

GETTING YOUR WALLS PLASTERED

Everything you need to know



British Gypsum
SAINT-GOBAIN

What is Plastering?

Plaster is a building material that is used to coat walls and ceilings to create a decorative surface. It comes as a powder and is mixed with water to form a paste which is then applied to the wall. Depending on what you are having done the plaster may be applied in one, or several coats or layers in order to achieve the desired thickness and finish.

When would I need to plaster?

You may need to plaster in your home for many reasons:

- Patching or repairing damage to walls
- Re-plastering a wall prior to decoration
- Plastering or drylining walls during renovation, rebuilding or an extension to your home

Whilst a competent DIYer may be quite capable of plastering, for the best results, we recommend plastering is undertaken by a plasterer.



Finding a plasterer

Inviting a tradesman into your home can be quite unsettling. No matter how much you prepare yourself you are never quite sure how much of your home will be affected.

As the leading authority on plastering, British Gypsum have put together this guide to help you through the process and make the whole experience a lot easier...from quotation to the finished job.

If you are looking for a plasterer why not try the British Gypsum Certified Plasterer Scheme. All members of the scheme are checked against our stringent criteria. It's not just about workmanship but the way they deal with you as their customer and how they treat your home.

Best of all, their work is guaranteed for two years and as the UK's largest plaster manufacturer British Gypsum underwrite this guarantee.

Find out more:
British-gypsum.com/homeowner



What does a plasterer do?

They are skilled trades people able to finish masonry and drylined walls to a surface ideal for decoration.

They are generally skilled in a number of areas:

- Plastering masonry walls
- Plastering onto drylined walls and ceilings
- Laying floor screed
- External rendering on your home
- Fitting cove or cornice in rooms

When the job is finished

Your home will have flat, even walls and/or ceilings ready for the next stage in your plans. You will receive an invoice from the plasterer for payment as agreed.

Having used British Gypsum products and a member of our scheme, you'll have the added peace of mind that your work

is now guaranteed for 2 years. Before leaving your home your plasterer will complete and activate your guarantee.

What if I am not happy with the work or something goes wrong?

If, on the rare occasion, you are not perfectly happy with the wall or ceiling work, then firstly you should discuss this with the plasterer directly.

If you are still not satisfied and you used a British Gypsum Certified Plasterer then contact us at the scheme on 0115 784 2354 or email: british.gypsum@diversity.agency and we will come out to you within a week and, if necessary, undertake reparation work immediately.

OUR PERFORMANCE PLASTERS

Here at British Gypsum, we've developed a range of skim coat plasters with real benefits for day-to-day life. Depending on the room use, you may want to consider upgrading to a more specialist type of plaster.

For more information see our leaflet on Performance Plasters.



ThistlePro PureFinish
Makes indoor spaces healthier.



ThistlePro DuraFinish
Increases damage resistance on walls.



ThistlePro Magnetic
Create magnetic wall surfaces.



What to expect when the job is being done

A good tradesman should act professionally and to a good standard when working within your home.

They will:

- Arrive promptly and set up a work area with dust sheets to protect your home. This includes any hallways or entrances that the plasterer will be using when going to and from his van.
- Loosen light switches and plug sockets and cover with masking tape to ensure no edges around the fittings are left un-plastered and no fittings come in contact with plaster material.
- Survey the area for cracks which can be covered with tape before plastering to achieve a bond and protect the crack from re-surfacing.
- Plaster the wall to a surface ready for decorating.
- Vacuum and tidy his work area to the standard it was found.
- If your plasterer is a member of the British Gypsum Certified Plasterer Scheme, leave you with your two-year guarantee.



Getting your home ready for the plasterer

- Remove any wallpaper, leaving the walls clean of as much debris as possible.
- Clear as much furniture and articles as you can out of the room, to allow the plasterer space to work – it will also protect your belongings.
- Remove any pictures, nails and screws from the wall.
- If you have radiators on the walls being plastered, you'll need to get them removed in advance, or let the plasterer know they need to add this to their quote.
- Turn the heating off a few hours before the work is due to start, as this can affect the drying of the plaster and the overall finish. Leave it off for a further 24 hours after completion too.
- Ensure that the plasterer has access to clean running water so that they can mix your plaster easily.
- Is other work to be carried out in your home? If so, it's best to finish plasterwork before any new flooring is laid, but after electrics and plumbing have been completed.

The quotation

You should expect a clear quote showing what's included and what's not.

Agree with your plasterer about who is going to do what. Generally a plasterer would expect rooms to be free of any furniture but you may want to agree beforehand for removal of radiators etc.

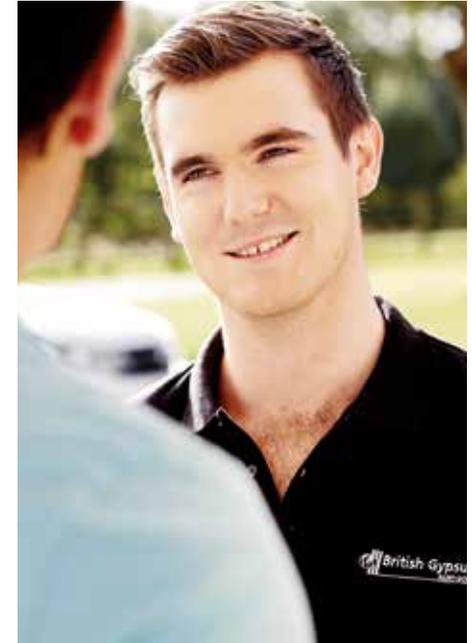
Tell your plasterer about any works that will be going on before they start, such as electrical wiring, so they can make sure they are quoting you for any preparation work they will need to do.

Let the plasterer know how you are planning to decorate the wall/ceiling afterwards – they can then advise if anything special needs to be done after their work is completed.

Simply, the more information you can give your plasterer the more accurate your quotation will be, there is less chance of unwelcome surprises when the work starts and the easier the relationship will be with your plasterer.

This should be a quote for the work you agree with the plasterer and not an estimate. The quote should be valid for a certain period (for example 30 days) so you can have a think about it before you go ahead with the job.

If you're not sure about anything then please feel free to ask your plasterer for their advice - they will be happy to help.



To find your local Certified Plasterer please visit [certifiedplasterer.com](https://www.certifiedplasterer.com) or call 0115 784 2354.



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