz



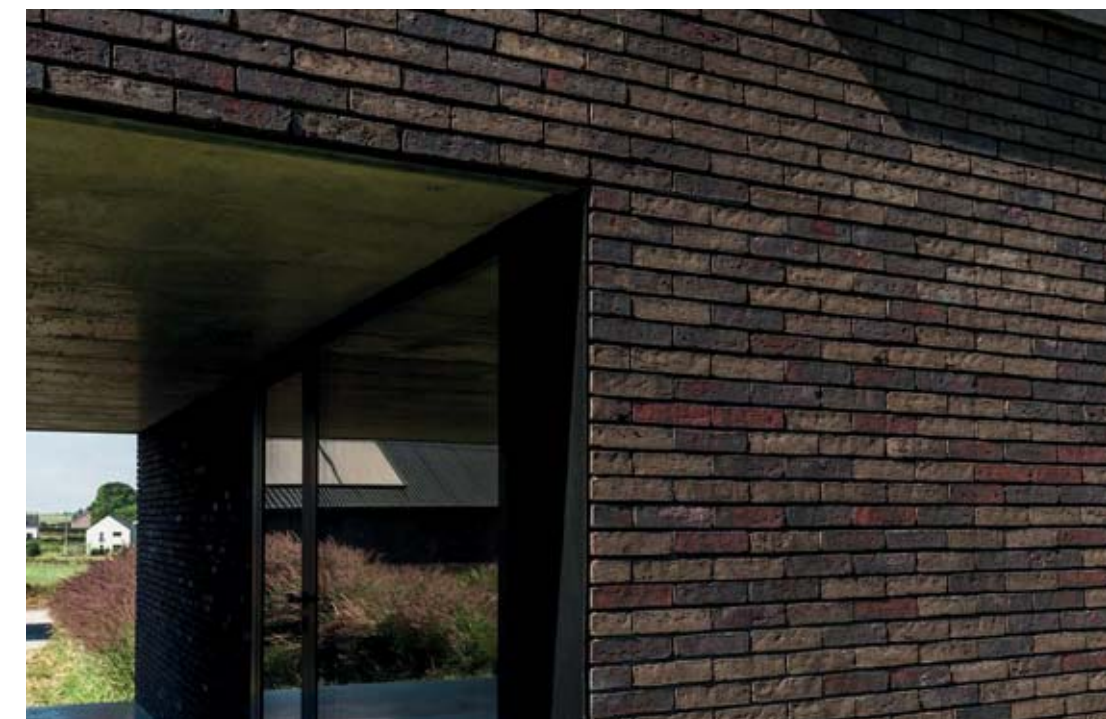




“Very often we get positive reactions to our choice of facing brick, we are also very happy with the end result which is playful but still modern”



