

The GRADUS Knowledge



Introduction to the Gradus Knowledge

The Gradus Knowledge covers a number of important industry topics and aims to offer building specifiers and contractors insightful guidance from the market leaders in contract interior solutions.

About Gradus

Gradus was founded in 1966 and has evolved from a flooring accessories business, which still remains at the heart of its activities, into a fully-fledged contract interior solutions provider.

With over 280 employees serving both the UK and international markets, Gradus offers solutions for floorcoverings, floor trims, barrier matting, and LED lighting, in addition to a comprehensive range of Wall Protection systems.



The Wall Protection Series

Wall Protection products are designed to protect building surfaces from damage caused by the general flow of wheeled and pedestrian traffic.

This document will help building designers understand how specifying Wall Protection can help to significantly reduce the levels of everyday damage to buildings and interiors, minimising the

need for ongoing repair and maintenance, reduce lifecycle costs, improve building accessibility and enhance the long term appearance of building interiors.

This document will be valuable to anyone involved in the design, specification, construction, installation or maintenance of building interiors.

Why Gradus?

A UK manufacturer with over 25 years' experience in the design, manufacture and installation of Wall Protection systems, we can provide valuable insight and offer expert advice.

Our experience will help you value engineer your project to ensure the best product solution at a price that suits you and your clients budget.

We understand that most areas need different protection at varying levels so we can offer you advice on how to zone your project. We can advise on the best solution, in line with Standard and Guidance documents, for busy corridors, waiting rooms, reception areas and delivery areas as well as areas where hygiene is paramount.



Gradus are committed to reducing scope 1&2 CO₂ emissions by 20% by 2025. Read our CSR Report [here](#).

The Equality Act

What it relates to:

The Equality Act 2010 legally protects people from discrimination in the workplace and in wider society. It replaced previous anti-discrimination laws with a single Act, making the law easier to understand and strengthening protection in some situations.

In regards to building development, this legislation works alongside Approved Document M (ADM), which relates to the access to and use of buildings.



ADM deals with the design of buildings to enable all people to gain access, and be able to use the facilities of the building. It also

includes requirements to help people with sight, hearing and mobility impairments use buildings.

This is law.

This is important when looking at Wall Protection in particular, as specifiers must ensure they are specifying solutions that meet the design requirements, helping to achieve an inclusive environment in line with the regulations. However, it must be noted that ADM sets out the minimum requirements to ensure a range of people can access a buildings facilities.

Complying with ADM **does not mean you have complied with the broader obligations listed in the Equality Act.**

Legality

Building owners have a legal duty to ensure all people can gain access to, and use, a building and its facilities.

Who is responsible?

The designers, builders and installers working on a building as well as the building owner.



What happens if you don't comply?

You can be served with an enforcement notice.

Further reading

For further information on the Equality Act or Approved Document M, please see:

- [The UK Government Whitepaper on Approved Document M](#)
- [The UK Government legislation on the Equality Act 2010](#)



“Inclusion is vital”

Samantha Renke,
Disability Campaigner



Gradus offers a RIBA assessed and approved CPD seminars on 'The Specification & Design Considerations of Wall, Corner & Door Protection Systems'.
Want to know more? Click [here](#).



UK Building Regulations

What are they?

The Building Regulations are minimum standards for design, construction and alterations to virtually every building.

The Building Regulations impose certain mandatory requirements in relation to:

- The construction of any building and to certain services and fittings in conjunction with any building
- The construction alteration or extension of any building's construction
- Any building undergoing a change of use

The Government publishes guidance on ways of meeting these requirements in what are known as Approved Documents. They are intended to provide practical advice on ways to comply with the functional requirements in The Building Regulations.

Approved Documents

Approved Document M (ADM) sets out minimum requirements to ensure a diverse range of people are able to access and use facilities within buildings.



It states that reasonable provision must be made for people to:

- Gain access to; and
- Use, the building and its facilities

However, the guidance only indicates one way of satisfying the requirements - there may well be alternative ways of achieving compliance.

There is no obligation to adopt any particular solution contained in any Approved Document if you prefer to meet the relevant requirement in some other way, such as standards.

If you choose to do this you assume the risk, which is why we recommend following guidance.

Remember

Building Regulations impose mandatory requirements.

If you fail to comply with Building Regulations:

- An unlimited fine may be imposed
- An enforcement notice on the building owner requiring alteration or removal of work which contravenes the regulations

Helping you stay compliant - BIM

Gradus' BIM objects provide specifiers with a comprehensive range of profiles to enable the optimum specification.

How Gradus meets these regulations:

Gradus works hard to ensure that all of its products have been developed in line with the latest legislation, standards and guidelines.

To view supporting documents visit:

- [The NBS Source](#)

Gradus is a member of NBS Source to assist architects and other specifiers for guidance when writing specifications.

