

Visqueen DPC Installation Guide

The below guide sets out Visqueen's top tips for successfully installing a Damp Proof Course (DPC) or Cavity Tray, and getting it right first time, every time in order to ensure effective protection from water and gas ingress.



Do's

- Installation must follow normal good practice for the detailing of damp proof courses, as set out in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, a BBA certificate and the relevant British Standards (BS8000-3 and BS8215) and Codes of Practice (BS5628).
- Expected life of the DPC must equal the life of the building.
- Select the appropriate DPC or Cavity Tray System for the application.
- Check for compatibility with adjacent materials e.g. DPC to DPM. Traditional pitch polymer DPC have known compatibility issues with other materials.
- BS8215:1991 — Code of practice for design and installation of Damp Proof Courses in masonry construction — states that Preformed Units (Cloaks/Top Hats) must be used for all corners, changes of level and stop-ends.
- Design your DPC/DPM system integrally with cavity and other insulation material. Technical design support should be also be sought for Preformed Units (Cloaks) for all awkward junctions, complex shapes and changes of direction must be laid on an even, wet bed of mortar, and any perforations in adjacent courses of brickwork must be completely filled with mortar. A DPC must provide adequate adhesion to mortar.
- Check for continuity at overlaps, joints and stop-ends.
- All DPC laps including Cavity Tray joints must be a minimum of 100mm and bonded together with a double sided butyl tape such as Visqueen Zedex DPC Jointing Tape.

Visqueen DPC Installation Guide

Page 2 of 2

- If the Cavity Tray is surface fixed to the inner leaf e.g. timber frame construction, bond with the vertical surface with a double side butyl tape and secure using fixing strips and pins.
- Must extend through the full thickness of the wall, including pointing, rendering or any other facing material and must project beyond the internal and external faces by 5mm.
- At the base of a wall, the DPC must be installed at least 150mm above ground level.
- Removing excess mortar and mortar droppings before they harden.

Don'ts

- Implements such as steel rods should never be used for cleaning the cavity.
- Polyethylene DPCs are not suitable for use as a Cavity Tray as per BS6515 — Specification for polyethylene damp-proof courses for masonry.
- Poor installation has led to demolition of buildings, expensive remedial action and litigation.
- Cut and stick DPCs at awkward junctions. Preformed Units (cloaks) must be used.



VISQUEEN

BUILDING PRODUCTS

Heanor Gate, Heanor, Derbyshire DE75 7RG
 T: 0845 302 4758 F: 0845 017 8663
 enquiries@visqueenbuilding.co.uk
 www.visqueenbuilding.co.uk

VISQUEEN BUILDING PRODUCTS IS A TRADING NAME
 OF BRITISH POLYTHENE LIMITED, COMPANY NUMBER:
 350729, REGISTERED OFFICE: ONE LONDON WALL,
 LONDON, EC2Y 5AB

