

Workmanship on building sites

Part 10. Code of practice for plastering and rendering

CAWS M20, M30

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted to Technical Committee B/544, Plastering, rendering, dry lining, screeds and in-situ floorings, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- Association of Building Component Manufacturers
- Building Employers' Confederation
- Chartered Institute of Building
- Department of the Environment (Building Research Establishment)
- Federation of Plastering and Drywall Contractors
- Gypsum Products Development Association
- Institute of Clerks of Works of Great Britain
- Local Authority Organizations
- Mortar Producers' Association

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Sector Board for Building and Civil Engineering, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 15 August 1995

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First published October 1989
Second edition August 1995

The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
Committee reference B/544
Draft for comment 93/108513DC

ISBN 0 580 24255 2

Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Text affected
9271	November 1996	Indicated by a sideline in the margin

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Foreword

This Part of BS 8000 has been prepared by Technical Committee B/544, and supersedes BS 8000 : Part 10 : 1989 which is withdrawn. It makes recommendations and gives guidance on basic workmanship for conventional types of building work.

This edition introduces technical changes to the recommendations for preparation of work, materials and components, for internal plastering and external rendering. However, this edition does not reflect a full review or revision of the standard, which will be undertaken in due course.

The recommendations given are not necessarily comprehensive; particular project documents, e.g. project specifications, may need to cover particular recommendations not dealt with by this code of practice.

This code of practice is unique in that unlike other British Standards it draws together recommendations given in other codes of practice.

The purpose of this code of practice is to encourage good workmanship by providing the following:

- a) the most frequently recognized recommendations on workmanship for building work in a readily available and convenient form to those working on site;
- b) assistance in the efficient preparation and administration of contracts;
- c) recommendations on how designers' requirements for workmanship may be satisfactorily recognized;
- d) definitions of good practice on building sites for supervision and for training purposes; this guidance is not intended to supplant the normal training in craft skills;
- e) a reference for quality of workmanship on building sites.

It is recognized that design, procurement and project information should be conducive to good workmanship on site.

During the preparation of this code of practice the Building Industry's Co-ordinating Committee for Project Information (CCPI) produced a Common Arrangement of Work Sections (CAWS) for building work. This code of practice has generally been arranged in accordance with the Common Arrangement so that it can be used easily with project specifications and bills of quantities using this arrangement. Other major documents are being restructured in accordance with the Common Arrangement.

NOTE. The CCPI was sponsored by the Association of Consulting Engineers, the Building Employer's Confederation, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Royal Institute of British Architects.

BS 8000 comprises the following Parts.

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| Part 1. | <i>Code of practice for excavation and filling</i> |
| Part 2. | <i>Code of practice for concrete work</i> |
| Part 3. | <i>Code of practice for masonry</i> |
| Part 4. | <i>Code of practice for waterproofing</i> |
| Part 5. | <i>Code of practice for carpentry, joinery and general fixings</i> |
| Part 6. | <i>Code of practice for roof, slate, tile covering and cladding</i> |
| Part 7. | <i>Code of practice for glazing</i> |
| Part 8. | <i>Code of practice for plasterboard partitions and dry linings</i> |
| Part 9. | <i>Code of practice for cement/sand floor screeds and concrete floor toppings</i> |
| Part 10. | <i>Code of practice for plastering and rendering</i> |
| Part 11. | <i>Code of practice for wall and floor tiling</i> |
| Part 12. | <i>Code of practice for decorative wallcoverings and painting</i> |
| Part 13. | <i>Code of practice for above ground drainage and sanitary appliances</i> |
| Part 14. | <i>Code of practice for below ground drainage</i> |
| Part 15. | <i>Code of practice for hot and cold water services (domestic scale)</i> |

Subcommittees B/544/4, Plastering, and B/544/5, External rendering, have also participated in the preparation of this Part of BS 8000 and the content is based on and consistent with BS 5492 and BS 5262, and for plastering and rendering to receive wall tiling to BS 5385. However, these standards cover the subject more comprehensively and include design, materials and other related aspects in addition to workmanship on site.

The text of this Part of BS 8000 includes commentaries and figures. These commentaries are separately identified and are intended to be for guidance only and do not form part of the recommendations. They refer, unless otherwise stated, to the clause which immediately precedes each commentary.

As a code of practice, this British Standard takes the form of guidance and recommendations. It should not be quoted as if it were a specification and particular care should be taken to ensure that claims of compliance are not misleading.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

Section 1. General

1.1 Scope

This Part of BS 8000 gives recommendations on basic workmanship on building sites and covers those tasks which are frequently carried out in relation to plastering and rendering.

