

Indian Standard
GLOSSARY OF TERMS
RELATING TO BUILDING FINISHES

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BUREAU OF INDIAN STANDARDS
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Indian Standard

GLOSSARY OF TERMS RELATING TO BUILDING FINISHES

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*Indian Standard***GLOSSARY OF TERMS
RELATING TO BUILDING FINISHES****0. FOREWORD**

0.1 This Indian Standard was adopted by the Indian Standards Institution on 20 January 1983, after the draft finalized by the Flooring and Plastering Sectional Committee had been approved by the Civil Engineering Division Council.

0.2 It is realized that terms in common use by all concerned with plastering and rendering appear in a number of Indian Standard specifications, codes of practice, and it has been considered preferable for all definitions to be put together in one publication. This glossary has, therefore, been prepared which would be handy for day to day use and assist the reader of technical literature to understand the meaning of the terms used.

0.3 In the formulation of this standard, due weightage has been given to international co-ordination among the standards and practices prevailing in different countries in addition to relating it to the practices in the field in India.

1. SCOPE

1.1 This standard covers definitions of terms relating to building finishes.

2. DEFINITIONS**A**

2.1 Acoustic Plaster — A plaster designed to provide a surface having improved sound properties.

2.2 Additives — Are chemicals or other materials added to the mortar of normal plaster to obtain special effects such as waterproofing, aeration, etc.

2.3 Applications — The separate operations are carried out over the whole area to be plastered, which together constitute a coat. A finishing

coat, for instance, may be applied in three separate operations, often referred to as trowel, float and trowel respectively, from the particular tool used in each case.

2.4 Ashlar Marking — The marking of a rendering to stimulate a wall constructed of masonry blocks.

B

2.5 Background — The material or combination of materials to which the first coat of plaster or rendering is applied.

2.6 Backing Coat — A coat of plaster other than the finished coat.

2.7 Bay — The area plastered, rendered, or screeded in one operation.

2.8 Bell Coat — The shaping of the lower edge of an external rendering to shed rain.

2.9 Bleeding — The separation of water from an unhardened mix.

2.10 Blistering — The development of one or more local swellings on the finished plaster surface.

2.11 Butter Coat — The soft final coat to which the aggregate is applied in pebble, spar or shingle dashing.

C

2.12 Coarse Stuff — A wet mixture of lime and sand for use in undercoates; it may also contain hair.

2.13 Close in (Tighten in) — The operation of consolidating the surface of a final coat with a finishing trowel.

2.14 Combing — Operation of giving parallel wavy scratch marks on the surface after partial setting of the intermediate coat to provide proper grip of the finishing coat.

2.15 Cracking — The development of one or more fissures not assignable to structural cause.

NOTE — Cracks in plaster in the vicinity of a structural crack are not assignable to structural failure unless they are in conformity with the structural crack.

2.16 Cracking — The development of a series of hair cracks on the finished plaster surface. Known as 'map crazing', when it forms an haphazard pattern over the wall surface affected.

D

2.17 Dashed Finish — A rough textured finish (usually external rendering) of dry or wet dash.

2.17.1 Dry Dash — A finish in which suitably sized aggregate of natural or manufactured materials is thrown on to a freshly applied final coat of mortar and left exposed.

2.17.2 Wet Dash — A finish produced when the final coat, containing a proportion of fairly coarse aggregate, is thrown on as a wet mix and is left in the 'rough' condition. The texture desired is regulated by the size of the coarse aggregate.

2.18 Drip — Providing of shaped grooves in the plastered surfaces on the underside of projection near the edges.

2.19 Dot — A small patch of plaster, fixed at intervals on a background, plumbed or levelled, and used in fixing screeds.

or

A short piece of wood lath bedded in plaster.

2.20 Dry Lining — The technique of surfacing walls with plaster board instead of wet plastering.

2.21 Dubbing Out — The operation of attaching pieces of slate, tile, etc, to a wall with plaster, and then likewise covering them in order to fill out hollows or to form projections.

E

2.22 Efflorescence — A deposit of soluble salts on the surface of the plaster or background.

F

2.23 Final Coat — The final continuous coat of rendering material. In dry finishes, it is the coat on to which the dash is thrown while the coat is still soft. In roughcast or machine-applied finishes it is the last coat thrown on to complete the finish.

2.24 Final Set — The condition at which the plasticity of a mix permits little or no movement under the trowel. Trowelling after the final set has the effect either of polishing or in other cases of weakening or disrupting the surface.

2.25 Finishing — The smooth final coat to an external rendering.

2.26 Finishing Coat — The final coat in two or three coat plaster work. This is also referred to as the final coat, setting coat, face coat or skimming coat (the term 'skimming coat' is also applied to single-coat work).

2.27 Finishing Treatment — (*see also 2.17*).

2.27.1 Machine Applied Finish — A final rendering coat applied by means of hand or power-operated machines which spatter or throw the material on to the wall. The roughness of the finished surface varies with the material used and the type of machine.

