

SELF-FURRING LATH: 2025 CBC

Disciplines: Structural**History:** Revised 01/29/26 Under 2025 CBC
Last Revised 06/14/23 Under 2022 CBC
Original Issue 09/30/05

Division of the State Architect (DSA) documents referenced within this publication are available on the [DSA Forms](#) or [DSA Publications](#) webpages.

PURPOSE

This Interpretation of Regulations (IR) clarifies the acceptance of self-furring wire lath used as reinforcement for cement plaster on construction projects under DSA jurisdiction.

SCOPE

This IR is applicable to self-furring wire lath used over solid backing surfaces in the construction of cement plaster (i.e., stucco) finishes. This IR does not address the additional requirements of California Building Code (CBC) Section 2507.3 for lath attachments in horizontal applications.

BACKGROUND

Standards and general requirements for lath and plaster construction are given in CBC Section 2507. Lath and furring requirements for cement plaster assemblies are given in CBC Section 2510, with CBC Section 2510.3 specifying installation in compliance with American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) C1063: Specification for Installation of Lathing and Furring to Receive Interior and Exterior Portland Cement-based Plaster.

1. GENERAL

Section 7.3.1.1 of ASTM C1063 requires lath for plaster to be furred $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the vertical supports or solid surfaces. Self-furring lath can be used to meet this requirement, subject to a satisfactory jobsite demonstration of the lath installation for each project.

1.1 Many types of self-furring lath have depressions in the lath that successfully offset the lath $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the plywood or other rigid backing, and do not require furring nails. The lath is not offset from the backing at the location where the nails or staples hold the lath to the backing or stud.

1.2 Demonstration of satisfactory jobsite installation as determined by approval of the project architect, project inspector, and DSA is required.

1.2.1 The lath shall not be pulled so tight that the depressions are straightened, resulting in the lath being pressed tight to the backing.

1.2.2 The lath must be furred out $\frac{1}{4}$ inch over the majority of the wall area. Lath within three inches of attachment points may be exempt from this minimum furring requirement to accommodate the fastener installation.

1.2.3 Nails or staples shall **NOT** be overdriven nor damage the weather-resistant barrier.

REFERENCES:

2025 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 24
Part 2: California Building Code (CBC), Sections 2507, 2510

This IR is intended for use by DSA staff and by design professionals to promote statewide consistency for review and approval of plans and specifications as well as construction oversight of projects within the jurisdiction of DSA, which includes State of California public schools (K-12), community colleges and state-owned or state-leased essential services buildings. This IR indicates an acceptable method for achieving compliance with applicable codes and regulations, although other methods proposed by design professionals may be considered by DSA.

This IR is subject to revision at any time. Please check DSA's website for currently effective IRs. Only IRs listed on the webpage at www.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/publications at the time of project application submittal to DSA are considered applicable.