For design aspects of plastering and rendering reference should be made to BS 5492 and BS 5262. For plastering and rendering to receive internal wall tiling reference should be made to BS 5385 : Part 1 and for rendering to receive external wall tiling to BS 5385 : Part 2.

1.2 References

1.2.1 Normative references

This Part of BS 8000 incorporates, by reference, provisions from specific editions of other publications. These normative references are cited at the appropriate points in the text and the publications are listed on the inside back cover. Subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications apply to this Part of BS 8000 only when incorporated in it by updating or revision.

1.2.2 Informative references

This Part BS 8000 refers to other publications that provide information or guidance. Editions of these publications current at the time of issue of this standard are listed on the inside back cover, but reference should be made to the latest editions.

1.3 Definitions

For the purposes of this Part of BS 8000, the definitions given in BS 6100 : Subsection 1.3.1 and BS 6100 : Subsection 1.3.3 apply.

Section 2. Materials handling and preparation

Caution. When Portland cement and/or lime is mixed with water, or even becomes damp, alkalis are released which can be harmful to the skin. The effect depends on the length of contact, any abrasion, the individual and the part of the body involved. Suitable protective clothing should be worn. If eyes are affected they should be washed out without delay and medical advice sought.

2.1 Checking, handling and site storage of materials and components

2.1.1 Checking

Check delivery tickets and certificates against the specification; examine marks and labels and the condition of materials and components. If necessary refer to the supplier immediately.

In particular check the following.

- a) Materials and components are clean, undamaged and, if appropriate, dry.
- b) Where a surface is not to be decorated, sufficient supplies of consistent materials are available to avoid colour variations.
- c) Plaster is of the right type for the type of background to which it is to be applied.
- d) Sands for cementitious mixes are clean and sharp.
- e) For ready-mixed lime/sand for mortar and ready-to-use retarded mortar the mix is to the correct specification and the required period of effectiveness of any retarder is correctly stated.
- f) Metal lathings are of the specified metal and mesh size and, if steel, that they are corrosion resistant, e.g. either galvanized or stainless steel. Similarly, ensure that all fixings, e.g. nails, staples, tying wire, etc. are corrosion resistant and are compatible with the type of lathing.
- g) Gypsum plasterboards are the correct types and thickness.

COMMENTARY. *The most commonly used types are as follows:*

- 1) *lath: long and narrow boards, rounded paper bound edges;*
- 2) *baseboard: rectangular shape, square edges;*
- 3) *plank: long narrow plank shape, square edges and for boards to receive plaster, grey/grey paper facings.*

'Wallboards' which are made for direct decoration on the decorative paper face can be plastered on the reverse grey paper face.

2.1.2 Handling and site storage

2.1.2.1 Handling gypsum plasterboard

Handle gypsum plasterboard carefully. In particular observe the following.

- a) Do not let gypsum plasterboard get wet. If practicable, keep it in the wrappings in which it was delivered.
- b) Carry boards on edge; pick them up and place them down on edge to avoid breakage when laying flat.
- c) Do not drag boards over each other.
- d) If boards are bound in pairs to protect their surfaces, do not separate them until necessary.
- e) If slings are used for lifting, stack boards on a clean, dry platform so that they do not overhang; keep slings away from the board edges by using spreaders to avoid damage to the edge.
- f) If transporting boards by dumper, crane or forklift truck, use a supporting platform.

2.1.2.2 Storing gypsum plasterboard

Store boards off the ground and horizontally on a level base consisting of a timber platform or bearers at least 100 mm wide laid across the width of the boards at centres not exceeding 400 mm. If it is not stored in a weatherproof building, completely cover the stack with a weatherproof sheet secured all round. Protect from damp rising from below the stack. Unless special provisions are made, do not stack boards to a height of more than 1 m.

2.1.2.3 Handling metal lathing and components

- a) Do not distort sheets of lathing or sections of angle beads and stops.
- b) Take care not to damage galvanized coatings.

2.1.2.4 Storing associated components

Store lathing, beads, fixings, scrim, building paper and similar associated components under cover, off the ground and protected from damage, contamination and distortion.

2.1.2.5 Storing bags of cement, lime and plaster

Where cement, lime or plaster is to be stored for later use, unless there are small quantities only, store as follows.

- a) Store in a dry, weatherproof, enclosed shed or building with a dry floor. If the floor is concrete, store on a timber platform.
- b) Keep different materials in separate stacks.
- c) Stack bags away from walls, closely together not more than eight bags high.