515 Herning

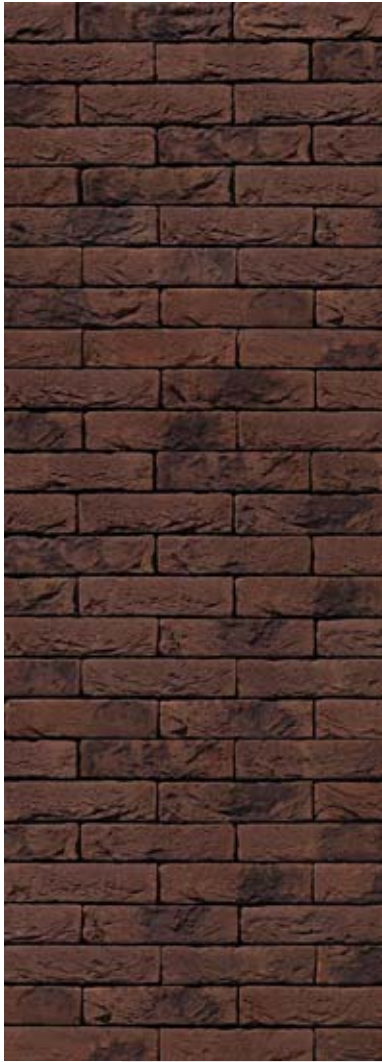


Caroline & James





515 Herning



97 Robusta



72 Treviso



321 Umber



1 Zwart Mangan



55 Livorno







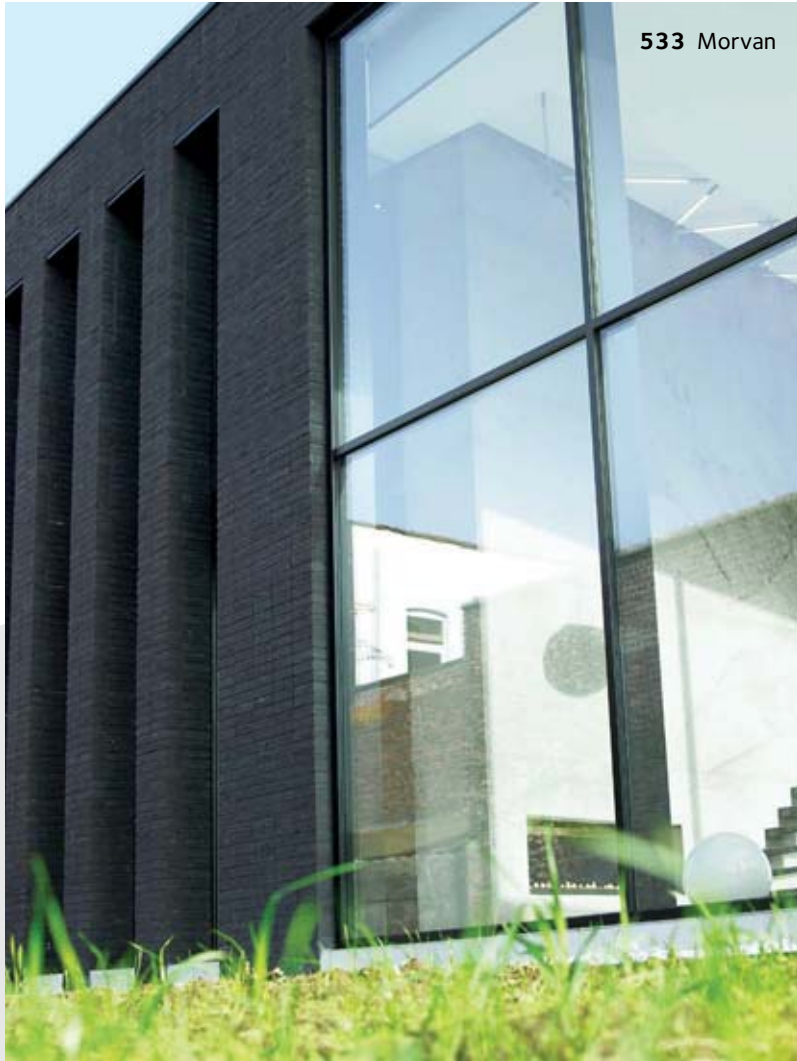
459 Brandenburg



457 Potsdam



403 Briljant Zwart Impression



533 Morvan



403 Briljant Zwart Impression



533 Morvan



533 Morvan Waterstruck





533 Morvan



"This dark hand-formed brick immediately attracted our attention. We liked it so much that we even used it for our interior."

**Megan, Patrick & Mike**





## Brick basics

The effect of mortar

Already selected your favourite colour?  
But remember: the look of your façade is greatly determined by  
how your selected brick is incorporated.

68 Safora ZERO®

ARCH.: Michel Bylois,  
ILB Architecten



**Zero®**  
100% brick

Pure, streamlined brick façade with a modern look, where the colour of the brick is not influenced by the colour of the joint. Zero allows you to create this joint-free effect using traditional brickwork. Choice of 13 colours. Unique and exclusively available from Vandersanden.



## Brick basics

Size plays a major role in how brick façades are perceived.

Bricks with a bigger size increase the brickwork area while reducing the mortar area. And vice versa.

Most colours in the Vandersanden facing brick range are available in several of these sizes:

<b>M50</b> ± 190 x 90 x 50 mm
<b>WF</b> ± 210 x 100 x 50 mm
<b>M65</b> ± 190 x 90 x 65 mm
<b>DF</b> ± 210 x 100 x 65 mm
<b>ZERO</b> ± 204 x 100 x 50 mm
<b>HF</b> ± 228 x 90 x 40 mm
<b>LF40</b> ± 240 x 90 x 40 mm
<b>XL45</b> ± 290 x 65 x 45 mm
<b>NF</b> ± 240 x 115 x 70 mm
<b>BDF</b> ± 240 x 110 x 50 mm
<b>RF</b> ± 250 x 120 x 65 mm

## Long sizes LF40–HF–XL45

Thin and long; sleek and refined

A clear trend can be witnessed in modern brick architecture. Thin, long bricks are becoming increasingly popular. They make buildings look wider because they emphasise horizontality. This can, for example, be appealing for homes on narrow plots, or projects where this effect helps to enhance the architecture. Vandersanden offers various colours in sizes LF40 (± 24/9/4 cm), HF (± 22.8/9/4 cm) and XL45 (± 29/6.5/4.5 cm). The index table at the back of this brochure tells you which colours are available for these sizes.

