







Deck Wearing Surface


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AWM Table:	Bridges
Attribute:	Deck Wearing Surface
Purpose:	To identify the material used as the top surface layer of a bridge deck. This helps assess skid resistance, ride quality, drainage, durability, and maintenance needs.

Value	Description	Photo Example
Asphalt	A smooth, black bituminous surface used to provide a durable, flexible driving surface on bridges.	
Ballast and rail	Crushed stone ballast supporting railway tracks laid directly on the bridge deck, used for rail transport bridges.	

Value	Description	Photo Example
Chip seal	A surface made by spraying bitumen and then covering it with small aggregate chips, offering a rough texture and skid resistance.	
Cobble	Rounded stones set closely together, typically seen in older or decorative bridge decks.	
Concrete	A hard, durable surface made from poured or precast concrete, often used for long-term performance.	
Gravel	Loose stone aggregate placed as a simple surface layer, typically found on low-volume or temporary structures.	

Value	Description	Photo Example
Masonry	Built from stone or brick materials, often seen on historic or decorative bridges.	
Rail	Steel rails forming the main wear surface, usually for rail bridges where train wheels make direct contact.	
Wood - Deck Plank	Timber planks laid side-by-side across the bridge deck, used for lighter traffic or traditional bridges.	
Wood - Running Plank	Narrow timber strips placed only where vehicle wheels travel, commonly seen on timber bridges.	

Value	Description	Photo Example
Steel	A metal surface deck, often corrugated or plate, used where strength and minimal weight are needed.	
Other	Any surface type not listed above, such as synthetic materials or combinations of multiple materials.	
Unknown	The surface material is not recorded or cannot be determined from current data.	