BIM

In line with the UK Government's BIM (Building Information Modelling) mandate, Gradus now has BIM objects available for most of our wall protection profiles. The Government Soft Landings (GSL) policy came into full force in 2016, alongside BIM Level 2, to reduce costs and improve performance of asset delivery and operation.

- [The UK Government white paper on Approved Document M](#)
- [The UK Government Legislation on the Equality Act 2010](#)

UK Building Standards

What are they?

Put at its simplest, a standard is an agreed, repeatable way of doing something. The point of a standard is to provide a reliable basis for people to share the same expectations about a product or service.

What is the difference between a standard and a regulation?

Regulation

- A rule that we must follow
- Rules that the Government makes under an Act
- Rules are made "real" and "enforceable" by the power that the Government gives itself under an Act

Standards

- Not written by Government
- Are written by organisations such as BSI
- Typically refer to product performance or how to do a job
- Have no authority on their own, but may be adopted into regulations making them legal requirements

Are standards a legal requirement?

No, standards are voluntary and do not impose any regulations. However, you may need to meet certain standards to comply with particular legal requirements and ensure building users can navigate around a building safely.

Gradus products are in line with BS 8300-2:2018

Design of an accessible and inclusive built environment

Technical Support

Have you got a technical question? Contact Gradus Technical Support on 01625 428922

Gradus offers a RIBA assessed and approved CPD seminar on 'The Specification & Design Considerations of Wall, Corner & Door Protection Systems'. Want to know more? Click [here](#).



Standards and Guidance

“Every 24 hours the NHS sees more than 1 million patients”

Health building notes (HBN) give best practice guidance on the design and planning of new healthcare buildings.



Standards and Guidance

HBN 00-04: Circulation and communication spaces

Contrasting handrails/crash rails may be fitted to act as navigation tools. Handrails should be fitted in main communication routes, i.e. main corridors between departments, as required.

HBN 00-10 Part B: Walls and ceilings

Wall Protection finishes should be chosen with cleaning in mind.

HBN 00-09: Infection control in the built environment

Use Wall Protection finishes that are smooth, non-porous and water resistant.

Did you know that specifying corner guards can help you comply with HBN 00-04?

Read more:

[HBN 00-04 Circulation and communication spaces](#)



When correctly specified, Wall Protection can also help with whole life costing – reducing the cost of cleaning and maintenance.



When specifying Wall Protection, consider **circulation and navigation**. For example, handrails should be

- Easy to grip
- Smooth to the touch with no rough joints
- Slip resistant
- Not hot or cold to the touch
- Visually contrasting with the background

Source: Approved Document M & K

Remember

Tonal contrast is as important as colour contrast. People with visual impairments can often confuse different colours of similar tone. Specifying in a contrasting colour/tone to the substrate alerts building users to avoid potential impact and can be fitted to act as a navigation tool.

However, if you want to blend your Wall Protection into the design, installing solutions at full height helps to further blend the product within the design.



Standards and Guidance

Wall protection can help you gain BREEAM points

What is BREEAM?

BREEAM set best practice standards for the environmental performance of buildings through design, specification, construction and operation.

Designing for Durability and Resilience

Recognise and encourage adequate protection of exposed elements of a building, therefore minimising the frequency of replacement and maximising materials optimisation.



“ Did you know that Gradus re-cycles over 91% of its manufacturing waste? ”



Further reading

- Health building notes for best practice guidance on the design of healthcare buildings
- Building Bulletins give best practice and guidance for school buildings
- BREEAM Mat 05 Designing for Durability and Resilience



BIM

For up-to-date and accurate data, providing you with the relevant technical information to build into your project – download Gradus' BIM objects, available for the entire range of Wall Protection profiles.

Download [here](#).



Wall Protection

Why specify Wall Protection?

Reduce damage caused by impact and abrasion by pedestrian and wheeled traffic (trolleys, beds, wheelchairs etc.)

- Reduce maintenance costs
- Enhance and maintain the interior finishes of a building
- Assist with navigation and highlighting features
- To meet the latest standards and guidance

Life-cycle and maintenance

Some spaces require more maintenance than others due to usage and traffic, and recognition of this is required during the design stage

Early consideration of maintenance and replacement of building elements will help to achieve compliance with all policy drivers

- Gradus Wall Protection is modular in design so damaged parts can be replaced with minimum cost

The Challenges

Making Wall Protection integral to the design process

- Ensuring efficient specification i.e. the right product for the right application
- Zoning projects by levels of activity
 - Busy corridors – high level of Wall Protection
 - Reception areas – minimum levels of Wall Protection

Did you know?



The contracts team at Gradus manage your Wall Protection project from survey and specification through to installation and hand over, removing risk and saving time.