Long sized bricks are normally glued instead of being laid traditionally. Jointing without a vertical joint also creates a very nice result. You can always visit [www.vandersanden.com](http://www.vandersanden.com) for further information about joints.

147 Imperia

565 Reno



## Wechselsortierung

Quickly turn around for another look

The German term probably tells you that we have returned to Oberlausitz in Germany. You're right. Extruded bricks normally have just one face side. The back is not normally processed, has a slightly duller colour and a rougher texture due to transport on the factory conveyor belt.

If you decide to mix the back and front sides when laying the bricks, you get a façade with greater nuances and an intriguing mix of smooth and matt, with different degrees of shine. The Potsdam is thus normally a sleek, uniform blue/black facing brick. But the Potsdam looks surprisingly different in Wechselsortierung.



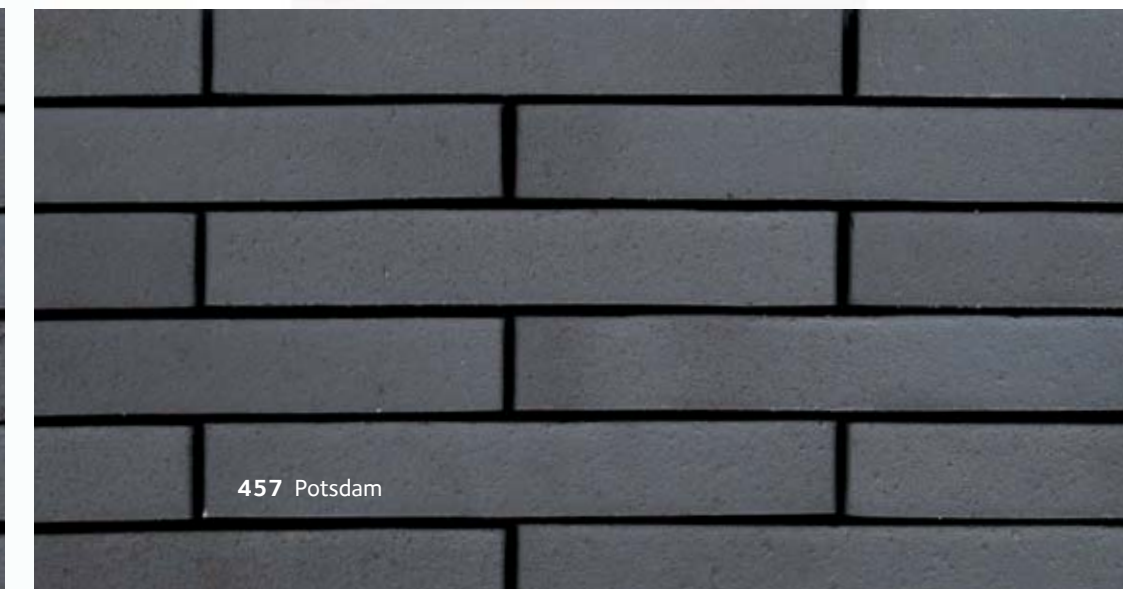
461 Greifswald - Wechselsortierung



461 Greifswald



457 Potsdam - Wechselsortierung



