**Consolidation: Building up materials and labour costs**

You have been assigned the task of calculating the cost of raking out and repointing a section of brick wall.

This exercise will help you understand the process of repointing, calculating the materials and the labour needed for a unit rate per square metre.

Repointing is fixing the worn-out mortar in a brick wall. Over time, the mortar between bricks can wear away because of weather and age. Repointing involves removing or ‘raking out’ the damaged mortar to a certain depth and replacing it with fresh mortar. This helps to keep the wall strong, stops water from getting in, and improves the wall’s appearance. It helps extend the life of the wall by making sure the bricks stay securely in place.

Select a section of brickwork that requires repointing. Measure the dimensions (height and length) of the wall section to determine the total area in square metres (m²).

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Item | Description | Quantity | Unit | Unit rate | Total |
| a | Rake out and repoint existing brickwork using repointing compound type A to a depth of 10 mm in English Bond built of 215 mm × 65 mm × 102.5 mm class A engineering bricks |  | m2 |  |  |

Bricklayer 1.2 hours per m2

Labourer 0.6 hours per m2

Repointing compound £8.50 per 2.5 kg (coverage 10 m2)

Waste 10%

Use the Activity 3 Reference sheet to select the correct labour rates.