



weberfloor specification checklist for healthcare

In March 2022, the New Hospital Programme announced the first commercial pipeline of work worth a total of £2.5bn. The works are part of the “biggest hospital building programme for a generation”, which will see 40 new hospitals built by 2030. Add to this the countless refurbishments and private healthcare facilities being built and upgraded, there’s huge demand for high quality, specialist flooring.

This guide is designed to help specifiers working on healthcare projects to ensure they have everything covered when it comes to flooring. Take a look through our specification considerations checklist to help you choose the right system for your project...

Use

- What loads will your floor need to withstand?
- Will there be medical equipment and machinery?
- Will equipment be portable?
- Will the surface need to withstand movement of wheelchairs, trolleys and beds?
- What are the durability requirements?

Project timeline

- How quickly do you need access to your floor?
- Is there limited access?
- Are you working on a live site?
- When will you need access by foot/ other trades?
- Are you applying further flooring systems?
- Have you considered installation of specialist equipment?

Top tips

Using a pump system you can cover 2000sqm in a day with **weberfloor smooth rapid 4160**.

Using a **weberfloor** system the setting could be recommissioned to light footfall in as little as two hours.

Moisture level

- What is the condition of your substrate?
- What is the moisture level requirements of your final floor finish?
- Have you checked for moisture?
- Do you need a moisture control system?

Top tips

Weber can supply a DPM that can be applied as a one or two coat system suitable for substrates with a relative humidity of up to 98%. Alternatively, **weberfloor MVS** can be used on new screeds exhibiting an relative humidity of up to 95%.

Substrate

- What is the tensile strength you are trying to achieve?
- Is the tensile strength of the floor sufficient?
- Are there any contaminants on the surface that need to be removed?
- Can the substrate support additional loads likely to be imposed?
- Are allowances in place for potential substrate movement (expansion, contraction, deflection etc)?
- Will insulation boards, or sound proofing be required?
- Is the substrate damaged and in need of repair?

Top tips

Weber offers full systems including everything you need from subfloor repair to levelling and smoothing compounds.

Screeds such as **weberfloor fibre rapid 4320** or **weberfloor base rapid 4360** can be used to pre-level surfaces if deep sections are required



weberfloor systems are protein-free making them ideal for use in areas where preventing growth of harmful bacteria is crucial.

Depth of application

The depth of application will be dependent on:

- Whether the floor is bonded, unbonded or floating
- The requirements specified in technical drawings
- The products used - for example, **weberfloor fibre rapid 4320** must be applied at 5mm bonded, 20mm unbonded, or 25mm for floating. Alternatively, **weberfloor smooth rapid 4160** can be applied bonded down to as little as 2mm.

Bonded	Flooring products laid onto a mechanically prepared substrate with the intention of maximising potential bond.
Unbonded	Flooring products intentionally separated from the substrate by the use of a membrane.
Floating	Flooring products laid onto a floor not fixed to the surface beneath it.

Final finish

- What is the final floor finish?
- What are the substrate requirements for the final floor finish including surface regularity, wear resistance and moisture content?
- Will the floor be left uncovered and need a product suitable as a wearing surface?
- Do allowances need to be made for any special features or fittings?

Top tips

SR1 High standard floors for specialist use – (3mm permissible departure from straight edge)

SR2 Normal standard for use in commercial and industrial (5mm permissible departure from straight edge)

SR3 Utility standard floors, where surface regularity is less critical (10mm permissible departure from straight edge)

Other considerations

- Have you considered all the relevant healthcare regulations and technical requirements?
- Is cleanability/hygiene important?
- Will there be a specialist fit-out?
- Do storage areas require different flooring?
- What about access for pump machinery and storage of materials during works?
- Will the setting be required for food preparation and serving?
- Will access to services be required?
- Is wheelchair accessibility required?

Sustainability

Our products are made here in the UK helping you reduce the carbon footprint of your project. One tonne bags can also be made available for larger schemes to help reduce waste on site. We are committed to reaching net-zero carbon by 2050 and continually strive to improve the sustainability of the services and products we offer. Our Low-Dust Technology™ reduces airborne particles produced when mixing our mortar products to create a cleaner and more comfortable working environment.

Additional specification support and training

Weber helps you throughout the specification process by:

- providing onsite support including visual inspection and advice.
- offering full technical and specification guidance from design to installation.
- suggesting recommended applicators who are trained with Weber products.
- making **weberfloor** systems available on NBS Chorus.

Top tips

Weber's specification team provides a full project information pack including NBS specification (M10), technical drawings and application advice.

Weber can offer a range of CPD presentations to support your project.

Case study

Royal Hallamshire Hospital

Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust wanted to completely overhaul parts of the hospital to make space for new, state-of-the-art operating facilities within the audiology department. Working within a tight timescale of just 72 hours, specialist contractor Frescrete prepared and installed new operating theatre floors, whilst the hospital continued its normal activities.

The floors needed to comply within strict health and safety guidelines and the final substrate had to meet surface regularity one (SR1), the highest level of flatness.

With no room for error, **weberfloor 4716 primer** and **weberfloor smooth rapid 4160** were selected for their fast drying properties. Light foot traffic was possible after just a few hours and the final floor covering installed in just 24 hours.

For further information and assistance, please contact our Flooring Team:

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