457 Potsdam

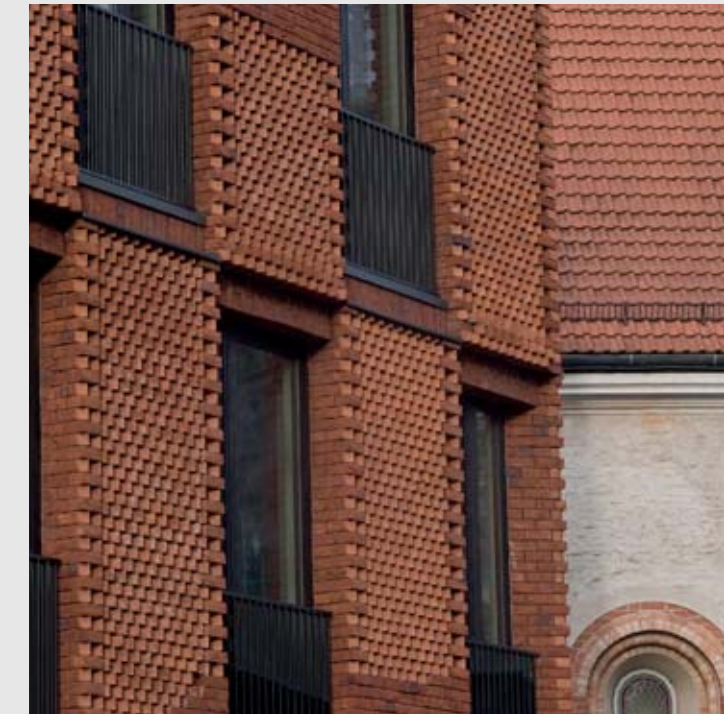




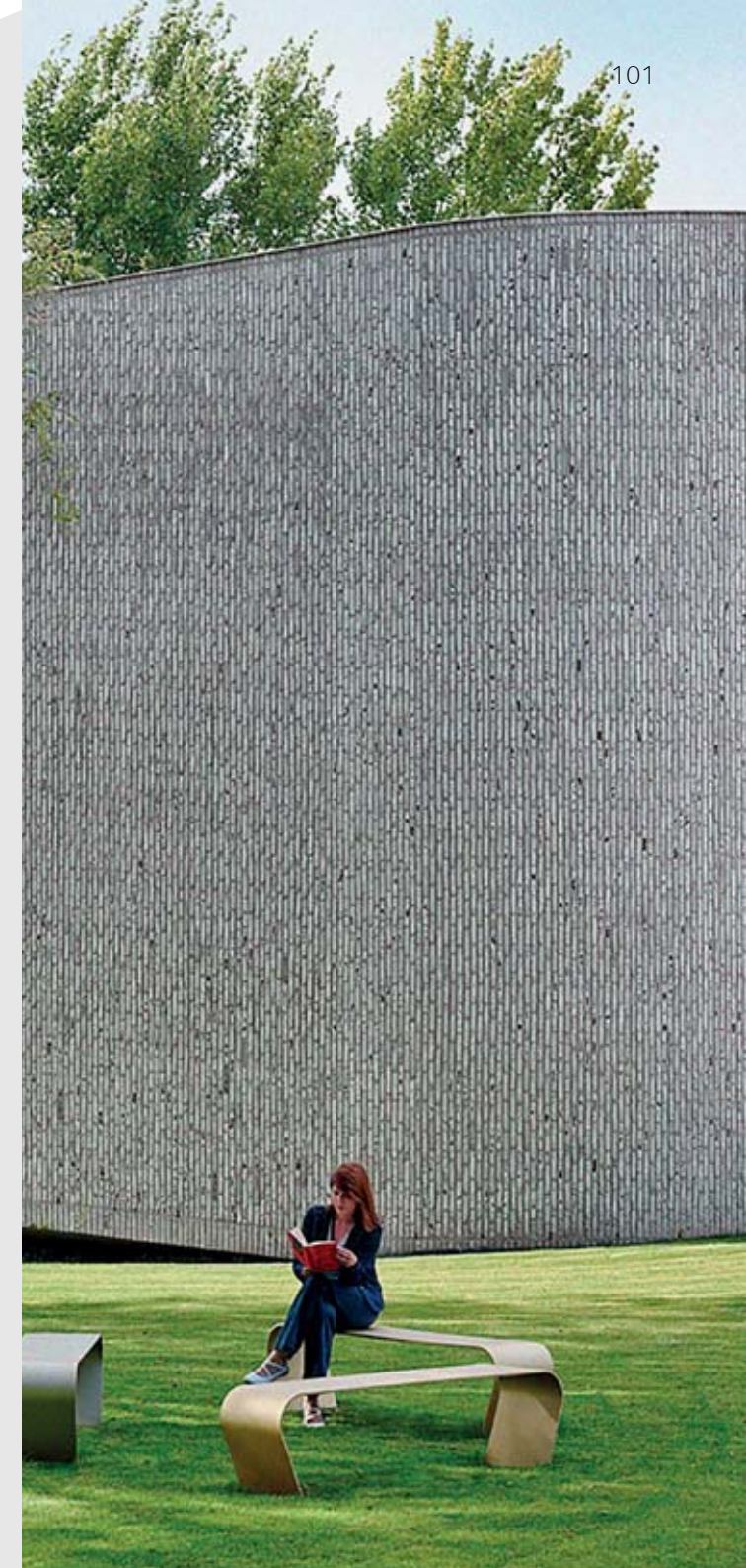
## Brick basics

### Mortar joints

The way in which a brick is laid – the mortar joint – also has a major impact on the look of a façade. A carefully selected mortar joint will add extra flair and character to your home.



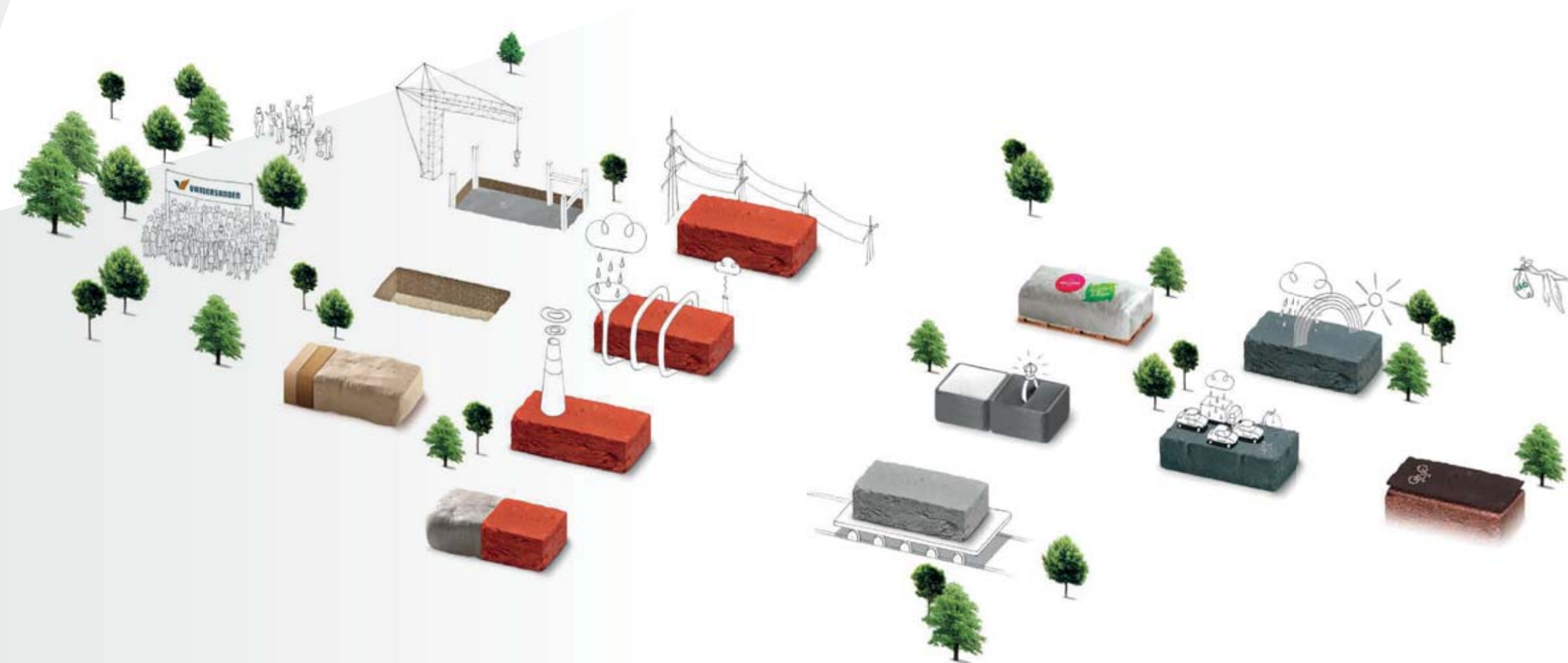
Allow yourself to be inspired at **[www.vandersanden.com](http://www.vandersanden.com)**.  
You will be able to check out hundreds of sample projects.





