



Technical Guidance

Dpcs under timber soleplates to internal partitions

Question

Is it necessary to provide a dpc under timber soleplates to internal partitions built off concrete floors?

Considerations

- NHBC Standards clause 6.2 - D4 states that 'dpcs should be installed below all ground floor walls including internal partitions, to protect timber from rising damp and residual construction moisture'.
- NHBC Standards clause 6.3 - D10 refers to the provision of dpcs under timber sole plates built off any type of concrete floor even when a dpm has been provided beneath the floor.
- Moisture in the floor construction could lead to timber decay.

Answer

A dpc should be provided under all timber soleplates. However, if residual moisture in the construction is low due to the type of construction used e.g. beam and block suspended floor and the floor has been well protected from the weather, then it would be acceptable to omit the dpc.