

Domestic Heating Appliances – Non-Combustible Backing Board

The requirements for the installation of heating appliances in buildings are covered by the Building Regulations in Approved Document J - Combustion appliances and Fuel Storage systems.

Within this document, Requirement J2 deals with the protection of building, and states that "Combustion appliances and fluepipes shall be so installed, and fireplaces and chimneys be so constructed and installed, as to reduce to a reasonable level the risk of people suffering burns or the building catching fire in consequence of their use."

Particular care is required to ensure that hot radiating surfaces are kept clear of combustible materials such as timber. Minimum distances are prescribed, and the use of non-combustible lining materials is indicated, and the guidance given must be followed at all times.

Promat SUPALUX® is a non-combustible board in accordance with BS 476 Part 4 and BS EN 13501-1:2002 (A1 classification) and can withstand a maximum continuous operating temperature of 80°C.

If the anticipated maximum continuous operating temperature is expected to exceed 80°C, Promat can offer an alternative product (MONOLUX®40) which can withstand maximum continuous operating temperatures up to 250°C.

However, heating appliances come in many formats and Promat strongly recommends that the heating appliance manufacturer and the flue or chimney manufacturers be consulted to ensure that the correct installation procedures are followed. Temperatures in excess of 80°C can have a severe effect on the overall structure where the heating appliance is mounted.

Where maximum temperatures of 80°C are encountered, Promat recommends a minimum 12mm SUPALUX® for non-combustible backing boards for heating appliances.

Fixing

SUPALUX® board should be fixed at nominal 300mm fixing centres to a non-combustible background (either masonry or steel stud framework). Boards should be pre-drilled with slight oversize holes and the screws not over-tightened (to allow for a degree of thermal movement).

Decoration

SUPALUX® board can be plastered. Apply a sealing coat of diluted universal primer/PVA (e.g. 1 part PVA: 5 parts water). Sealing coat should be allowed to dry thoroughly (approximately 24 hours). Then apply a bonding coat (3 parts PVA: 1 part water) and apply plaster (max 5mm thick) while bonding coat is wet and tacky. Promat recommends that the advice of the selected plaster manufacturer is sought with respect to the suitability of their products for use at elevated temperatures.

SUPALUX® board can be tiled. Boards should be sealed on all sides with either diluted tile adhesive or a PVA sealant. Screw boards at a maximum 200mm centres in both directions to supports at maximum 405mm centres in both directions before applying tiles. Promat recommends that the advice of the selected tile and tile adhesive manufacturer is sought with respect to the suitability of their products for use at elevated temperatures.

SUPALUX® board can be decorated with a wide range of water and oil-based decorative coating systems. Promat recommend that the advice of the selected decorative coating manufacturer is sought with respect to the suitability of the desired coating for use at elevated temperatures.

Availability

SUPALUX® board is supplied via a national network of building merchants and distributors. Contact Promat Customer Services (tel 01344 381 381, fax 01344 381 380) for the nearest stockist.

Promat cannot offer advice beyond that contained within these recommendations. Further advice may be obtained from the following:

1. The Heating Appliance Supplier or Distributor
2. The Heating Appliance Manufacturer
3. The Solid Fuel Association
7 Swanwick Court, Alfreton,
Derbyshire,
DE55 7AS
Tel: 0846 601 4406
website: www.solidfuel.co.uk
4. British Flue and Chimney Manufacturers Association
Henley Road, Menmenham,
Marlow, Bucks,
SL7 2ER
Tel: 01491 578 674
website: www.feta.co.uk
5. OFTEC - Oil Firing Technical association
Foxwood House, Dobbs Lane
Kesgrove, Ipswich
IP5 2QQ
Tel: 0845 65 85 181
website: www.oftec.co.uk
6. CORGI - The Council for Registered Gas Installers
1 Elmwood, Chineham Park,
Crockford Lane,
Basingstoke, Hants,
RG24 8WG
Tel: 0870 401 2400
website: corgi-gas-safety.com
7. HETAS - The Heating Equipment Testing and Approval Service
HETAS Ltd., Orchard Business Park
Bishops Cleeve,
Cheltenham, Glos.
GL52 7RZ
Tel: 0845 634 5626
Website: www.hetas.co.uk
8. Building Regulations - Approved Documents
Planning Portal
website: www.planningportal.gov.uk

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