Don't leave Wall Protection to chance, make it a key part of your specification

Just like windows, doors and roofs wall protection is designed to protect the inside of your building and should be considered as part of your overall specification.

'What Wall Protection should I specify to enhance the interior of the building?' ✓

Make Wall Protection integral to your design process.

Make sure you design to preserve the building interiors for today, tomorrow and the years to come.



Wall Protection - Key Considerations

You will never eliminate 100% of the damage – all you can try to do is reduce the likelihood of damage occurring and minimise the effect of that damage to the building.

The best approach, and the most cost-effective approach, is to zone a building to the type of traffic expected.

Traffic Levels:

Consider the types of traffic the area will be subject to and the varying traffic volumes between zones.

✓ Severe ✓ Heavy ✓ Medium ✓ Light

Causes of damage:

Some spaces require more maintenance than others due to usage and traffic, and recognition of this is required during the design stage

- Early consideration of maintenance and replacement of building elements will help to achieve compliance with all policy drivers
- Gradus Wall Protection is modular in design so damaged parts can be replaced with minimum cost



Trolleys



Luggage



Wheelchairs



Beds



Pedestrians



Vehicles

Things to consider for different environments:

Circulation Areas	Rooms
• Speed of traffic	• Pedestrians
• Weight of traffic	• Chairs & bags scuffing walls
• Size of traffic	• Level of traffic
• Level of traffic	• Type of equipment used e.g. disposal bins, printers etc.
Product tip! High impact corner guards, wall guards and wall cladding would be more suitable for this area	Product tip! Standard corner guards and wall strips would be more suitable for this area

Did you know that Gradus have a trained specification team?

At Gradus we have a network of trained specification consultants on-hand to help you with your Wall Protection specification. Give us a call to see how we can help - **01625 428922**

Colour

Wall Protection can be installed to either blend, highlight or complement your interior design.

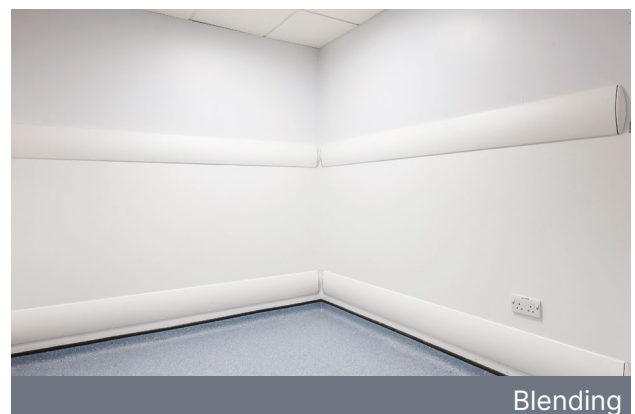
Using colour in your designs with a sufficient level of visual contrast can assist people in navigating and negotiating an environment

To aid navigation consider colour contrast for wayfinding using:

- Handrails
- Corner Guards



Tonal contrast



Blending

Wall Protection

Gradus Wall Protection meets the guidance set out HBN 00-04, HBN 00-09 and HBN 00-10.

Wall Cladding

Wall Protection Cladding is a robust and versatile PVC-u solution that can help protect walls and doors from wheeled and pedestrian traffic reducing the need for repair and redecoration. Gradus offers four types of PVC-u wall cladding offering aesthetic solutions for most interior design requirements.

SureProtect Endure® Wall Cladding

Available in 35 colour options SureProtect Endure® is textured and through coloured to conceal the effects of impact and abrasion.

It's robust and durable, suitable for busy environments like corridors and circulation areas, classrooms and waiting areas.

Tested to BS EN 6603 and classified according to EN 13501-1:2007+A1:2009 and reaction to fire B-s3, d0. It can be combined with matching or blending wall and corner guards to provide a comprehensive and robust Wall Protection system.



SureProtect Pure® Wall Cladding

A smooth and easy to clean Wall Cladding system specifically developed for areas where hygiene is of paramount importance.

It can be welded and thermoformed into bespoke profiles to create a smooth impermeable barrier to moisture and bacteria.

Resistant to commonly used chemicals and tested to EN ISO 175:2010 it does not support bacterial growth as outlined in EN22196:2011 and complies with guidance set out in HBN 00-09 for infection control.



Wall Protection

SureProtect Design®

Woods and metals

Enhances building interiors while offering excellent surface protection. Ideal for applications where aesthetics is important like reception areas, hotel lobbies, retirement homes, leisure facilities and care homes that need a less institutional feel.



SureProtect ARTWORX®

Bespoke print options

Gradus can provide bespoke cladding solutions by digitally printing your photograph / graphic onto a PVC sheet, which offers protection from scuffs and scrapes.

