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Concrete Base Advice Sheet

Concrete bases are required for all ShedWorld concrete buildings, regardless of size. For steel sheds, ShedWorld would always recommend that a concrete base be installed, however for smaller sheds it is possible to omit the base and install a timber floor within the shed.

In the event that a base is to be installed, ShedWorld would always prefer that we carry out the installation, however if you prefer to supply your own base, you can, subject to the specifications below.

In the event that ShedWorld are to install the base, we will have carried out a site survey, either in person, or by your sending in pictures of your site for us to be able to gauge the condition of the area, how flat and level it is, if there are any obstructions such as tree roots in the way, whether the site requires extra material to level it or whether material must be removed prior to the pouring of the concrete for the base. These issues will also be of interest to any other party whom you may choose to install your base for you.

In the event that you choose to take care of the base yourself or hire another company to install it, please be aware of the following guidelines:

- The base should be flat and level on top
- The base should be no less than 4 inches thick at its thinnest point
- The area for the base should be approximately 1foot or 300mm larger in both dimensions than your intended building will be to allow sufficient access once the building is erected to fit items such as roof trims or gutters and to ensure that there is sufficient room for access to all sides of the shed, if needed, for the future.
- A layer of heavy gauge polythene or other damp proofing material should be laid down before the base is poured.
- Once the building is erected onto the base, it will be necessary to seal the bottom of the building to the base to prevent water ingress. The most expedient way to do this is to pour a second, sealing layer of concrete, approximately 1-2 inches thick, inside the building after it is erected. This will insure a complete seal and also that the surface of the floor inside the building is higher than the outer surface of the base, thus preventing water from flowing inside.

Note, extra work such as the laying of hard core or the inclusion of steel reinforcement within the base is not usually necessary but will be of no harm to your building should you wish to include it.

If you choose to hire ShedWorld to install your base, then you can rest assured that the base we pour will meet all of these criteria.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact ShedWorld directly where we will be happy to give you any assistance you require.