# For a sustainable future

Ever since 1924, Vandersanden has been producing facing bricks with respect for nature as well as people in and around our company. And we want to continue earning this respect; not just by saying the right things, but by also doing them!



**Bricks are sustainable. Bricks become even more sustainable when they are produced, packaged and distributed by a sustainable company like Vandersanden.**

- 1 This starts with the very basics, namely the raw materials used for our facing bricks. For instance, we obtain 50% of our clay from raw materials originating from construction and infrastructure projects. This helps to reduce mining activities.
- 2 Did you know that bricks are produced using 100% natural raw materials? The only thing we add to the clay is sand and natural pigments.
- 3 During production, every kilogram of raw material becomes a kilogram of bricks.
- 4 In addition, our production process does not create any waste.
- 5 By efficiently using rain and ground water in a closed circuit, we have even been able to eliminate the discharge of waste water.
- 6 And, of course, we try to keep our CO2 emissions to a minimum. Thanks to more energy-efficient ovens, better drying chambers, solar panels and heat recuperation, we now only need 50% of the energy we consumed in 1983.

In addition, facing bricks last for 100 years. But they can still be used for another purpose after this period. Thus, a truly sustainable product!

Discover our full sustainability policy on  
[www.vandersanden.com](http://www.vandersanden.com).



CONTENT CENTER

Mentioned quantities per m² apply to classic brickwork with joints of ± 12 mm. For glued brickwork (joint 4 mm), bear in mind ± 15% extra bricks per m². The number of bricks per m² for the ZERO format applies when joints measure 3 to 4 mm. If joints measure 2 to 3 mm, you will need ± 94 bricks per m².

● = only on request

SIZES			M50	WF	DF	LF40	HF	XL45	ZERO	BDF	NF
Amount/m²			± 83	± 72	± 58	± 76	± 83	± 60	± 90	± 64	± 48
NR.	NAME	Page									
61	Affligem	45	●		●						
329	Akita	22		●	●						
26	Alpenroos	61			●						
328	Alu	23		●	●		●				
401	Amsterdam Impression	70		●							
79	Anicius	31		●	●						
152	Antro	18		●	●	●					
43	Argentis	19	●	●	●				●		
335	Atlas	83		●							
27	Avondrood	61			●						
15	Azalea	44			●						
24	Barok	60		●	●						●
503	Berit	19		●	●					●	●
513	Billund	57		●	●						●
86	Boston	55		●	●						
122	Brama	77		●	●						
459	Brandenburg	90						●			●
403	Briljant Zwart Impression	91		●							
319	Cambio	77		●	●						
76	Carbon	68		●							
312	Castello Rood	62		●	●						
63	Cayenne	44			●						
458	Chemnitz	83						●			●

SIZES			M50	WF	DF	LF40	HF	XL45	ZERO	BDF	NF
Amount/m²			± 83	± 72	± 58	± 76	± 83	± 60	± 90	± 64	± 48
NR.	NAME	Page									
71	Cortona	81		●	●						
64	Corum	36		●	●			●			
455	Cottbus	69						●			●
38	Crème	12	●	●	●						
107	Cronus Antiek	30	●		●						
523	Exelsa	56		●							
516	Flemming	88		●							●
126	Floria	55			●						
17	Gala	53			●						
325	Garda	35		●	●						
7	Geel Zilverzand	35	●		●						
461	Greifswald	69						●		●	●
501	Hagen	19		●	●					●	●
2	Heidebloem	44			●					●	
515	Herning	88		●	●						
302	Hubertus	36		●	●						
361	Hubertus Snowdust	15		●	●						
147	Imperia	31			●	●					●
9	Java	77	●	●	●						
31	Kuststeen	35			●						
4	Lagos	76		●							
73	Leto	81	●	●	●				●		
81	Ligure	42		●	●						
124	Lima	12		●	●						
8	Lindebloem	34	●		●						
45	Lithium	80		●	●	●			●		
55	Livorno	89		●	●				●		
334	Lupus	23		●	●						
22	Lyssoise	44			●						
99	Marron	66		●					●		
535	Medoc	68		●							