This creates true design flexibility and a robust, easy to clean durable Wall Protection system. Perfect for creating relaxing and hygienic settings.

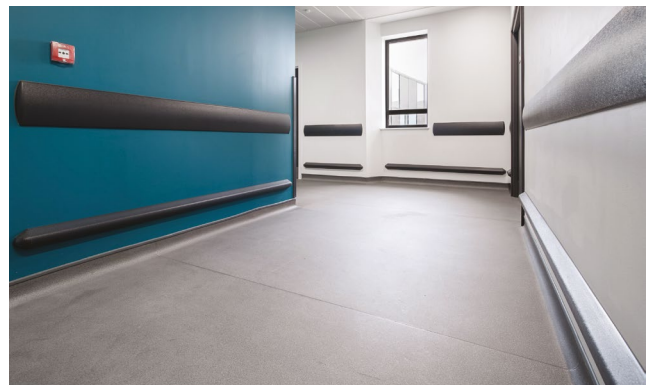


Wall Guards and Wall Strips

Recommended where frequent impact occurs, such as main corridors and entrance areas.

They are available in various styles and sizes to match the needs of different environments. Some options include an internal bumper for additional strength and an aluminium retainer. The Wall Guards are designed to protect the most vulnerable areas. Ideal for future refurbishment as the covers can be replaced, making future budgeting easier.

Quick and easy installation make Wall Strips a cost-effective alternative to Wall Guards.



Bed Head Protectors

Designed to prevent damage to walls and wall mounted medical equipment from beds or chairs that are frequently moved around, elevated or inclined.



Wall Protection

Handrails

With an easy, not-cold-to-the-touch grip the handrail is designed in line with approved document M and K.



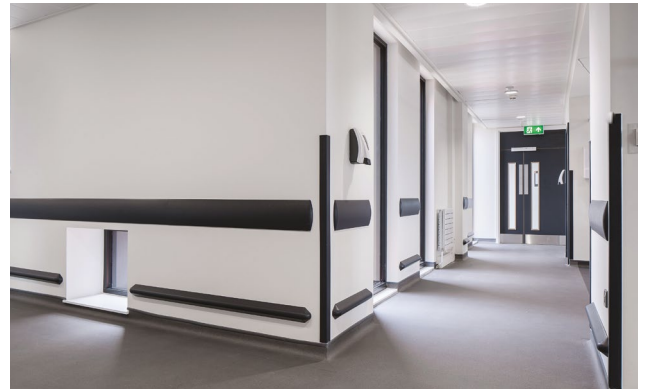
Dual Rail

Designed to offer support and guidance and meet the specific needs of the healthcare environment where pedestrian support is required, in addition to protection against impact from wheeled traffic. Meets the guidance set out HBN 00-04 and HBN 00-10.



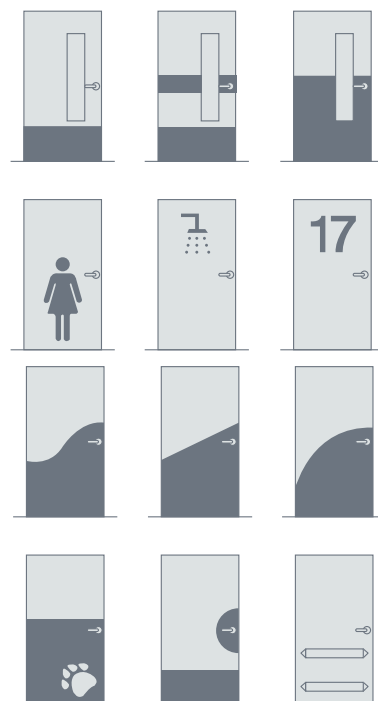
Corner Guards

Corners are the most vulnerable part of the building when left exposed. Corner guards typically protect against damage from everyday wheeled traffic. Available in a wide choice of colours to meet the requirements of BS8300-2:2018 for tonal contrast.



Door Protection

Busy environments are especially tough on doors and doorframes and repairing them is expensive. We recommend protecting the doors with Sure-Protect Endure® textured sheet to conceal the effects of impact abrasion and prolong their life.



Wall Protection

Floor Mounted Protection

Specifically designed to keep wheeled traffic away from walls. Used in situations where wall fixings are not possible, e.g. curtain wall or glass partitions.



Aluminium Chequer Plates

Heavy duty protection, ideal for manufacturing, warehousing and loading bays. Suitable for both interior and exterior environments. Designed to protect areas from the effects of high pedestrian traffic in entrances, public areas and thoroughfares, i.e. corridors, lifts, stairs. Will help with compliance with BREEAM MAT 05 Designing for Durability and Resilience.



