

Glossary

1. **Tensile Stress**-The stress applied to a material is the force per unit area applied to the material. The maximum stress a material can stand before it breaks is called the breaking stress or ultimate tensile stress. Tensile means the material is under tension. The forces acting on it are trying to stretch the material.
2. **Shearing Stress**- A shear stress, is defined as the component of stress coplanar with a material cross section. Shear stress arises from the force vector component parallel to the cross section.
3. **Failure due to racking shear**-Failure due to racking shear is characterized by diagonal cracks which could be due to diagonal compression or diagonal tension. Such failure may be either through the pattern of joints or diagonally through masonry units.