

Toplite Applications

Separating walls

from Tarmac Topblock

The Building Regulations require separating walls to provide reasonable resistance to sound transmission.

Guidance on suitable Toplite constructions capable of meeting the specified performance are given below. This includes constructions that can be built to satisfy Robust Detail E-WM-6. The use of Robust Details provides an alternative to pre-completion testing for demonstrating compliance with Part E for new build dwellings. Robust Details should be used in accordance with the scheme requirements including plot registration.

The performance of separating walls is highly dependent on the design, detailing and good workmanship of the associated flanking construction. Further guidance is given in the Topblock Design Guide.

Toplite in flats

Toplite can be used to construct flanking and separating walls based on Robust Detail specifications.

Separating walls

The Robust Detail testing programme that led to the aircrete separating wall specification (E-WM-6) demonstrated that these constructions performed as well as higher density aggregate block constructions. As a result of this, Table 3 of the Robust Details handbook allows Toplite cavity separating walls to be used in combination with the separating floor constructions E-FC-1 & E-FC-4. This indicates that Toplite blocks can be used in both the flanking and separating walls, thereby gaining the twin benefits of excellent thermal and sound insulation. When using these



options, however, the floor will be subject to pre-completion testing.

Work continues in developing additional Toplite specifications through the Robust Details programme and it is advisable to refer to Topblock Technical Services or our website www.topblock.co.uk for the most up-to-date specifications.

Toplite separating & flanking walls in flats

Robust Detail Separating Wall		Flanking wall	Robust Detail separating floor*
RD ref No	Toplite Blocks 2 x 100mm with 75mm cavity	Toplite inner leaf 100mm min	RD ref No
E-WM-6 (Conventional mortar)	Toplite Standard Toplite '7'	Toplite GTI, Standard Toplite '7'	E-FC- 1 & 4

*In accordance with Table 3 of the Robust Details handbook these separating floors require pre-completion testing

Alternative suitable products:

Products from the Durox, Hemelite and Topcrete ranges may also be suitable for this application.

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New Dwellings - Robust Details

Construction elements	Methods of compliance	RD ref	Recommended solution
Separating walls	Robust Details	E-WM-6	<p>Drylining (8kg/m² min) 2 x Toplite Standard 2 x 100mm Toplite '7' Nominal 8mm parging 75mm min cavity</p>
	Pre-completion testing not required		

RD - no site testing required

New Dwellings - Pre-completion testing

Construction elements	Methods of compliance	Recommended solution
Separating walls	Constructions requiring pre-completion testing in accordance with Approved Document E or other technical guidance e.g. BBA certification or field test data	<p>2 x Toplite Standard 2 x 100mm Toplite '7' 13mm drylining or plaster (10kg/m² min) 75mm min cavity</p>

Site testing required

New Build Rooms for Residential Purposes*

Any of the recommended solutions shown for the New Build Dwellings (above) can be specified for separating walls for use in rooms for residential purpose. In addition the solutions shown below may be used:

Construction elements	Methods of compliance	Recommended solution
Separating Walls	Constructions requiring pre-completion testing in accordance with Approved Document E or other technical guidance e.g. BBA certification or field test data	<p>13mm plaster (10kg/m² min) • 215mm Toplite Standard • 215mm Toplite '7' 13mm plaster (10kg/m² min) 215mm</p>

Site testing required

Note *Rooms for residential purposes include hotels, hostels, boarding houses, halls of residence and residential houses but exclude hospitals or similar establishments used for patient accommodation