



## Basement Waterproofing Made Easy

The world of waterproofing is full of technical terminology and jargon that can be confusing - to make your life easier we have produced a glossary of terms to guide you through !

**Air-dry** - When the surface humidity of a material is equal to that of the ambient surrounding air

**BS8102** – The British standard for waterproofing of structures below the ground

**Battens** – Lengths of timber fixed to the brick plugs to allow for the fixing of the plasterboard, can come in all different thicknesses generally 2"x1" are used

**Battery Back Up** - a long term standby battery for use in emergency situations where there is a loss of power

**BBA** – British Board of Agrément

**Brick Plugs** – Plastic plugs used to fix cavity drain system to walls and will allow you to fix timber battens for your finish

**Butyl Rope** - Self adhesive rope used in waterproofing

**Cavity Drainage** - The gap between the membrane and the wall that allows the water to flow to the perimeter drainage.

**Chase** – These are chiselled out of the wall or floor with a power drill if services need to be buried or if our purpose made drainage channels cannot be used

**Damp** - The condition of material when wetter than dry air

**Damp-proof** - Impervious to moisture

**Drained Cavity** - A continuous cavity which intercepts and drains away incoming water

**Fast track system** – An independent metal stud system installed in front of the wall, which can be quicker than conventional battening

**First fix** – This is done once the cavity drain system and battens have been installed a first fix is where all cables, pipes etc are put in place behind the finish plaster board

**Foundations** - Solid ground / base beneath a structure

**Free-draining** - Ground through which free water rapidly drains away

**High Water Table** - Where the water table is above the underside of the lowest floor

**Hydrostatic Head** - Water pressure, expressed as an equivalent depth of water

**Hydrostatic Pressure** - The water pressure exerted as a result of a hydrostatic head

**Integral protection** - Where the structure itself provides the necessary protection to the passage of water

**Low-permeability** - Resistance to water penetration

**Light well** – A small area excavated out of the ground to allow light into a basement

**Low water table** - Where the water table is permanently below the underside of the lowest floor level

**Maintainable Jetting eye** – Special designed ports fixed into the drainage channel to allow access at any time for maintenance

**Membrane** - The material that is used to line walls and floors to create a waterproof barrier. This leads to the Perimeter Drainage

**Moisture** - Water in the form of vapour as well as liquid

**Perched water table** - Where, because of insufficient permeability of the soil, percolating water is held above the underside of the lowest floor level, resulting in hydrostatic pressure

**Perimeter Drainage** - The drainage channel that is fitted around the outer edge of the basement to control the flow of water leading ultimately to the sump & pump unit

**Permeability** – The rate of flow of water through a porous material

**Pump** - The heart of a dry basement that pumps the water away from the basement

**Screed** - A sand and cement mix spread over the floor on top of the cavity drain system to provide a solid floor finish

**Seal** – This is made on most joints to fix membrane to membrane to seal window reveals and pipes and to keep the cavity system water tight

**Substrata** - Make up of the earth below the floor

**Substrate** - An area to which the membrane is applied, i.e. wall or floor can be a substrate

**Sump** -The outer rigid polyethylene casing that houses the pumps

**SuperSump** - A sump containing 1 powerful pump

**Timberwise** - The only name you need to know for basement waterproofing

**TripleSafe** - A sump containing 2 main pumps and a battery operated back up pump

**Vapour resistance** - The ability of a material to resist vapour penetration

**Water** - Water in its liquid form

**Waterproof** - Impervious to water, not permitting water to penetrate

**Water vapour** - Water in its gaseous form

**Water table** - Plain below which ground is saturated with water