

# Lintels for Framed Buildings

### Prior to installation:

- ✓ Ensure that the Lintel width is correct for the wall; masonry should not overhang the lintel more than 25mm
- ✓ Check the Lintel is structurally undamaged - that it has not been bent or broken & that insulation is present (if relevant)
- ✓ Ensure that the lintel length provides adequate bearing at each end, typically 150mm, but a minimum of 100mm
- ✓ Check that it is the correct type; i.e. as specified or of the appropriate duty (refer relevant product tables)
- ✓ If the lintel has been specified as 'supported', check that the timber frame fixing clips are included

### Health & Safety

- ! These lintels are manufactured from stainless steel, the edges are much sharper than those of mild steel lintels
- ! Use of gloves is recommended to handle the lintels
- ! If lifting equipment is used, be sure to protect any fabric lifting strops from the sharp stainless steel edges

### Preparation of bearings

- ! The lintel should always bear onto a thin layer of bricklaying mortar, on top of full bricks or blocks.
- ! The bearings should ensure that the lintel will be installed level both lengthways and widthways
- ! Heavier duty lintels may require longer bearings or padstones; refer to our technical dept. or structural engineer

### Installation of masonry on the lintel

- ✓ Ensure the Lintel is centred over the opening, or that minimum bearing lengths are maintained
- ✓ If the lintel is specified as 'Supported' securely attach the fixing clips at the top edge (screws/nails) (we recommend 400mm spacings and support)
- ! Cavity wall ties should be installed above the lintel to standard masonry practice.

### Use of props during construction

- ! Supported masonry should be stable and allowed to fully cure prior to adding additional load such as floors or roofs,
- ! Propping is generally not required for these lintels

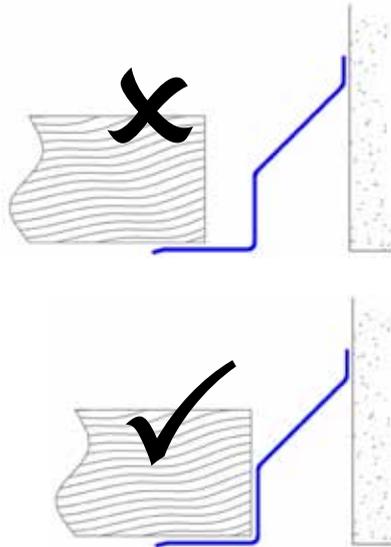
### DPC Requirements

- ! Most OL lintels have less than 150mm fall in the cavity, and consequently require a separate DPC to comply with BS8215 when installed in external cavity walls.
- ! The lintels are stainless steel and do not require a DPC for protection from corrosion

### Application of point loads to the lintel

- ! Both maximum 'Evenly Distributed' and permissible point loads for each lintel are listed in the specification brochure,
- ! Point loads must not exceed that stated, or cause the lintel to exceed the allowable distributed load or bending moment
- ! In the case of more than one significant point load, the point loads must be spaced at least 450mm apart
- ! Point loads must be flat on the lintel, bear over at least 50mm of the length, and must be hard against the web, see diagram above right

- ! Fastening through the base of the lintel into the point load member will provide additional support
- ! Point loads applied to OL Lintels should be placed hard against the web:



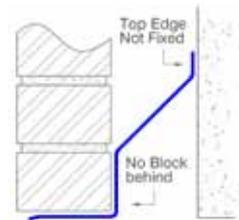
### Lintel modifications on site

- ! Site modifications (including welding with appropriate procedure) may be made to the lintel providing the structural performance and regulatory compliance are not compromised. If in doubt, please contact our technical department for assistance
- ! Stainless steel drills and discs should be used for cutting and drilling, and should not be contaminated with mild steel

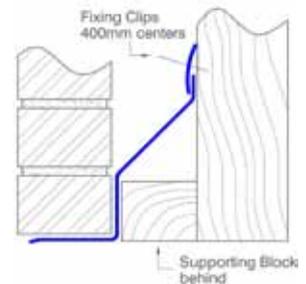
### Lintel Finish

- ! Being stainless steel, these lintels do not require surface protection, but cleaning to remove contaminants after installation is recommended
- ! These lintels are not supplied with plaster key unless specifically requested
- ! Fasteners used to attach other elements to the lintel in a damp environment should be Stainless Steel grade 316 or similar, fastener of lesser materials may corrode rapidly
- ! The lintels may be painted if desired; use an etch primer suitable for stainless steel prior to top coating
- ! Avoid installing in close proximity to mild or galvanised steel products as galvanic corrosion of those products may occur
- ! Application of a bead of silicone or similar at the junction between the window or door frame and the lintel soffit will prevent moisture penetration at this location (if applicable)

### LINTELS COVERED BY THIS GUIDELINE



**OL Lintels (unsupported)**  
for Light Duty Applications



**OL Lintels (Supported)**  
For Standard Duty Applications

### NOTE: Supported vs. Unsupported

The OL range of lintels may be installed in either configuration shown above; The unsupported configuration is fast and easy to install, but cannot carry as much load as the supported configuration. The lintel specifier is responsible for advising the masonry contractor if the supported installation is required. This should normally be specified on the drawings, so the lintel is installed with the correct configuration for the application.