

**TABLE 9.1**  
**MINIMUM CLEARANCE FOR TIMBER FRAMING SHRINKAGE**

Type of frame/construction	Approximate total shrinkage mm			
	Single storey		Two storey	
	Slab to lower floor	Timber to lower floor	Slab to lower floor	Timber to lower floor
Fully seasoned timber frame (bearers, joists and wall frame)	0	0	0	0
Seasoned softwood wall frame, unseasoned softwood joists, bearers in-line	0	10	10	20
Unseasoned softwood wall frame, seasoned joists and bearers	5	5	11	11
Unseasoned hardwood wall frame, seasoned joists and bearers	9	9	22	22
Unseasoned hardwood wall frame, unseasoned softwood joists, bearers in-line	9	19	32	42
Seasoned softwood frame, unseasoned hardwood bearers and joists	0	22	20	42

## 9.6 DAMP-PROOF COURSES, FLASHINGS AND WEEPHOLES

### 9.6.1 Damp-proof courses

Damp-proof-courses (DPCs) shall comply with Clause 5.6 and shall be—

- installed in masonry walls where required to form a continuous damp-proofing barrier around the building;
- of sufficient width to extend through the entire masonry leaf; and
- visible at the face of the wall, including after rendering or any other applied coatings.

The height of the DPC shall be not less than—

- 150 mm above the adjacent finished ground level;
- 75 mm above the finished paved, concrete or landscaped areas that slope away from the wall; or
- 50 mm above finished paved, concrete or landscaped areas that slope away from the wall and protected from the direct effect of the weather by a carport, veranda or the like.

DPCs may be stepped such that continuity is maintained where a change in floor or ground level occurs.

Where lap joints in a DPC occur, they shall be not less than—

- 150 mm in a straight run; and
- the width of the DPC at corners.

Masonry units and mortar below the lowest DPC shall be of the appropriate salt attack resistance grade and mortar class for the exposure condition (see Clause 2.4 and Table 3.1).

A flashing that extends through the entire width of a masonry leaf may also be used as a DPC.