Safety and Protection Systems

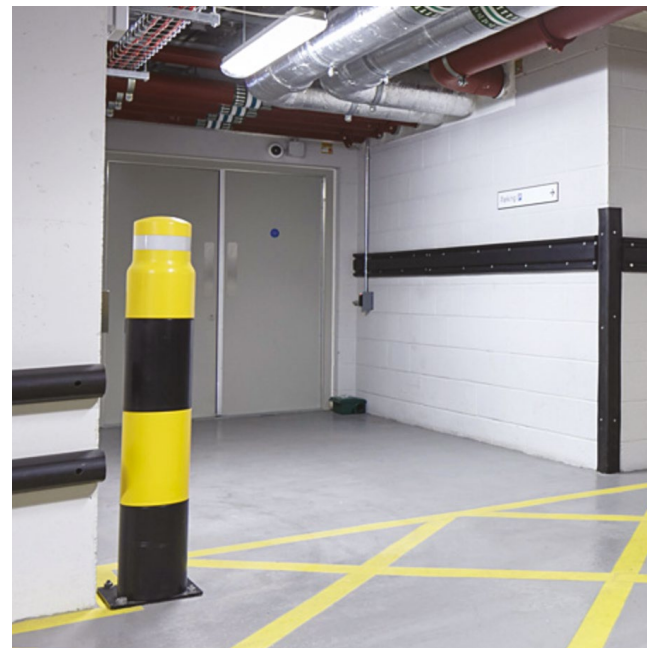
Speed control, good visibility and well-designed pedestrian guidance are all essential to avoid accidents.

Gradus Safety and Protection systems are designed to address these key risks. We believe 'safety by design' is the best approach for specifiers and building owners to limit accidents as much as possible.

One of the most important considerations is to ensure pedestrians are segregated and protected from vehicles by using barriers where necessary, and that traffic is calmed by using speed bumps. Vulnerable walkways and structures should be protected with bollards and barriers.

Gradus offers an extensive range of Safety and Protection products:

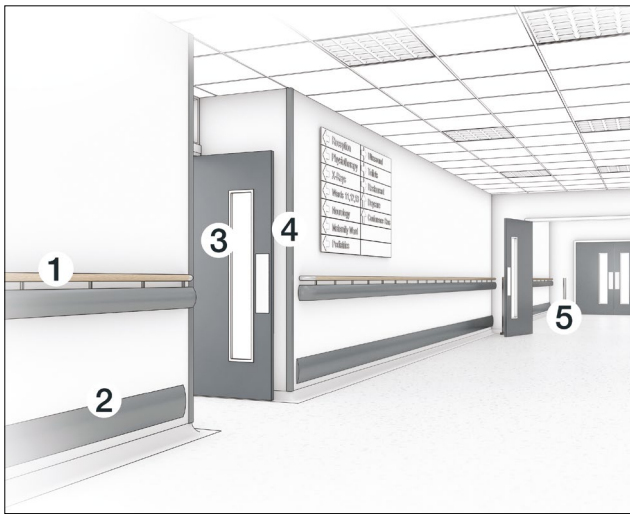
- Stainless Steel Bollards
- Galvanised Steel Bollard with cover kits
- Speed bumps
- Steel core Protection Posts
- Flexible Protection Posts



Environments - Hospitals

Corridors and circulation areas are amongst the busiest parts of a hospital and have to withstand a high volume of both pedestrian and wheeled traffic. This requires a robust protection system in place to protect vulnerable wall and corners from scuffs and scrapes and direct impact damage.

Below we highlight how Wall Protection can protect a hospital corridor:



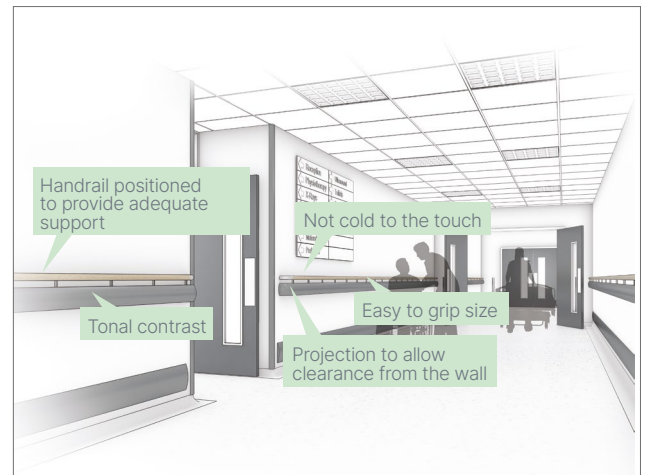
1. **Dual Rail**
Installing a dual rail offers wall protection from severe impact, patient support and guidance.
2. **Wall Guards**
Protect the walls from direct impact, particularly from wheel chairs and beds. Can be installed at different heights.
- 3+4. **Door faces, edges and frame**
Doors are vulnerable to damage due to the constant flow of pedestrians and wheeled traffic. Sheet door protection can also assist the visually impaired and meet guidance in BS8300-2:2018 and ADM.
5. **Stainless steel bollards**
When placed at the end of a corridor, can help to protect both the doors and walls by stopping the door hitting the wall.

