



Skillswise factsheet

Ww/L1.1

Rw/L1.3

Plastering word list A-M

Do you work as a plasterer or are you a keen DIY enthusiast? Here are some of the most common words used in plastering, along with their meanings. You might find it useful to print this list and keep it with you when you are at work, or use it to practise your spelling.

Useful words	Meaning
align	To bring things into line with each other (verb) <i>If a wall between two rooms is removed, then it is sometimes necessary to align the floors if they are at different levels.</i>
angle	The space between 2 meeting lines - measured in degrees (°) (noun) <i>Ladders should be used at a working angle of 75°.</i>
architrave	A decorative trim applied around door frames or entrances (noun) <i>The architrave around the door was painted white.</i>
area	A measurement of surface - measured in square units (noun) <i>The area of the room was 50m².</i>
bonding	A type of plaster (noun) <i>Bonding is used for the first layer of plastering.</i>
ceiling	Upper interior surface of a room (noun) <i>Modern ceilings are made from sheets of plasterboard nailed to the joists.</i>
cement	A powder of limestone and clay (noun) <i>Cement is added to water and sand to create mortar for building purposes.</i>
coshh	Control Of Substances Hazardous to Health (acronym) <i>COSHH regulations require employers to control exposure to hazardous substances to prevent ill health.</i>

debris	Loose bits of material, for example sand or small pieces of mortar (noun) <i>A dusting brush can be used to remove any debris before making wall repairs.</i>
dry lining	A technique of combining plasterboard and jointing compound to make a surface ready for decoration (noun) <i>Dry lining provides a neat and professional finish.</i>
estimate	To give an educated guess or approximation (verb) <i>The plasterer estimated that labour costs would be about £300.</i>
external	Outside, outer (adjective) <i>The drawing showed the external view of the house.</i>
float	A hand tool used by plasterers (noun) <i>A float has a broad flat surface and is used for applying plaster to walls.</i>
hawk	A board with a handle which is used to hold a supply of wet plaster or mortar (noun) <i>A plasterer works with a hawk in one hand and a float in the other.</i>
hse	Health and Safety Executive (abbreviation) <i>HSE inspectors have wide powers to assist them enforce safety legislation.</i>
internal	Inside, inner (adjective) <i>Modern internal walls are often constructed from timber and plasterboard.</i>
jointing tape	Tape used to join plasterboard before plastering (noun) <i>Two rolls of jointing tape were required for the job.</i>
knife	A tool used for cutting or spreading (noun) <i>A filling knife can be used to apply filler when making repairs.</i>
ladders	Equipment used to help climb up and down (noun) <i>Jane used ladders to gain access to the roof.</i>
litres (l)	A metric unit of volume (noun) <i>There are one thousand millilitres in a litre.</i>
measurements	Dimensions, the size of something (noun) <i>The drawing showed measurements to the exact millimetre.</i>
metres (m)	A unit of metric measure of length (noun) <i>A metre is slightly longer than a yard.</i>
millimetre (mm)	A unit of metric measure of length (noun) <i>There are one thousand millimetres in a metre.</i>

mitre	An angled joint, usually made by joining two ends at 45° angles (noun) <i>A mitre joint is used when joining pieces of coving.</i>
mix	Another name for mortar (noun) <i>Mortar is used in masonry work and is often referred to as 'mix'.</i>
mortar	A mixture of cement, sand and water (noun) <i>Mortar is used in masonry work and is often referred to as 'mix'.</i>
mouldings	Decorative features made from plaster (noun) <i>Mouldings can be used to decorate ceilings.</i>

You can find Skillswise at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise>
This factsheet is BBC Copyright