SIZES			M50	WF	DF	LF40	HF	XL45	ZERO	BDF	NF
Amount/m²			± 83	± 72	± 58	± 76	± 83	± 60	± 90	± 64	± 48
NR.	NAME	Page									
301 A	Mirabel	35		●							
58	Mistral	30	●	●	●						
533	Morvan	91		●	●	●					
533	Morvan Waterstruck	91		●							
28	Mosa	42		●	●						
3	Neo Magnolia	43	●		●						
330	Nevado Light	82		●	●		●				
96 A5	Nubia	60		●	●						
127	Omega	56				●					
101	Oud Blanckaert	38			●						
60	Oud Brabant	49	●		●						
63 G	Oud Capitool	45									
61 G	Oud Gilde	45									
102	Oud Halewijn	48			●						
70	Oud Herve	53			●						
40	Oud Maasland	52		●	●						
90	Oud Warande	52		●	●						
20	Oude Kuststeen	39			●						
33	Parma	68		●	●				●		
125	Perla	9		●	●						
363	Pesa Snowdust	15		●	●						
4	Platina	30	●	●	●				●		
457	Potsdam	90						●			●
402	Praag Impression	71		●							
599	Prado	53			●						
75	Quartis	26	●	●	●				●		
362	Rainbow Greydust	15		●	●						
351	Rainbow Silver	15		●	●		●				
360	Rainbow Snowdust	14		●	●		●				
350	Rainbow White	9		●	●		●				
123	Rega	27		●	●						

SIZES			M50	WF	DF	LF40	HF	XL45	ZERO	BDF	NF
Amount/m²			± 83	± 72	± 58	± 76	± 83	± 60	± 90	± 64	± 48
NR.	NAME	Page									
565	Reno	63		●		●					
97	Robusta	88		●							
23	Romance	60			●						
6	Rosé	43			●						
68	Safora	63		●	●	●			●		
35	Salvia	67		●	●				●		
47	Salvia Gesinteld	68		●							
74	Sao Paulo	30		●	●						
95	Scala	62		●	●						●
19	Sepia	67		●	●				●		
304	Terra Cotta	43		●	●						
11	Terra Rood	54			●				●		
510	Torben	56		●							
52	Toscane	35			●						
72	Treviso	88		●	●						
321	Umber	89		●	●		●				
155	Vecto	77		●	●						
13	Viola	63		●	●						
18	Viola Light	61		●	●						
14	Zena	9		●	●						
1	Zwart Mangaan	89	●	●	●				●		

● = only on request



**External wall insulation with E-Board®**

Julie: "I wanted to perform a complete renovation in order to realise an almost energy neutral home.

As far as I am concerned, the ecological aspect – which is very important to me – is fantastic. Clay is an honest material that is mined close to the brickyard, which means the ecological 'footprint' associated with transport is almost non-existent. The factory has also undergone ecological optimisations. I opted for an anthracite grey facing brick with blue/grey nuances. This creates a nice contrast with the wooden window frames."

**E-BOARD** ■■



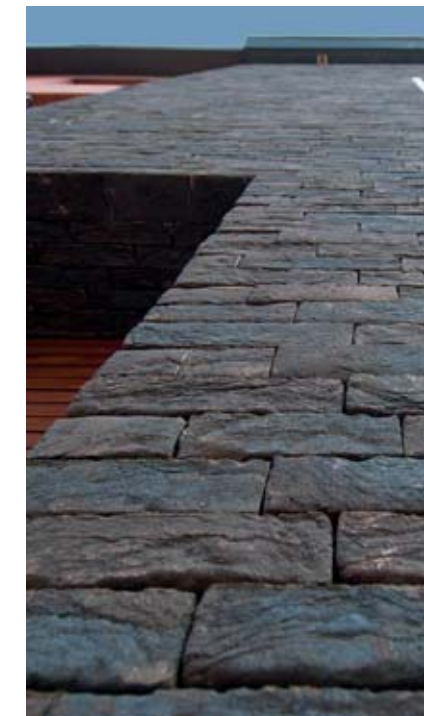
Before



After



E-Board® package



Learn everything about it at  
**[www.vandersanden.com](http://www.vandersanden.com)**.

**Julie & Robin**



Your project is in  
good hands with us



You are always welcome to visit one of our showrooms to view, feel and compare our collection. Our staff will be pleased to offer you tips and information.

**Do not hesitate to ask for a few free samples.**

This will allow you to combine your preferred brick with the colour and material of your windows, doors, roof and other woodwork. We also highly recommend paying a visit to our inspirational reference projects.

Visit [www.vandersanden.com](http://www.vandersanden.com).



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