

Garage – concrete floors

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Question

Should a construction joint be formed in concrete garage floors that exceed 16m² ?

Considerations

- Construction joints help to control shrinkage cracking from occurring within the main area of a concrete floor.
- NHBC Standards clause 3.1.14 says that unreinforced concrete floor slabs, which exceed 16m², should have a construction joint.
- NHBC Standards clause 3.1.14 says reinforced concrete floor slabs up to 60m² can be laid without a construction joint.

Answer

If the floor area of a garage exceeds 16m² then;

- either the floor slab should be reinforced or
- provide a construction joint(s) that equally divides the floor area into bays less than 16m². See diagrams below.

