

Bracing Walls - Lateral Stability of Benex Block Walls

Free standing Benex Block walls which have no returns or anchorage to a base should not be used in any circumstances.

All temporarily free standing walls should be braced during construction, in accordance with relevant standards or project engineer's instruction. Benex recommends that free standing walls should be braced once they reach a height between 2-3m. As a guide these walls should be propped every 3m for at least the first 8hrs after construction. This distance can be extended to up to 6m post this time dependent on your risk assessment. Remember to account for prevailing weather conditions and conduct an appropriate risk analysis. Eg High wind areas may call for propping of lower wall heights and still areas may allow for maximum distances to be applied from the initial installation of the Benex Wall.



Benex Block walls with returns should be checked for lateral stability. As a rough guide, if a return on a wall is less than 600mm then that end of the wall is without adequate lateral support and requires fixing to a support or bracing.

In some buildings where window openings go all the way to ceiling height the intermediate wall may be free standing. These blades should be carefully checked and braced during construction. Likewise, monolithic Benex Block columns can be used, but should be designed in accordance with AS3700-1998.

Intermediate Benex Block columns in double garages should be a minimum of 600mm x 200mm to provide adequate seating for lintel beams.