

FASTENERS

This edition of OnBoard discusses the correct fastener to use to meet Knauf's installation recommendations and to achieve the best results from a plasterboard system.



The importance of using the correct fastener

The service life of plasterboard depends heavily on how well it is installed. Whether the plasterboard is used in a wall or ceiling application and whether water or fire protection is required, the installation details are of utmost importance to achieve the best results.

The plasterboard installation advice given to a plasterer is crucial. Providing the correct fixing

details will determine whether the requirements of AS/NZS 2589:2007 for drywall lining are satisfied and will also limit expensive and time consuming rectification work.

Nail or screw popping

Using an incorrect fastener can adversely affect the final appearance of plasterboard. Using an incorrect fastener can also produce faults after a period of time. A typical example is fastener popping, commonly known as nail or screw popping.

Nail or screw popping can have many contributing factors, but it is commonly caused by using an incorrect fastener (or adhesive) and the positioning details.

To reduce the occurrence of nail or screw popping as well as other detrimental effects, we advise consulting the following descriptions of fasteners. For correct nail or screw sizes, refer to the "Fastening Systems" guide in the Knauf Plasterboard Installation Guide.

Fastener description

W SCREW 40mm (Coarse Thread)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Suitable for fixing plasterboard into timber framing. > Has a coarse thread to grab the timber, rather than chewing it like an S Screw. > The head is flat and correct positioning involves driving the head just under the plasterboard surface, but not to tear the paper liner.
L SCREW 65mm (Laminated Coarse Thread)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Used when plasterboard sheets are required to be fixed together at butt joints and control joints.
S SCREW 40mm (Steel Point)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Used to fix plasterboard to steel framing members up to 0.8mm thickness, such as lightweight steel studs, steel battens and furring channels. > The finer thread of the S Screw pierces and then tightly grabs the steel frame.
D SCREW 40mm (Drill Point)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Best used to fix plasterboard to thicker steel, from 0.8mm to 2mm.
SMOOTH SHANK NAIL 40mm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Can be used to fix plasterboard to hardwood or softwood timber.
RING SHANK NAIL 30mm		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Can be smaller in size due to the extra pull-out resistance from the reverse rings.