

Support of plasterboard

(March 2023) (Second issue - supersedes Dec 2008)



Question

What is the maximum permissible overhang beyond the joist for plasterboard to ceilings?

Considerations

- NHBC guidance says 'Joist spacing should have a clearance of 25mm-75mm between the first joist and the wall face to aid the installation of services and the fixing of floor decking'.
- BS 8212 'dry lining and partitioning using gypsum plasterboard' states that boards should be butted tight to the perimeter walls.
- An excessive overhang beyond the last ceiling/floor joist should be avoided as it reduces support to the plasterboard and can lead to sagging.

Answer

Plasterboard should not overhang the last joist/truss by more than 75mm. Boards should be butted tight to the perimeter walling.