

Reed Mat

Technical Information Sheet

Reed mat is lathing supplied in a roll. It is made from natural reeds laid parallel and bound using zinc-plated narrow gauge wire to form a long sheet. Consistency of the product is monitored by quality tests carried out by the manufacturer (Visual grading of reeds before binding & visual checks of the finished product for damage & flaws before shipping)

Reed mat is available in the following sizes:

Product Code	Reed Thickness mm	Width x Length m	Weight / Roll kg	Spacing of Binding Wires (mm)	No. of Reeds/m
RM10160	6-16	1.6 x 6.25	13	100	96-63
RM10180	6-16	1.8 x 5.55	13	100	96-63
RM10200	6-16	2.0 x 5.0	13	100	96-63
RM10240	6-16	2.4 x 4.2	13	100	96-63
RM20200	6-16	2.0 x 5.0	10	200	120 - 85

Design

Reed mat is suitable for internal use as a base for plastering on walls and ceilings. It can be used against a solid background or over studs or joists as a practical alternative lining material to gypsum plasterboard and lath-and-plaster.

Reed mats are particularly suited to using with lime, clay or gypsum plasters in building restoration and new-build.

Physical properties of reed mat:

- Density 190kg/m³ (2.5kg/m²)

Support:

- For use on walls Reed mat must be screwed, nailed or stapled to vertical or horizontal supports spaced at not greater than 500 mm centres.
- For use on ceilings, Reed mat screwed, nailed or stapled to supports spaced at not greater than 600 mm centres.
- Reed Mat RM10160 to RM10240 is more appropriate for use against a solid background.
- Fixings should be at not more than 150mm centres along lines of support.
- The cut edges of Reed mats must be continuously supported.
- Edges of adjacent Reed mats should be butted tightly together.
- The strength and stiffness of the supports must be appropriate to the position and function of the element within the building.

Finishes:

- The reeds are spaced apart to allow firm keying of basecoat plasters.
- Joints between boards should be scrimmed.
- The reed mats do not need to be wetted down before plastering.

Resistance to Damage:

- Precautions common to good drywall construction practice should be taken to avoid damage to the installed Reed mat.
- Vulnerable edges and corners should be protected.

Resistance to Moisture:

- Short term exposure to moisture will not cause deterioration of the reed.
- The reeds will deteriorate if kept in prolonged contact with water or used unprotected in damp environments.

Resistance to Fire:

- Reed mat with 18mm clay undercoat and finish plaster provides some fire resistance.

Thermal/Moisture Movements:

- Reed mats are dimensionally stable when used in 'normal' internal conditions and as part of a 'breathing' wall construction.

Installation

Cutting:

- Reed mats can be cut with hand or power saws and double-lever tin snips.
- Minimum 20mm edge clearance must be left when cutting Reed mat parallel to the wires to avoid the wire binding slipping off the cut ends of the reeds.
- When cutting across the mat the wires must be re-threaded and tied to prevent unravelling.

Fixings:

- Reed mats can be fixed to the substrate with 25mm staples @ 100mm c/c with a continuous binding wire running through the staples.
- Reed mats can be clamped by secondary fixings such as thin laths or battens screwed to the substrate using zinc-plated countersunk screws.
- Reed mats can be held in place on walls using plaster dabs.
- Fixings must be at not greater than 150mm centres along lines of support.

Site Notes

- Reed mats should be kept rolled up until ready for use to avoid damage. They should be stored off the ground, protected from damp.

Health and Safety

There is a risk from exposed ends of wire when Reed mat is cut.

Local Stockist

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact Womersley's Limited on Tel 01924 400651 or call in at our workshop.