Support and Guidance Specification tips

All Gradus handrails meet guidance set out in HBN 00-04 and HBN 00-10.

Visual and colour contrast at least 30 points LRV

- Handrails can be selected in specific colours for identification and wayfinding, i.e. different departments/hospital wards
- Diameter 40-45mm
- Not cold to the touch



Product tip!

Specifying corner guards in hospitals

Where the environment has heavy foot and wheeled traffic 24 hours a day by those unfamiliar with the environment, corner guards should be a minimum height of eye level to help users navigate the facility safely.

In line with Document M, corner guards that are used to highlight columns that project into circulation areas should be full height and visually contrasting at a minimum LRV of 30 points.

Environments - Hospitals

Health check your building

We have decades of experience, enabling us to offer expert advice and products that work, for facilities and budgets. One of our key aims is to reduce the life-cycle costs of your building, through the optimum use of wall protection.

Call us today on **01625 428922** to request a building health check.



Health check your building and see the benefit

PFI – Hospital Case Study

A circulation area in a hospital was built with no Wall Protection resulting in substantial damage to the walls and corners.

- 1 year of repairs cost £1,800.
- The basic Wall Protection Package was £4,000.
- Potential saving of £14,000 over 10 years.

Did you know?

Gradus is also a ProCure23 Standard Components Working Group approved supplier.



Give us a call on **01625 428922** to see how we can help.

Textured wall cladding

SureProtect Endure® textured Wall Cladding enhances the appearance of a hospital by providing a defensive layer to large surfaces. It protects them from scuffs and scrapes generally caused by pedestrians and moveable objects, such as wheel chairs and trolleys. It also helps to create an impermeable barrier to moisture and bacteria for a more hygienic solution.



Artwork

Artwork is important for both enhancement for patient experience and providing a less clinical and more peaceful workplace for key workers that supported us throughout the pandemic.



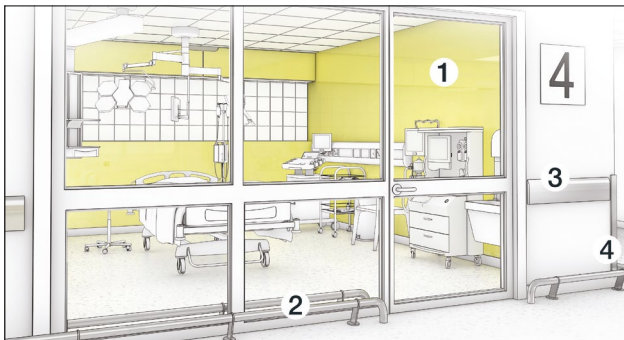
Environments - Hospitals

Clinical Areas

Clinical environments require impervious surfaces that are smooth and easy to clean, with resistance to impact damage.

Intensive Care Units

Strict hygiene standards in intensive healthcare environments require robust building materials that can withstand intensive cleaning. Mobile equipment increases the likelihood for damage. Below we highlight some key areas for consideration for clinical areas:



1. Smooth Hygienic SureProtect Pure® Wall Cladding, is specifically developed for areas where cleanliness is a priority. It creates an impermeable barrier to moisture and bacteria.
2. A Stainless Steel Floor Rail is the ideal protection solution for surfaces that are not suitable for wall fixings. Specifically designed to keep wheeled traffic away from the walls.
3. The hygienic nature of the Stainless steel wall guards make them ideal for use in healthcare environments.
4. Stainless steel corner guard provides hygienic durable protection.



Did you know?

SureProtect Pure® can be installed over existing ceramic tiles? Ideal for refurbishment project in healthcare environments.

Click [HERE](#) for more information on the SureProtect Pure® Hygienic Wall Cladding Solution.

Project Management Support

Our contracts team can manage your next Wall Protection project from survey and specification through to installation and hand over, removing risk and saving you time. Give us a call on 01625 428922.



Environments - Care Homes

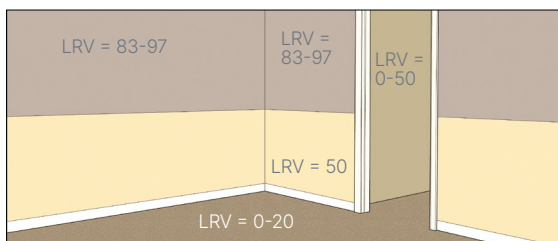
When designing care homes, it is wise to incorporate as many inclusive design features as possible to compensate for the impairments of both age and dementia.

