

MasterFormat what is it and how to use it

WHAT IS IT

MASTERFORMAT and UNIFORMAT are organization systems to classify the construction components (what is being built) and the construction activities (the processes that need to be followed before, during and after the construction period).

These systems were developed by the CSI (Construction Specifications Institute) are the national standards followed by the construction industry, including us.

MasterFormat is used mainly to identify information in the specifications.

WHERE IS IT?

MasterFormat can be downloaded from Rspace.

MASTERFORMAT ORGANIZATION

MasterFormat is a classification of construction administration procedures and individual construction components published by the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI).

The system has 50 divisions, each describing a family of construction elements with similar characteristics. Some divisions are empty and they are intended as place-holders for future components.

The current MasterFormat Groups, Subgroups, and Divisions are:

PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS GROUP

Division 00 - Procurement and Contracting Requirements turers also do fabrication processes.

SPECIFICATIONS GROUP FACILITY CONSTRUCTION SUBGROUP

Division 01 - General Requirements

Division 02 - Existing Conditions

Division 03 - Concrete

Division 04 - Masonry work

Division 05 - Metals

Division 06 - Wood, Plastics, and Composites

Division 07 - Thermal and Moisture Protection

Division 08 - Openings

Division 09 - Finishes

Division 10 - Specialties

Division 11 - Equipment

Division 12 - Furnishings

Division 13 - Special Construction

Division 14 - Conveying Equipment

Divisions 15 through 20 - RESERVED FOR FUTURE EXPANSION

FACILITY SERVICES SUBGROUP

Division 21 — Fire Suppression

Division 22 — Plumbing

Division 23 — Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)

Division 24 — RESERVED FOR FUTURE EXPANSION

Division 25 — Integrated Automation

Division 26 — ElectricalDivision 27 — Communications

Division 28 — Electronic Safety and Security

Division 29 — RESERVED FOR FUTURE EXPANSION

TERMINOLOGY

This aspect of MasterFormat is very important for all of us, whether we work with specifications or not.

The terminology used in MasterFormat is the terminology industry standard terminology for identifying activities and components of the construction industry, and so, these are the terms that we should use in our documents.

For example, “plastic-laminate clad countertops” are very different from “quartz countertops”, not only in materials and construction, but also in price. Using the same term to identify both increases the possibility of errors in pricing and building.

SITE AND INFRASTRUCTURE SUBGROUP

Division 30 — RESERVED FOR FUTURE EXPANSION

Division 31 — Earthwork

Division 32 — Exterior Improvements

Division 33 — Utilities The following Divisions are included for information only since we do not use them in our type of projects.

Division 34 — Transportation

Division 35 — Waterway and Marine Construction

Divisions 36 through 39 — RESERVED FOR FUTURE EXPANSION

PROCESS EQUIPMENT SUBGROUP

Division 46 — Water and Wastewater Equipment

Division 47 — RESERVED FOR FUTURE EXPANSION

Division 48 — Electrical Power Generation

Division 49 — RESERVED FOR FUTURE EXPANSION

END

Our specs are based on MasterFormat. They are organized in Divisions and Sections:

- Each DIVISION includes a number of sections which address activities or construction components of the same category, for example, Division 08 is Openings.
- Each section is identified with SIX DIGITS, for example, SECTION 084423 - STRUCTURAL-SEALANT-GLAZED-CURTAIN WALLS
 - The first 2 digits identify the Division that section belongs to:
 - 08 stands for “OPENINGS”.

You can download MasterFormat from here:

<https://www.edmca.com/media/35207/masterformat-2016.pdf>