

# Mortified By Mortar Mess



I thought, in forty years of defective building works inspections, I had seen everything. Yet, writes Don Waterworth, The Installer's Technical Expert, I recently came across something that left me mortified and flabbergasted.

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**As you will no doubt know, I spend lots of my time inspecting defective building works, writes Don Waterworth.**

And after 40 years or so of inspections, you would imagine that I have seen most types of dodgy work and corners cut.

However, I recently inspected a job which left me mortified and flabbergasted. The reason being that the windows had been finished with a mortar fillet which can be seen partially removed in the photograph above.

## **Are you competent?**

What is more worrying is that the installers were FENSA

approved! Clearly elements of training or statutory inspections have not worked with these installers.

I do not apportion any responsibility against FENSA. FENSA and indeed other similar bodies such as CERTASS and ASSURE can only instil a modicum of knowledge in the short time they are with installers.

It is for you, the installers, to know the correct standards and what is acceptable and what is wholly unacceptable, such as mortar pointing against a PVC-U frame, which should never happen and is absolutely unacceptable.

## **Don't use mortar on PVC-U**

If you do not know the standards of acceptable finish, then do your own research – the info is easy to find. But please never, ever mortar point PVC-U windows or doors. **i Don.**

