

Workmanship on building sites —

Part 8: Code of practice for plasterboard partitions and dry linings

CAWS K10

UDC [69.002.72 + 692.253:691.311 + 692.54:691.311]:658.562.3

NO COPYING WITHOUT BSI PERMISSION EXCEPT AS PERMITTED BY COPYRIGHT LAW

BSI
Documents

AVA

Document Sharing Hub

Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by Technical Committee B/544, Plastering, rendering, dry lining, screeds and in-situ flooring, to Subcommittee B/544/3, Dry lining, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- Association of Building Component Manufacturers
- Building Employers' Confederation
- Department of the Environment (Building Research Establishment)
- Federation of Plastering and Drywall Contractors
- Gypsum Products Development Association
- Local Authority Organizations
- National Council of Building Material Producers

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Technical Committee B/544, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 15 November 1994

© BSI 01-1999
First published October 1989
Second edition November 1994

The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
Committee reference B/544/3
Draft for comment 93/105871 DC

ISBN 0 580 22875 4

Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Comments

Contents

	Page
Committees responsible	Inside front cover
Foreword	ii
Section 1. General	
1.1 Scope	1
1.2 References	1
1.3 Definitions	1
Section 2. Materials handling and preparation	
2.1 Checking, handling and site storage of materials and components	2
2.2 Preparation of work, materials and components	2
Section 3. Installation of plasterboard partitions and dry linings	
3.1 Fixings	4
3.2 Jointing, finishing and repairing	16
Figure 1 — Plasterboard stacked on bearers	2
Figure 2 — Deviation band for finished surface of a partition or lining	5
Figure 3 — Straightness of walls in any 5 m length	6
Figure 4 — Permissible deviations on jointing	7
Figure 5 — Straightedge for measuring deviation at external and internal angles	8
Figure 6 — Plasterboard fixing positions	9
Figure 7 — Ceiling layout with single layer of boards	10
Figure 8 — Ceiling layout with two layers of boards	11
Figure 9 — Typical construction of 50 mm and 65 mm laminated type partitions	13
Figure 10 — Cellular core type partition	14
Figure 11 — Cellular core type partition: various typical details	15
Figure 12 — Joint between tapered edge boards	16
Table 1 — Length of fixings for plasterboards	9
Table 2 — Spacing of supports in ceilings	10
Table 3 — Sizes of timber battens to fit into core of partition	14
Index	19
List of references	Inside back cover

Foreword

This Part of BS 8000 has been prepared under the direction of the Council for Building and Civil Engineering. It makes recommendations and gives guidance on basic workmanship for conventional types of building work.

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 edition introduces technical changes but it does not reflect a full review or revision of the standard, which will be undertaken in due course.

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 required 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 designer's requirements for workmanship may be satisfactorily realized;
- 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 (CAWS K10) 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 Employers' Confederation, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Royal Institute of British Architects.

BS 8000 comprises the following Parts.

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

This Part of BS 8000 is based on and consistent with BS 8212 and BS 5234-1. However, BS 8212 and BS 5234-1 cover the subject matter 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.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

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

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i to iv, pages 1 to 20, an inside back cover and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

Section 1. General

1.1 Scope

This Part of BS 8000 gives recommendations on basic workmanship and covers those tasks which are frequently carried out in relation to plasterboard partitions and dry linings.

For design aspects of plasterboard partitions and dry linings reference should be made to BS 5234-1.

NOTE This code of practice includes supplementary elements in the form of commentaries to assist in its use and understanding. Compliance with the commentaries is not necessary in order to be able to claim conformity with the standard.

1.2 References

1.2.1 Normative references

This standard incorporates, by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are made at the appropriate places in the text and the cited publications are listed on the inside back cover. For dated references, only the edition cited applies; any subsequent amendments to or revisions of the cited publication apply to this Part of BS 8000 only when incorporated in the reference by amendment or revision. For undated references, the latest edition of the cited publication applies, together with any amendments.

1.2.2 Informative references

This standard 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 6100-1.0, BS 6100-1.3.1, BS 6100-6.1 and BS 6100-6.6.2 apply.

Section 2. Materials handling and preparation

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 that:

- a) materials and components are clean, undamaged and dry;
- b) gypsum plasterboard sheets are the correct type and have the required dimensions and edge profiles.

2.1.2 Handling and site storage

2.1.2.1 Handling gypsum plasterboard and partition units

Handle gypsum plasterboard and partition units 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 or units 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 and panels 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 or units by dumper, crane or forklift truck, use a supporting platform.

2.1.2.2 Storage

Store materials and components in clean, dry conditions as follows.

- a) Store boards and partition units 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 or units at centres not exceeding 400 mm (see Figure 1). If they are 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 more than 1 m. Do not stack partition units more than 36 units high, nor to a height of more than 1.2 m if they are to be handled manually.

