

Preparation for liquid flowing screeds

Bonded screeds

BS8204:7:2003 considers the screed bonded if it is placed in direct contact with a prepared concrete or other hard wearing substrate.

Sub floor preparation for bonded screeds

- Rough up the surface of the concrete substrate to create a key and remove any contaminants then prime the concrete using a SBR, epoxy or polyurethane primer and allow to dry.
- Add a second coat of primer 48 hours later. If you were unable to “rough up” the concrete and whilst the 2nd coat is still wet scatter clean kiln dried silica sand onto the surface and allow the primer to dry.
- Vacuum up any loose sand leaving a rough textured surface onto which the screed can be placed. Please ensure your boots are clean and there is zero traffic of any kind on the primed areas to avoid contamination.
- Install a compressible perimeter edging strip (5mm unheated 8mm heated) around all walls, and around columns, taking care to ensure it is neatly placed into all corners. Avoid stretching the edge strip around external corners. Tack the edging strip to the walls using a staple gun if necessary. Ensure that there are no voids behind the edge strip.

Un-bonded screeds

BS8204:7:2003 considers the screed unbonded if it is separated from the sub floor usually by means of a 500micron gauge polythene membrane.

- Maximum bay size is 1000m² or 8:1 (unheated)
- Maximum bay size is 300m² or 6:1 (heated)

Sub floor preparation for un-bonded screeds

- Scrape off any debris or mortar splashes from the concrete sub-floor.
- Sweep the sub-floor, leaving a flat clean surface for the membrane to be laid upon.
- If there was no known active DPM fitted to the property - Place a minimum 500micron- gauge DPM over the subfloor cutting so it sits 100mm up the walls on all the edges of the room ensuring that all joints are overlapped by minimum 100mm and taped.
- Install a compressible perimeter edging strip (5mm unheated 8mm heated) around all walls, and around columns, taking care to ensure it is neatly placed into all corners. Avoid stretching the edge strip around external corners. Tack the edging strip to the walls using a staple gun if necessary. Ensure that there are no voids behind the edge strip.

Floating screed for (including UFH)

- Sweep the sub-floor, leaving a flat clean surface for the insulation to be laid upon.
- The insulation should be properly bedded onto a flat surface so that it is uniformly supported over its whole area.
- Insulation should be a minimum of 100Kpa.
- If there was no known active DPM fitted to the property, place a minimum 500 micron-gauge DPM over the subfloor cutting so it sits 100mm up the walls on all the edges of the room ensuring that all joints are overlapped by minimum 100mm and taped.
- Install a compressible perimeter edging strip (5mm unheated 8mm heated) around all walls, and around columns, taking care to ensure it is neatly placed into all corners. Avoid stretching the edge strip around external corners. Tack the edging strip to the walls using a staple gun if necessary. Ensure that there are no voids behind the edge strip.
- Ensure that any insulation is flat to the sub floor with no void's underneath, fill any voids found with a grit sand. Any joints in the insulation should be staggered and the boards should be tightly butted and taped together with insulation or duct tape.
- Placing services other than underfloor heating within the insulation should be avoided where possible and under no circumstances should gas pipes be placed within the insulation zone, these must be encapsulated in the screed itself, be factory wrapped in yellow covering and clipped or fixed every 300mm maximum.
- Place a 500micron-gauge membrane over the top of the insulation ensuring it is pulled tight with no creases and overlap joints a minimum of 100mm & run it a 100mm up the walls.
- Install the under floor heating pipes, ensuring they are appropriately fixed every 300mm along the length of the pipes & more frequently on bends.
- Fill the under-floor heating pipes with water and check for any signs of leaking. Perform a pressure test to 6 bars or the maximum operating pressure for the system to ensure the pipes hold water under pressure. The pressure should be maintained whilst screed is placed.

Any guidance with UFH please refer to the manufacturer's guidelines.

Floating screed for (including UFH)

- The building should be a sealed envelope. The roof should be covered and all external doors and windows in place. Alternatively, all openings are to be made weatherproof. Large glazed windows need to be covered to avoid direct sunlight.
- During extreme weather conditions 5 degrees and falling, 30 degrees and rising Gypsol advise that screed should not be poured. **For further details please refer to the Gypsol hot and cold weather procedures data sheet.**