



# CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE REPAIR

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO CONSIDER BEFORE COMMENCING

Where necessary house strength and stiffness must be re-instated before cosmetic repairs are carried out. Patching only what we can see, without repairing the structural damage beyond, will lead to a need for ongoing expensive repairs. Because:

- From September 2010 Canterbury has been subjected to a series of earthquakes. Significant parts of the region suffered ground accelerations more than twice what residential structures were designed for.
  - The NZ Building Code aims to avoid collapse and protect the life safety of occupants, but in severe events it does not guard against property damage.
  - Houses have performed beyond expectation, however homes have been severely shaken by the initial events and the many after-shocks. Some houses have lost strength and countless have lost stiffness (homes are reported to be 'noisier').
  - Although the likelihood of larger earthquakes is diminishing, Crown Research Institute *GNS Science* ([gns.cri.nz](http://gns.cri.nz)) predicts seismic activity in the Canterbury Region for years to come. These events will potentially affect repairs.
- Like a car in a serious crash (airbags deploy, seat belt pretensioners fire and crumple zones activate), cosmetic repair alone will not ensure safety and road-worthiness.



For further information visit [gib.co.nz/canterburyearthquake](http://gib.co.nz/canterburyearthquake) or call the GIB® Technical Helpline 0800 100 442.

GIB® is a registered trademark.



# THE **DO** AND **DON'TS** FOR COSMETIC REPAIRS

**DO** carry out a structural assessment and re-instate strength and stiffness before committing to cosmetic repairs.

**DON'T** 'hide' damage by plastering and painting over cracks.

**DON'T** install gypsum plasterboard over damaged lath and plaster wall and ceiling finishes.

**DO** remove all plaster from the lath. Only leave timber slats if they provide a solid and level surface for gypsum plasterboard fixing.

**DON'T** direct fix gypsum plasterboard over stipple ceilings.

**DON'T** plaster over wall paper.

**DO** remove all decorative wall liners prior to stopping.

**DO** sand painted surfaces prior to any plaster being applied.

**DO** ensure that any surface accepting plaster is well adhered to previous surface coatings.

**DO** allow plaster to adequately dry before adding additional coats or painting.

**DO** follow the detailed Winstone Wallboards guidelines relating to gypsum plasterboard, [www.gib.co.nz](http://www.gib.co.nz).

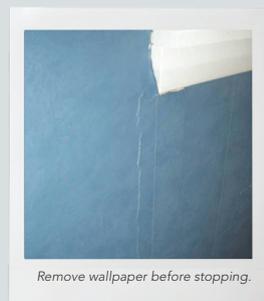
**PLEASE NOTE:** GIB PLUS-4® or GIB Trade Finish® range of air drying plasters adhere best to painted surfaces.



Plastering over serious crack damage.



Damaged Lath and Plaster must be removed.



Remove wallpaper before stopping.