

# Technical Guidance

## Garage - concrete floors

### Question

Should a construction joint be formed in concrete garage floors that exceed  $16\text{m}^2$ ?

### Considerations

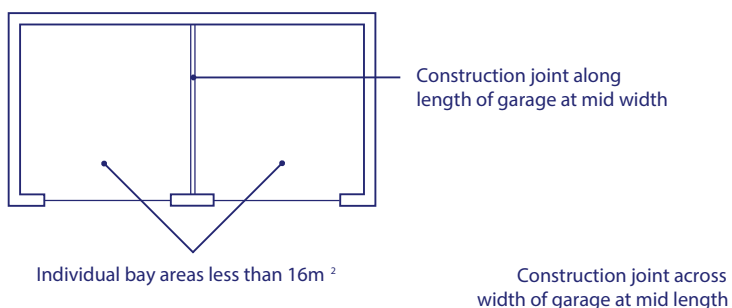
- Construction joints help to control shrinkage cracking from occurring within the main area of a concrete floor.
- NHBC Standards clause 2.1 – S10(d) says that unreinforced concrete floor slabs, which exceed  $16\text{m}^2$ , should have a construction joint.
- NHBC Standards clause 2.1 – S10(d) says reinforced concrete floor slabs up to  $60\text{m}^2$  can be laid without a construction joint.

### Answer

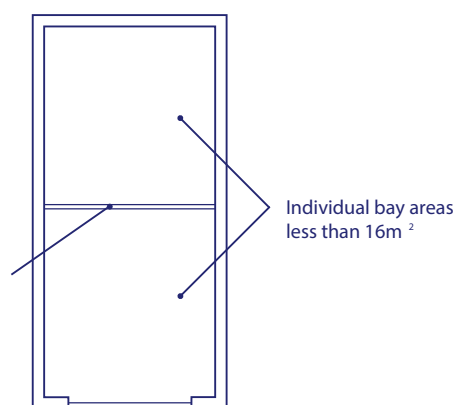
If the floor area of a garage exceeds  $16\text{m}^2$  then;

- either the floor slab should be reinforced or
- provide a construction joint(s) that equally divides the floor area into bays less than  $16\text{m}^2$ .  
See diagrams below.

Double Garage (Double Width)



Double Garage (Double Length)



Examples of unreinforced concrete floors in garages where total floor area exceeds  $16\text{m}^2$ .