- b) Store metal, gypsum plaster cove and polyvinyl chloride (PVC) sections flat and supported along their length to prevent distortion and breakage. Take care not to damage galvanized coatings.

- c) Store bags and containers of jointing and adhesive so they can be used in date rotation. Do not open them until required and use them within the stated shelf life. Protect them from extremes of temperature. Follow any storage instructions given by the manufacturer.

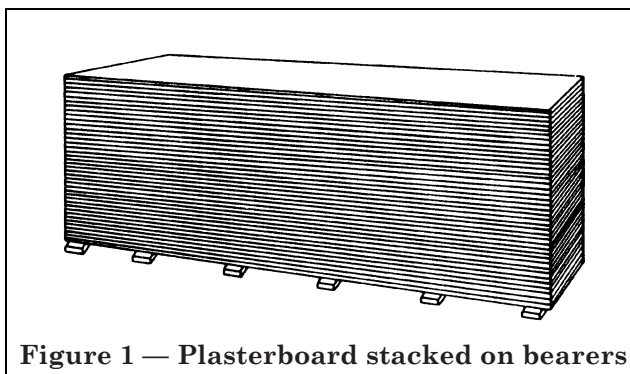


Figure 1 — Plasterboard stacked on bearers

2.2 Preparation of work, materials and components

2.2.1 General

2.2.1.1 Liaison

Liaise with site management and determine:

- a) trade sequences to provide continuity of work;
- b) the requirements and responsibilities for setting out;
- c) satisfactory provisions for the storage of materials;
- d) satisfactory provision for the utility services required for the erection;
- e) requirements for the clearing of rubbish and the protection of work.

2.2.1.2 Working conditions

- a) Check that working areas are weatherproof.
- b) Ensure that window frames, including glazing or temporary protection to openings, and other joinery first-fix items are in position and relevant first-fixings of other trades are complete.
- c) Check that working areas are clean, dry and free from obstruction.
- d) Check that the level of lighting is adequate; ensure the provision of artificial lighting if considered necessary.

COMMENTARY. *Because the direction of artificial lighting may affect the extent to which inaccuracies may be noticed in the final inspection of the finished job, any artificial lighting ought to simulate the final lighting scheme as closely as possible.*

2.2.1.3 Distributed components and materials

When the materials and components are distributed to the work position ensure that the structure is not overloaded; obtain advice about any restrictions.

2.2.1.4 Cleanliness and protection

- a) Keep all plant and tools in a clean and serviceable condition.
- b) Protect all existing finished work and approaches with boards and dust sheets as appropriate. Clean any plaster droppings immediately from finished surfaces.
- c) Maintain the protection of materials and components at the work position to prevent their deterioration before use.

2.2.2 Suitability of backgrounds

Before applying any linings check that backgrounds are suitable.

- a) Check that backgrounds are constructed to a sufficient standard of line and plumb, so that any specified limits of accuracy for fixings and of surfaces are achievable (see 3.1.1.1).
- b) Check that backgrounds are complete, that apertures and services are incorporated and that noggings are fixed in the required positions. Check that timber backgrounds already fixed are of adequate size and strength to secure fixing for linings as follows:
 - 1) *timber battens to solid backgrounds*: not less than 44 mm wide and 38 mm thick, preservative treated where necessary;

- 2) *timber framing for walls and partitions*: bearing surface of timbers to receive abutting edges of boards not less than 38 mm wide;
- 3) *timber framing for ceilings*: bearing surface of timbers to receive abutting ends or cut edges of boards not less than 41 mm; noggings to receive paper bound edges of not less than 38 mm basic thickness; perimeter framing to receive one edge or cut end not less than 25 mm basic thickness.

Check that timber backgrounds are at the required centres and are aligned and plumbed as for a) (see also 3.1.1.3).

- c) Check that the surface of the background is sound, free from dust and sufficiently dry so as not to impair a good bond or fixing.

If the backgrounds appear to be unsuitable, seek instruction.

COMMENTARY. *There are two cases where experience has shown that the above recommendations for the sizes of timber backgrounds can be modified.*

- a) *In the case of trussed rafters designed and manufactured in accordance with BS 5268-3, having a span of not more than 11 m and being fixed in a building in which the plasterboard ceiling of (maximum thickness 12.5 mm) will not be affected by regular foot traffic from above, the face width of the timber should be not less than 35 mm as measured in accordance with BS 4471. No negative tolerance is permissible on the 35 mm dimension.*
- b) *In the case of a domestic floor joist supporting a plasterboard ceiling, the face width of sawn or processed timber should be not less than 38 mm as measured in accordance with BS 4471.*