

Plaster Stop Beads: Tips & Tricks

Here we offer some tips and tricks about how to use these essential components to consistently achieve the most professional results.

- The most appropriate stop bead for a given installation should be decided in accordance with the application, desired finish and required plaster depth
- Galvanised steel plaster stop beads should only be used internally. For external applications, choose stainless steel or PVCu stop beads
- When beads are used internally, the drying-out time of the plaster should be kept to a minimum; this is especially important during periods of cold weather. Provide adequate ventilation and heating to the area where necessary
- Ensure that all metal beads in an installation are of the same type of material
- Cut plaster stop beads to the required size using a hacksaw across the bead's nose and snips across the mesh. Always wear protective gloves (also available from BS Fixings) to protect the hands from being injured by sharp edges
- When used in conjunction with metal lath backgrounds, tying wire may be used. This should be made of the same material as the bead and lath (i.e. stainless or galvanised steel). Twist the wire tightly and bend the ends away from the finished coating face
- When trowelling render or plaster, take extra care to avoid damaging the beads

