
SELF-FURRING LATH: 2019 CBC

Disciplines: Structural

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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 (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. Section 7.10.1.1 of ASTM 1063 requires lath to be furred ¼ inch from vertical supports or solid surfaces.

1. GENERAL

Lath for plaster shall be furred out a minimum of ¼ inch when installed over a solid surface such as plywood. 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 ¼ inch from plywood or other rigid backing. Furring nails are not required. The lath is not offset from the backing at the location where nails or staples hold the lath to the backing/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 Lath must be furred out ¼ inch over the majority of the wall area; lath within three inches of attachment points may be exempt from minimum furring requirement in order to accommodate fastening to framing.

1.2.3 The nails/staples shall **not** be overdriven so as to damage the weather-resistant barrier.

REFERENCES:

2019 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.

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