2.27.2 Scraped Finish — A finish in which the final rendering coat, after being levelled and allowed to stiffen for a few hours, is scrapped with a suitable tool to remove the surface skin.

2.27.3 Stipple Finish — A textured finish produced by dabbing with a brush or sponge.

2.27.4 Stucco — A form of rough cast plastering.

2.27.5 Textured Finish — A finish having an ornamental patterned or textured surface produced by treatment of the freshly applied final coat with various tools.

2.27.6 Sponge Plaster Finish — A textured finish produced by dabbing with a sponge.

2.27.7 Water Proofing Plaster — Applying mortars with special additives to surface for making the same dense and resistant to percolation of water.

2.28 Flaking — The scaling away of patches of plaster surface due to lack or loss of adhesion with the earlier coat.

2.29 Floating Coat — The undercoat immediately preceding the final coat.

G

2.30 Gauging — The mixing of various constituents of a plaster. This term is also used for denoting the addition of cement to a lime-sand mix or of lime to a cement-sand mix. 'A gauging' is the term given to an individual plaster work.

2.31 Green Suction — The early suction of a cement-based backing which develops during setting.

2.32 Grinning — The appearance on the surface of the plaster of the pattern of joints or similar breaks in the continuity of the surface characteristics of the background.

2.33 Gypsum Plaster — Plaster based on calcium sulphate.

2.33.1 Anhydrous Gypsum Plaster — Plaster consisting essentially of calcium sulphate, CaSO_4 , in anhydrous form which has been produced by the dehydration of gypsum by heat whose set has been suitably accelerated.

2.33.2 Semi-hydrate Gypsum Plaster — Plaster consisting essentially of material from which only part of the water has been removed during the calcining of gypsum.

2.33.3 Pre-mixed Lightmass Gypsum Plaster — A plaster in which a light-mass aggregate has been pre-mixed dry with a gypsum plaster to give a low density.

H

2.34 Hacking — The roughing of solid backgrounds, by hand or mechanical methods, to provide a suitable key.

K

2.35 Killing — Destroying the set of a plaster by continued mixing, with some anhydrous gypsum plasters.

M

2.36 Mechanical Application* — The application of plaster by machine usually by pumping and spraying.

P

2.37 Pattern Staining — Surface staining which sometimes occurs when the two sides of a composite structure are consistently exposed to different temperatures. The cause of such staining is the differential deposition of atmospheric dust on those portions of the structure which are cooler, as a result of higher thermal conductivity.

2.38 Peeling — The dislodgement of substantial areas of plaster work from the background.

*Denotes a term applicable to mechanical plastering.

2.39 Plaster — The general term for a material used to cover specified surfaces, which is applied while plastic and which hardens after application (*see* 2.48).

2.40 Plastering — The range of operations involved in the application of plaster to internal surfaces.

2.41 Plasticizer — An additive to improve the plasticity of mix, usually by entraining air.

2.42 Popping — The appearance on the surface of the plaster or rendering of conical hollows (pops or blows). They are due to the presence of particles of reactive material which expand, after the plaster has set, with sufficient force to push out the plaster in front of the particle.

2.43 Pricing up Coat — The first coat on metal testing.

2.44 Pugging — Coarse stuff or other suitable material used above ceilings, between joists, to assist in sound proofing.

2.45 Punning — Fine finishing of plastered surfaces with addition of thin layer of binding material.

R

2.46 Raking — Removing mortar from masonry joints to provide suitable key for the plastering and pointing.

2.47 Retempering — The re-mixing of a plastering or rendering mix which has begun to stiffen.

2.48 Rendering — A mix which is applied while plastic to building surfaces and which hardens after application (*see* 2.39).

S

2.49 Screed — Narrow strips or bands of plaster laid on walls or ceilings to serve as guide for bringing the whole work to a true or even surface, the screeds being incorporated in the final undercoats.

2.50 Screeding — The range of operation involved in laying a screed to receive floor finish.

2.51 Separating Layer — A layer of material between the screed and sub-floor to prevent adhesion.

2.52 Snap Set — The very rapid hardening of some semihydrate gypsum plasters following a normal initial set.

2.53 Spatterdash — A mix of cement and fairly coarse sand, prepared as a thick slurry. It is thrown on as initial coating to provide a key on dense backgrounds having poor suction, or to reduce or even-out suction of other types of background.

2.54 Suction — That property of a background which determines its rate of absorption of water.

T

2.55 Thin-Wall Plaster — Ready-mixed plaster normally supplied as a paste for application generally by spraying as a thin coat and hardening by drying.

U

2.56 Undercoats — Plaster coats (often referred to as backing coats) the main function of which is to provide surface suitable for the application of succeeding coats. There are two types of undercoats.

2.56.1 Rendering Coat — The coat which is applied directly to the building surfaces to be plastered (also referred to as the 'first coat').

2.56.2 Floating coat — The coat used in three-coat work to bring the first coat to a true and even surface before the finishing coat is applied (also referred to as the 'second coat').

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