



The Construction Specifications Institute

# Construction Specifications Practice Guide

- Serves as an authoritative resource for effective writing of design intent
- Includes CSI's best practices for authoring specifications
- Offers specialized guidance on project information in the context of BIM and sustainable design



## Construction specifications

A **specification** (often abbreviated as **spec**) can be termed as a type of a technical standard to be referenced by a **contract** or procurement document. It contains the necessary details concerning the specific requirements to be persuaded by a material, product, or service.

The specifications are considered very important for suppliers, purchasers, and users of materials, products, or services in engineering, manufacturing, and business as these specifications cover up a extensive collection of general issues like definitions, bidding requirements, legal responsibilities, claims & payments; with details on specific items with respect to all construction project.

CSI (**Construction Specifications Institute**) is a renowned association that provides the standardization of construction language related with building specifications. CSI offers prearranged instructions for composing specification in their Project Resource Manual.

CSI published **MasterFormat**, an indexing system for categorizing construction data as well as construction specifications. It consists of **50 Divisions**, to be applied for integrating facility life cycle and maintenance information into the building knowledge base.

Almost the entire CSI approved sections contain performance and safety obligations produced by agencies like the **American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)**, **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)**, and several other federal and professional organizations.

CSI also publish **GreenFormat**, an online database that includes sustainable product attributes. Manufacturers associated with the construction industry will be able to register product information based on 5 categories in a widespread online questionnaire. All kinds of product information referenced by MasterFormat divisions and titles will be available to designers, specifiers, and building constructors.

Given below the detailed lists of construction specifications :-

### General Requirements - Division 01

This specification will include particular administrative and procedural requisites that belong to all of the Technical Specification sections. The General Requirements consist of specifics relevant directly to a particular project and written independently for each project. These will develop the expansive administrative and procedural conditions inscribed in the General and Supplementary Conditions documents. These will be applicable to the work of ALL Technical Specification sections. This document also sum ups the scope of work, exercise of the site, owner occupancy of building throughout construction, Phased construction activities, numerous prime contract requisites and eliminations and additions to be connected with the Plans. The General Requirements narrate the Contractor's administrative, procedural and other activities which should be submitted by the Contractor. In General Requirements section the following categories will be available.

#### Administrative

- 01010 Summary
- 01020 Allowances
- 01030 Alternates
- 01040 Coordination
- 01060 Regulatory Requirements
- 01080 Identification Systems
- 01090 References

**Procedural**

01025 Measurement and Payment  
01035 Modification Procedures  
01050 Field Engineering  
01100 Special Project Procedures  
01200 Project Meetings  
01300 Submittals such as Construction Schedule, Logs  
01400 Quality Control  
01600 Material and Equipment  
01650 Facility Startup/Commissioning  
01700 Contract Closeout  
01800 Maintenance

**Temporary Activities**

01500 Temporary Facilities

The Contractor's Responsibility is to comprise these items in Overhead.

**Technical Specifications**

Divisions 02 - 16 is known as the Technical Specifications. These construction specifications consist of the written description of the specific requirements regarding with a specific product or system. The specification provisions characterize and set up the quality level processes, standards of work and material standards. Each subsection will describe the scope, technical requirements, performance requirements, material suppliers, and quality requirements. The Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) has build up the following standard MasterFormat numbering system that includes the following

**Technical Specification Divisions.**

CSI Technical Specification *Division Numbers*

Division 2 - Site Work  
Division 3 - Concrete  
Division 4 - Masonry  
Division 5 - Metals  
Division 6 - Wood and Plastics  
Division 7 - Thermal and Moisture Protection  
Division 8 - Doors and Windows  
Division 9 - Finishes  
Division 10 - Specialties  
Division 11 - Equipment  
Division 12 - Furnishings  
Division 13 - Special Construction  
Division 14 - Conveying Systems  
Division 15 - Mechanical  
Division 16 - Electrical

The Construction Specification Institute (CSI) dissects each Division into Section Numbers by means of three digits and a Standard Format. The following demonstrates a portion of the section numbers for Division 02.

**DIVISION 02 - SITE WORK**

SECTION 02200 Earthwork  
SECTION 02210 Grading  
SECTION 02220 Excavating, Backfilling and Compacting  
SECTION 02300 Tunneling

The CSI Technical Specification Part Numbers are included in each Specification Section

inside a Division. Each Specification Section have three PARTS in the following order.

SECTION 02210 GRADING

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.01 SECTIONS INCLUDES

A. Subsoil and Topsoil materials

1.02 RELATED SECTIONS

A. Section 02050 - Demolition

B. Section 02100 - Site Preparation

C. Section 02140 - Dewatering

1.03 REFERENCES

A. ANSI/ASTM C136 - Method for Sieve Analysis of Aggregates.

B. ASTM D2487 - Classification of Soils for Engineering Purposes.

1.04 SUBMITTALS

A. Submit Cofferdam Design Drawings with engineer's seal.

B. Submit 10 pound sample of each type of soil in an air-tight container to test lab.

1.05 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

A. Store and protect materials under

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.01 MATERIALS

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.01 INSTALLATION

END OF SECTION

The Contractor has to find out whether there are any unexpected or nonstandard characteristics that may affect the cost. Supply a copy to subcontractors and suppliers if requesting price quotations.

[More construction specifications](#)

*Thank you*

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