

Figure 15-40 Brick masonry expansion joints.



Figure 15-41 Remove boards or other non-compressible fillers used to keep mortar and debris out of expansion joints during construction.

should be placed in the bed joint below to contain the pour (see Fig. 15-50). Grouting of concrete masonry should be performed as soon as possible after the units are placed so that shrinkage cracking at the joints is minimized, and so that the grout bonds properly with the mortar.

The *low-lift method* of grouting a wall is done in maximum 12-in. lifts as the wall is laid up (see Fig. 15-51) and to a maximum pour height of 5 ft (see Fig. 15-52). For double-wythe wall construction, the first wythe is laid up, followed by the second wythe, which is generally left 8 to 12 in. lower. Grout should be well mixed to avoid segregation of materials, and carefully poured to avoid splashing on the top of the brick, since dried grout will prevent proper mortar bond at the succeeding bed joint. At least 15 minutes should elapse between pours to allow the grout to achieve some degree of stiffness before the next layer is added. If grout is poured too quickly, and the mortar joints are fresh, hydrostatic pressure can cause the wall to bulge out

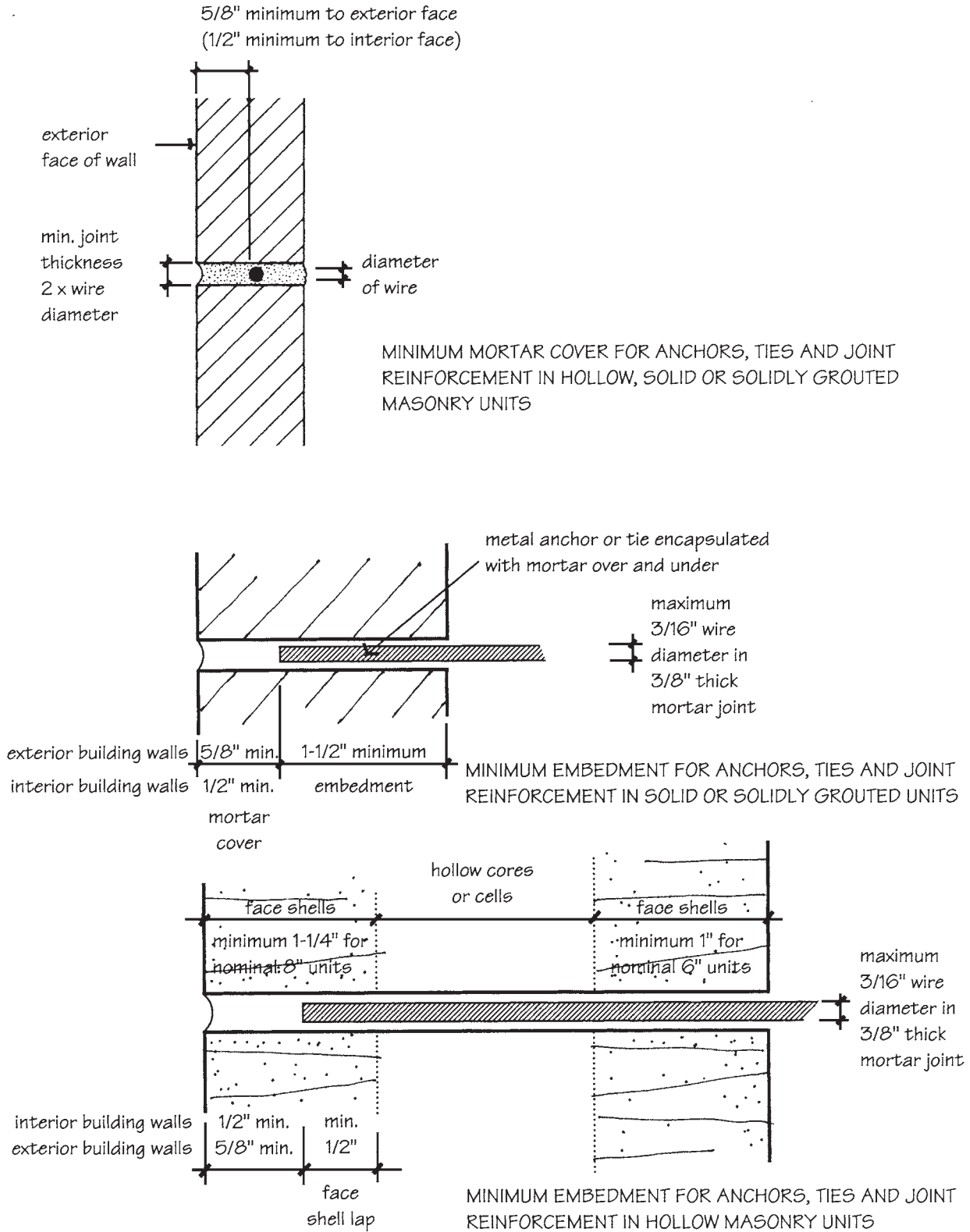


Figure 15-42 Minimum embedment and mortar cover for masonry anchors, ties, and joint reinforcement.