

## External Render

To facilitate this ambition of getting the quality right, these checks should take place:

- Ensure the design of background minimises or controls cracking. Beware of allowing blockwork to get wet before or during construction – creates a major risk
- Plain floated or trowelled finishes can suffer crazing and uneven appearance, especially under shallow lighting. Where it is specified, do trial panels for approval. Better to use a textured finish e.g. scraped
- In situ concrete will require preparation as internal render
- Do not allow day joints except at specified positions they will be seen
- Render on expanded metal lath (EML) needs joints at 5m. Ensure correct spacings and fixings for EML. (Diamonds on EML should slope inwards and downwards to support fresh render).
- Corner and top beads should be fully bedded or mechanically fixed – do not allow dabs
- All fixings, beads, EML should be stainless steel unless work is ‘sheltered’
- Generally two-coat work for sheltered and moderate, three coats for exposed
- Ensure sand is as coarse as possible, still allowing for the required finish
- Two-coat work has a minimum thickness of 16mm, three-coat work 20mm. Never exceed 25mm without mechanical fixings EML or similar
- All site mixed render should be gauged – bucket or box
- Ensure the render does not bridge DPCs or cover weep holes
- Subsequent coats should be either weaker or of the same mix but thinner than those before to control stresses
- Ensure several days between coats – do not allow one day
- Check that undercoats are combed before setting

### Our Quality vision:

We will get it right first time on all our projects by delivering exceptional customer service

