



Project Incorporation details

To maximize the benefits of the Box Strap bracket in new build housing developments, it's crucial to follow these steps, tailored specifically for the construction industry:

1. During the first fix stage, the operative responsible for boxing out using the drawing/RCP should mark, cut, and install the Box Strap bracket on all the walls with plasterboard installed.
2. On the open side of the wall, where only metal studs are visible, the operative should mark the centres of the boxes on the floor. The marker line should be at least 30mm long from the bottom track on partition walls with a single layer of plasterboard, and 45mm long on party walls to accommodate two layers of plasterboard. At this point, using floor spray over the floor markings is recommended for better visibility. This eliminates the need to consult the drawing/RCP again during the mid-fix stage when everything is boarded, including the ceilings. At this stage cut out the remaining of the back boxes and downlights. It is recommended to pay attention when dryliners are beginning to close the walls to get the back boxes cut out prior to the ceilings being boarded as there should be a couple of days between walls being closed and ceilings due to sprinkler contractors needing to install their sprinkler heads, fire stoppers carrying out fire stopping and NHBC inspections.
3. For partition walls with a single layer of 12-15mm plasterboard, use a 35mm metal backbox, and a 47mm metal backbox on party walls with two layers of 15mm plasterboard to ensure a high-quality finish.
4. If separate operatives handle boxing out and wiring the flat, it's advised for the boxing out operative to write on the back of the plasterboard what the floor markings represent. This prevents confusion during wiring, helps with routing clips for power, lighting, and ELV, and avoids potential mix-ups like wiring a socket on the BT and vice versa.
5. The electrical manager and dryliner manager should agree that the cables be left inside the wall on the open side during drylining second fix. This prevents dryliner operatives from accidentally placing cables slightly higher or lower than the electrical accessories, which would require additional work during tape and joint or plastering.
6. Both managers should also agree that cutting out spotlights and remaining boxes should be completed before any tape and joint or plastering work. This ensures that the tape and joiner addresses all screw heads holding the Box Strap bracket in place and prevents screw heads from being left on finished plaster.
7. After mist coat, install any necessary putty pads.
8. For R1+R2 testing, there's no need to leave switch gear hanging during testing to remove earth parallel paths from the installation, as the Box Strap bracket isn't installed on the metal studs and has already eliminated potential earth parallel paths.
9. Finally, enjoy a smoother process without the electrical second fixer complaining about dryliners overboarding the backboxes and the tester grumbling about removing earth parallel paths from installations.

By following these steps, you'll optimize the use of the Box Strap bracket and create a more efficient and harmonious work environment for all parties involved.