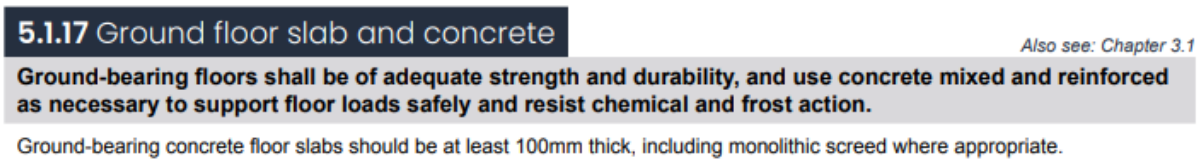
Quarry & Concrete Products

Ground Bearing Floor Slab Guidance

Ground bearing floor slabs are concrete floor slabs commonly used in the house building industry that are supported by the ground (as opposed to a suspended floor slab supported by load bearing walls). When designing a ground bearing floor slab, there are a few key considerations to comply with building regulations and also get the best performance out of your concrete:

Slab Depth

Ground bearing floor slabs must be laid at a minimum depth of 100mm, in line with BS 8204, Concrete Society Advice Note CA44 and the National House Building Council Standards Clause 5.1.17



5.1.17 Ground floor slab and concrete

Also see: Chapter 3.1

Ground-bearing floors shall be of adequate strength and durability, and use concrete mixed and reinforced as necessary to support floor loads safely and resist chemical and frost action.

Ground-bearing concrete floor slabs should be at least 100mm thick, including monolithic screed where appropriate.

Extract from NHBC Standards 2025

Slabs laid at less than 100mm do not have sufficient weight to prevent curling or cracking at the edges, both serious defects that require expensive reinstatement works. Slabs less than 100mm are also prone to unsightly plastic shrinkage cracking, a common aesthetic issue.

Slab Size

If your ground bearing floor slab is likely to be greater in size than 42m^2 (i.e. aspect ratio of 7m x 6m) consider the need for cutting appropriate joints to prevent drying shrinkage cracking.

This advice is intended as guidance only and Grange Quarry Ltd cannot be held responsible for site practices and workmanship

Slab Curing

To get the best performance from your concrete, it is essential to follow best curing practices to prevent excessive moisture loss from the slab (which can lead to issues such as plastic shrinkage cracking). Once laid, prevent moisture loss by covering the concrete, or by applying a suitable curing agent. If the slab is unbonded (i.e. going to be in contact with the ground) ensure there is a barrier such as plastic sheeting underneath the slab to prevent downward moisture loss.

Mix

Grange Quarry Ltd offer a variety of concrete mixes that are suitable for use in ground bearing floor slabs – from conventional designed and designated mixes through to our self-levelling SupaFlow range.

Contact our Sales or Technical teams to discuss your requirements on 01576 490490 or at info@grangequarry.co.uk

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