

# Design of floor to be asphalted

## Selection parameters

Factors influencing the selection of grades of mastic asphalt flooring should be considered at an early stage in the design and should include the following:

- a. The constructional form of the base on which the flooring is to be laid, e.g. ground supported slab, suspended floor, or screed
- b. Any falls or drainage facilities required
- c. The means of providing a transition from one level to another, particularly at thresholds
- d. Features such as details of finishing against other materials or floor finishes laid to falls
- e. The type and intensity of traffic anticipated
- f. Details of any fixtures or fittings, particularly where these are fixed into the base and penetrate the asphalt
- g. The use of any wheeled conveyances, e.g. fork-lift trucks, trolleys, their loading, rates of travel, type and width of tyre
- h. The weights of standing loads, their bearing area and any point loading
- i. The anticipated ambient temperature within the building
- j. Maximum and minimum temperatures, and any other conditions likely to affect the performance of the flooring either during laying or in service
- k. Any exposure of the mastic asphalt to acids, oils, greases or other substances and their concentration and temperature
- l. Details of mastic asphalt flooring surface required, e.g. slip resistance or need for ease of cleaning
- m. Details of floor finishes to be applied to a mastic asphalt underlay and the adhesive to be used. NB. A thin latex screed is normally required over Mastic Asphalt Flooring prior to the application of adhered floor coverings.
- n. Any other relevant information

The effect of some of these factors are interrelated e.g. loads and temperatures. For specific conditions, advice should be sought from the mastic asphalt manufacturer.

A guide to the selection of the appropriate grade of flooring and recommended thicknesses is given in [Table 2](#) on page 7.

