

# TRADE GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION







WALLS & CEILINGS | EDITION 3 • 2022

This is an extract taken from – AWCI Trade Guidelines and Information Booklet

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# FINISHING INTERIOR LININGS



## RECOMMENDED MATERIALS AND SYSTEMS

Manufacturers and Component suppliers offer warranty and guarantee statements in their technical bulletins covering their ranges of products and systems.

It should be clearly understood this will apply only if the system recommendations contained within the individual manufacturer's technical bulletins are followed.

In all cases these recommended systems have been subject to vigorous testing procedures in order to deliver and maintain an acceptable performance level, and to comply with Australia/New Zealand conditions, Australia/New Zealand Standards and the Building Codes of Australia and New Zealand. The warranty offered may be compromised if products, components or installation practices fall outside of, or fail to comply with a manufacturer's recommended system.

When carrying out rectification works to painted areas, ensure paint surface is scuffed sufficiently to ensure adhesion of the new compounds.



- Use complete jointing system nominated or approved by the manufacturer of the wall and ceiling lining products.
- Do not tamper, mix, add other additives or add additional water to the jointing material/s
- Joints made using paper tape are stronger and more durable than those made with woven or self-adhesive woven fibreglass tape and it is recommended to use only paper tape on the setting of all joints
- Where woven or self-adhesive woven fibreglass tapes are used, the joints are to be back-blocked
- Woven or self-adhesive woven Fibreglass tape is not permitted for use in wet areas or fire rated systems and acoustic systems
- All wall and ceiling linings must be free of dirt, oil or other foreign debris which could cause a lack of bond

 There are two types of products used for jointing plasterboard - setting cements and air-drying compounds.

#### **Setting Cements**

- Setting cements are plaster-based, supplied in powder form and when combined with water harden by chemical reaction. When using cements always refer to the manufacturer's specifications
- Hot and dry conditions may dry out the cement before it sets resulting in reduced strength
- Accelerating and retarding additives must not be used as they can also reduce strength
- Setting cements must not be applied over airdrying compounds

## 4. FINISHING INTERIOR LININGS

NOTE: While it is better to dry thoroughly between coats, in cold and humid conditions, additional coats of setting cement can be applied to the joints when the cement is hard but before it is completely dry. NEVER apply wet on wet.

- Application of wet over wet coats can encourage pin holing.
- Ensure the recess is filled with sufficient compound when taping in to avoid tape lift and hollow joints

#### **Air-Drying Compounds**

- Paper tape only to be used with Air-drying Compounds - Woven or self-adhesive woven fibreglass tape is not allowed with Air-drying compounds
- Air-drying compounds are generally pre-mixed and harden by drying out. They may be softer than setting cements, and are generally designed for easy sanding
- Additional time between coats of air-drying compounds must be allowed compared to setting type cements. Previous coats of air-drying compound or setting cement must be completely dry before applying the next coat and before sanding
- In cold and humid conditions air-drying compounds may take longer to dry.
   Ventilation such as open windows or an exhaust fan may be required
- Air-drying compounds must not be used in temperatures lower than 10°C





## BANJO BOX AND SETTING BOXES CORRECT APPLICATION

Banjo Box (Mud Machine) Base coat 45, 60 and 90 mixture ratio should be approximately 5kg of powder to 3L water (over thinning the mix will weaken bond). Check specification sheet for specific products. Centre the perforated paper tape along the joint and, using a broad knife, press the tape down into the cement. With the broad knife held at approximately 45 degrees to the board surface, draw along the joint with enough pressure to remove excess cement and remove any air bubbles sandwiched beneath the tape (avoid dry spots under tape). Banjo Box 'chaser' should immediately follow to avoid dry-out.

It is most important to fill the recess before bedding the tape to achieve a good bond by leaving a minimum of 1.0mm compound under the joint and similarly above.

Immediately apply a skim coat of cement. This reduces the possibility of the tape edge curling or wrinkling which could lead to edge cracking (especially in hot, dry conditions).

#### Flat Boxes

200mm—250mm—300mm flat boxes. Automatic boxes distribute the correct amount of joint compound over all flat surfaces. All flat boxes have an adjustable setting that automatically crown the joint. When second coating with 200mm box avoid too much 'take off' if following through with a broad knife, this will ensure the joint is flat. Sometimes hollow joints can be created when following through with a broad knife.

Note: All topping compounds will shrink back if second coat is hollow.

Ensure box setting camber is set correctly to compensate for any uneven frame undulations i.e. Uneven trusses— center row wall noggins. Regularly change box blades and skid plates to avoid uneven joint finish.

#### **Mechanical Tapers**

As the trend towards longer life base coats to cater for machine application increases, be advised that manufacturers recommendations for plaster base compounds under extreme weather conditions to avoid dry out is:

When taping by hand the recess is filled with compound with the tape being forced in. When



using a taping machine a controlled amount of normally over wet compound is applied to the joint via the back of the tape. Surface compound is then removed with limited pressure. Less pressure means less bond. Be aware: It is important to understand that paper tape has two sides, both different as part of the manufacturing process. Although both sides are buffed to provide better adhesion the inside of the roll will always be the smoother side. The outside of the roll should always be applied to the wet plaster compound to ensure the best adhesion.



### THREE COAT JOINTING SYSTEM

The Three Coat Jointing System consists of a Bedding Coat and paper tape, a Second Coat and a Finish Coat of compound.

All manufacturers state "first fill the recess"

#### **Finished Coat Widths**

Finished coat widths must account for jointing shrinkage and also sanding which will reduce the applied coat width.

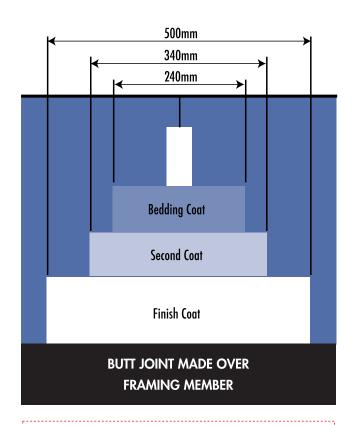
Allowable Tolerances under AS/NZS 2589

#### **Recessed Edge and Butt Joints**

Joint shape should be gradually curved and the highest point must not be greater than or exceed 2mm above the plane of the finished plasterboard surface.

#### **External Angles**

Jointing must not be less than 250mm either side of the external corner Jointing build-up at the external angle should not exceed 3mm and be feathered away from the corner.

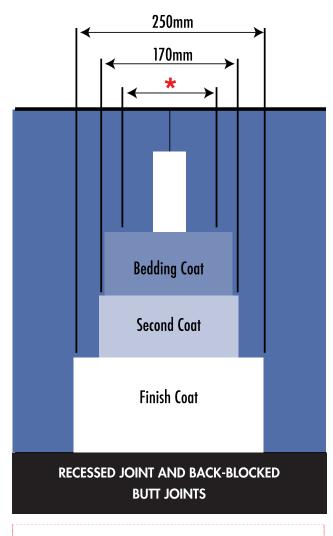


Note: A 250mm box will not achieve a 250mm finished width joint. Level 4 and Level 5 Finishes must use the Three Coat Jointing System for all joints and external corners. Internal corners only require a Bedding Coat and a Finish Coat.

# RECESSED EDGE AND BUTT JOINTS

#### **Internal Corners**

Jointing should not be less than 75mm either side of the internal corner
Jointing-up build-up at the corner must not exceed 2mm over the width of the joint.



\* Fill recess completely

