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Description

- **Glass block** is an unique building material and was developed in the 1900's to provide natural light in manufacturing plants.
- It has a dynamic relationship with light—both natural and artificial. As light changes so do the material's appearance and the surrounding environment. Basically, glass blocks are architectural elements which consist of glass.

- The silico-sodo-calcium glass used is obtained by fusion at approximately 1150°c of a silica mixture, sodium and lime.

- The unit can be hollow or solid and comes in a wide variety of sizes, dimensions, styles, colors, opacity, and construction depending on the intended application. They come in individual blocks or pre-assembled panels.
- The most commonly used units are square (6-, 8-, or 12-inch sizes). Rectangular units (4x8-inch and 6x8-inch) are also available, as are bull-nosed edge blocks for finishing horizontal and vertical panels, and various corner and angular blocks.

Application and Advantages of Glass Blocks

- Glass block can be used in residential as well as commercial projects, as non-load bearing walls, windows, or partitions. Popular uses include shower stall walls, interior partitions, sidelights for entry doors, basement windows and windowless kitchen walls.
- There are numerous advantages in using glass blocks in both residential housing and commercial buildings.
- These materials are considered as a powerful alternative to windows while it can be a part of the walls that could provide great illumination and insulation.

- **Allows Natural Light to Pass**
- **Provides Privacy**
- **Comes in a Variety of Options**
- **Security**
- **Durability**
- **Provides a Good Thermal and Sound Insulation**
- **Extremely Resistant**
- **Green Building Credits**
- **Glass block showers**

- **Con: No Natural Ventilation**
- **Con: Structural Issues**