Gradus has worked with the DSDC team at Stirling University to ensure our Wall Protection product range is suitable for use in dementia applications.

Top tips for specification

Break down the building into identifiable zones with visual cues.

- Good colour and contrast can help to facilitate independent living.
- Consider varying colour schemes in corridors to help with orientation.
- Circulation spaces in care homes should be clear and rational to assist individuals who are suffering from memory loss.
- Critical surfaces like floors to walls, wall to handrail must have a minimum contrast of 30 points LRV.



Tonal contrast for critical surfaces

Things to consider for corridors and circulation areas

Design circulation areas to include well-articulated safe paths.

- Simple and uncluttered
- Short corridors with no dead-ends
- High levels of light
- Consistent tone of flooring throughout
- Contrasting doors and concealed doors where necessary (exits)
- Clear signage

Communal areas

Communal areas like dining rooms and lounge areas need wall protection to protect them from the constant flow of patients, wheeled traffic, chairs and tables. With finishes that include wood effects, metals and bespoke prints SureProtect Design® is suitable for care homes where a less institutional feel is required.

Introduce Artwork to Care Home environments

Bringing artwork into a care home can be successfully used to create a calm and well-being environment. Caution should be given to certain types of artwork such as creating street scenes or shop fronts in corridors as this can cause distress and confusion it's better to use abstract pictures that do not relate to anything specific.



Re-creating street themes is becoming very popular for corridors and circulation areas. The aim is to stimulate memories, however, this could lead to the patients assuming that the shop fronts are 'real', which may cause distress and confusion.

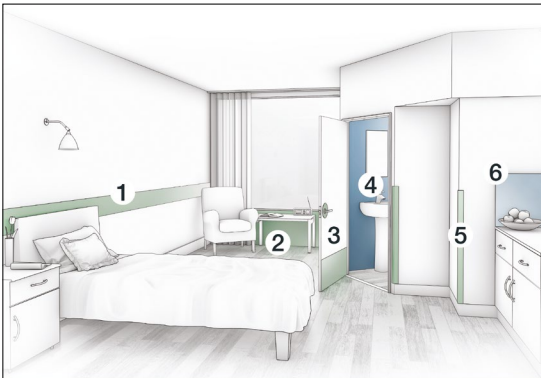


Putting a picture into a frame makes more sense as a frame is something that we all understand

Environments - Care Homes

Bedrooms in care homes

Furniture, wheelchairs and other mobility assisting equipment, as well as equipment used by staff, can all cause damage to walls and doors. With our range of wall cladding you can ensure protection and functionality whilst creating a pleasing environment.



1. For a cost-effective solution SureProtect Endure® Rubrails can be used instead of a full sheet. The Rubrails need to be placed at a suitable height for the best protection.
2. SureProtect Endure® textured Wall Cladding should be used to protect areas where most damage is likely to occur.
3. Doors often get damaged from wheelchairs and other mobile aids. SureProtect Endure® can be used as kickplates to protect the door. Door frame protection can also be used to protect the frame and highlight the door frame against critical surfaces for ease of recognition.
4. Smooth and easy to clean, SureProtect Pure® is ideal for bathrooms or shower rooms as it creates an impermeable barrier to moisture and bacteria. It is an excellent alternative to ceramic tiles, removing the need for grout that can harbour bacteria.
5. Corners are the most vulnerable part of a room and when left exposed are often damaged from everyday wear and tear. Protecting the corners will ensure that the room interior will stay looking good for longer whilst creating a more hygienic finish. Corner guards can be installed to contrast with the wall or to blend with the room interior décor.
6. SureProtect Pure® can be installed as a splash back to protect the walls from water and moisture.

Project Management Support

Our contracts team can manage your next Wall Production project from survey and specification through to installation and hand over, removing risk and saving you time. Give us a call on **01625 428922**

Further reading

- [Medical or healthcare facilities – HBN Health Building Note 00-09](#)
- [PAS 1365:2015 for the recognition of dementia friendly communities in the UK](#)



Product Tip!

Post Covid-19 pandemic surveys within healthcare facilities such as care homes, show that the Care Quality Commission (QCQ) has been advising facilities managers to opt for a PVC handrail system over that of a timber finish. They note that PVC is much easier to clean and not prone to splintering and is easier to replace. PVC can withstand the harsher cleaning agents now being used as part of the cleaning regime in the post pandemic world.

Environments - Offices

Reception

First impressions count when you're designing your reception area and the flow of pedestrians, as well as furniture, can cause scuffs and damage to walls.



