
DL7108 Moisture Meter Additional Information

Difference in damp of materials Building materials will absorb different levels of moisture content, some materials, like wood, can absorb more water than brick. Commonly timber will absorb more water molecules than a brick wall. Wood is like a sponge, absorbing moisture directly from the buildings structure and retain higher levels of moisture before directly being affected by the damp process. The follow table provides examples showing the percentage moisture and the readings interpretation.

Material	Moisture Content %	Interpretation
Wood	4	Extremely dry
Mortar	4	Dry
Brick	4	Damp
Plaster	4	Very wet
Wood	12	Air dry
Brick	12	Saturated
Plaster	12	Not possible

As shown, wood can be classed as dry at 12%, but brick would be saturated at the same reading. Example A timber skirting which records a moisture reading of 12% (air dry), the plaster could be around 0.5% and the brick about 1%. In severe conditions you may see higher readings of skirting 22%, plaster 1% - 3% and brick around 2% - 5%. Readings are taken on a reference scale as it is only a relative degree of dampness. Wood moisture scale (wood moisture equivalent 'WME') is the most common and is recognised by professional bodies. Wood is the first material to degrade due to damp.

support@dilog.co.uk