

## The new roof on your head- Gypsum board false ceilings

Interiors designs and layout play a vital role in the aesthetic appeal of a home, office, hotels or any other interior space. Attractive colours or patterns, decorative wall panels, furniture, show pieces, indoor plants all are elements that are mostly considered in defining the internal ambience. The use of designer flooring, natural stone, carpets have been some of the ways floors have also entered the set of design consideration.



Ceilings, as a design element, have been somewhat low on design agenda. Ceilings play a vital role within an interior space. They offer the maximum unobstructed view in a room and thereby never fail to catch the eye. But apart from decorative lighting; not much that has caught the frenzy.

Ceilings serve a dual purpose within an indoor space:

Aesthetics: - the design, patterns and concealing of electrical wiring

Functional: - light reflectance, sound absorption, thermal insulation and support to fixtures

All these play a vital role in creating an environment within a room. It is no surprise that decorative ceilings are slowly forming an integral part of any interior design for new and old constructions.

False ceilings are amongst the most common choice that is recommended as a part of a ceiling design. Typically, false ceilings are suspended a few inches below the structural ceiling on a metal framework. Though having a false ceiling may appear as a slightly expensive proposition at first, it has distinct functional as well as aesthetic advantages which make them well worth the money.

**Why go for a false ceiling:**

On a functional note, false ceilings offer excellent insulation against heat due to the air gap between the two ceiling layers. This can cut down your spends on air-conditioning by a significant level. Use of acoustic ceiling boards can further enhance the functionality of ceilings.

On the aesthetics front, all your services like wiring, ducting and insulation can be concealed within the false ceilings. Lights can be inset into a false ceiling, which prevents having to dust them while providing you with a clean, level surface below. False ceilings also offer a smooth finish, which improves the light reflectance off the ceilings. This in turn makes better use of natural lighting by day and the need for artificial light sources.



Easy on maintenance, functional and aesthetic appeal makes false ceilings the most practical ceiling décor.

**Popular Choice:**

Plaster of Paris (POP) boards have been most widely used in the construction of false ceilings in India. It offers a smooth and uniform finish, are easy to construct and maintain. The light weight also does not add any significant weight to the support structure of any construction.

**Common Concern Areas:**

**Mechanical Strength:** POP boards do bring in the inherent problems of plaster. POP is brittle and cannot take any kind of load. POP is also prone to sagging under moisture and longevity over longer periods of time.

**Quality:** POP as a product is very generic and there by offers no assurance in terms of quality and performance. With no major brands in this space, the market is unorganized and products offer no distinct value proposition or product advantage over the other. This is a key area where brands such as Gyproc with their gypsum boards make a difference by catering to higher needs that just good aesthetics.

**Gypsum boards:**

Gypsum plasterboards are the ultimate ceiling solution for today's buildings. Along with aesthetic appeal, they are lightweight and also high levels of performance in terms of fire rating, acoustic insulation and thermal insulation than POP. Since gypsum boards have been in use across the globe, the

market today has international players like Saint-Gobain Gyproc offering high quality and certified ceiling solutions in India.

Gypsum boards can also be transformed into value added products with moisture resistance and impact resistance to create modern internal environments. These are advantages where POP fails as an option due to its product nature.

Gypsum boards are also higher on stability and impact resistance and are very strong in comparison to POP. This is one reason why gypsum boards can be made larger in size and hence have fewer joints. Suspended on a metal grid and less number of joints naturally forms a strong ceiling design.

**Raising the bar for future:**

Gypsum boards reinforced with glass fiber make excellent thermal insulation as well as offer superior acoustics over POP. Saint-Gobain Gyproc has a widest range of special high performance acoustic ceiling solutions in India. Since sound within an enclosed area can reverberate, acoustic ceilings can play a very important role in creating that peaceful experience for the inhabitants.

The degree of confidence with gypsum boards is also enhanced by quality and performance assurance coming from the system designers; something POP false ceilings can never offer. Through SpecSure, Saint-Gobain Gyproc offers off the shelf warranty for end-users for proper implementation of the recommended systems.

**For More information contact:**

Saint-Gobain Gyproc India Ltd,

5<sup>th</sup> Level, Leela Business Park, Andheri –Kurla Road, Andheri (E),

Mumbai – 400059 Tel: (022) 40212121 E-Mail: [gyprocindia@saint-gobain.com](mailto:gyprocindia@saint-gobain.com)