1. SureProtect Artworx® bespoke printed Wall Cladding. Custom designed to your individual needs.
2. Introduce a handrail for inclusive design.
3. Add a warm and inviting look to your reception area by introducing SureProtect Design® wood effect.
4. Corners are the most vulnerable part of the building and when left exposed are often damaged from everyday pedestrian traffic. Corner guards are ideal for reducing maintenance and keeping your interiors looking good for longer.
5. For a cost-effective solution rub rails can be used instead of full wall cladding to protect the walls from minor scuffs and scrapes.

Need a Bespoke Design?

Your picture is printed on to a PVC sheet, to protect your wall from every day scuffs and scrapes. Contact Gradus to discuss your requirements on 01625 428922



Car parks

Many offices have car parking facilities and speed control and guidance is essential to avoid accidents.

At Gradus we believe that safety by design is the best approach for specifiers and building owners to limit accidents as much as possible. One of the most important considerations is the overall flow of a car park. Here are some areas to think about to improve your design.

Ensure that the entrance is clearly marked.

Calm the speed of the vehicle using speed bumps and signage.

- Ensure that pedestrians are segregated and protected from vehicles.
- Mark bays clearly.
- Protect vulnerable walkways and structures with bollards and barriers.
- Provide clear navigation for pedestrians.
- Click [HERE](#) to find out more about Gradus Safety and protection systems.



Environments - Schools

Busy school corridors can be particularly vulnerable to damage from the constant flow of students causing scuffs and scrapes on walls, resulting in endless painting and repairing.

Gradus SureProtect Endure® Wall Cladding placed at mid height provides a robust and durable solution. It is designed to protect large surfaces from damage that can be caused by students leaning against the wall and furniture, like tables and chairs.

SureProtect Endure® can be used as a standalone product or can be combined with other Wall Protection products, like corner or wall guards, to create a more comprehensive level of protection.



1. Consider a handrail for support. To ensure that the handrail stands out it should be 30 points LRV difference from the wall.
2. Save costs on painting by protecting the walls with SureProtect Endure® for a robust and durable finish.
3. SureProtect Endure® kick plates help protect the doors from damage.
4. Protect door frame with SureProtect Endure®.

Specification Guidelines

Building Bulletin 102 states 'Children and young people need attractive, accessible school buildings, 'inclusive design can enable and empower those with SEN and disabilities to participate fully in life at school and in the wider community'.

Corridors can be difficult to navigate, so consideration should be given to installing handrails, particularly on long corridors, to offer pupil guidance and support, as well as offering a level of surface protection.

Consider accidental damage that is likely to occur, including the wear and tear caused by wheelchairs and other mobility equipment.

Further reading - Building Bulletin 102

- Designing for Disabled Children and Children with Special Educational Needs



Case study – Nottingham schools

- A school was experiencing significant damage in the school communal areas.
- On going repairs were more than £4,800 per annum.
- The cost of protecting the whole school with Gradus Wall Protection was £9,200.
- Over 10 years the saving amounts to £38,800.

Did you know?

Almost a fifth of children in Britain are identified as having special educational needs (SEN).

Source: Building Bulletin 102



Environments - Hospitality

Hospitality

Hospitality buildings like hotels need to ensure that they have space to meet the needs of the guests, whilst ensuring that the interior remains aesthetically pleasing.

SureProtect Artworx® and SureProtect Design® Wall Cladding finishes are the ideal solution to offer excellent surface protection and enhance interiors.



1. SureProtect Artworx - Bespoke wall cladding
2. Timber handrail
3. SureProtect Design - Wall Cladding wood effect
4. Standard PVC-u corner guard
5. Wall Strip

Commercial Kitchens

Commercial kitchens and food preparation areas require frequent and thorough cleaning to maintain food hygiene standards. Smooth and impervious surfaces are recommended for kitchen walls as an alternative to traditional ceramic tiles. Walls need to be protected from moveable equipment and catering trolleys.



1. SureProtect Pure® Wall Cladding developed for areas where cleanliness is a priority
2. Stainless steel Wall Guard – ideal for use in environments where hygiene is paramount
3. Stainless steel door face protection – 304 grade satin finish stainless steel protects the door from damage
4. Stainless steel kick plate – protects the door from damage
5. Stainless steel corner guard – hygienic durable protection
6. Stainless steel cladding

Back of house design

Wheeled traffic such as delivery vans, forklifts and laundry carts can cause significant damage and potential hazards in service areas. Wall Protection to consider in back-of-house areas;

1. Rubber corner guards – a heavy duty robust solution
2. Rubber Wall Guards – profiles absorb the effects of impact minimising the extent of damage
3. Handrail system can help protect pedestrians
4. Steel core protection posts are ideal for protecting pedestrian doors, corners and vulnerable areas
5. Aluminium chequer plate – reduces maintenance costs eliminating the need to repair and repaint wall surfaces

This type of protection can aid towards achieving BREEAM MAT 5 credits.

