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PROPERTY & HOME

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Swift Plinth Foundations

Modular foundations for garden rooms, offices and cabins

- ✓ Adjustable for perfect levelling
- ✓ Easy to use and install
- ✓ Minimum ground disturbance or clearance needed
- ✓ Self-installation



Swift Foundation Raft

The complete self build platform for your building project

- ✓ Pre-cut timbers reduce time and effort, no waste no mess
- ✓ Adjustable plinths give you total control of levelling
- ✓ Self-installation – simple clear assembly instructions

Swift Decking Kit

The complete solution for your decking project

- ✓ Includes pre-cut timbers with prepositioned hangers, screws, edging and plinth foundations
- ✓ Affordable prices for a professional finish in hours not days - save time and money!



Contact us to discuss your project for delivery to your door

sales@swiftfoundations.co.uk - 01944 758455

Firm Foundations

Erecting any garden building depends on laying a firm foundation first. Do you know what groundwork is required?

Garden buildings come in all shapes and sizes, but one thing they have in common is that they need a firm foundation.

Whether the construction is wood, metal or plastic, if the base isn't level and solid, subsidence, ground damp and mechanical stress will soon have your outbuilding falling to pieces. Of course we are not talking here about brick buildings, but about the lighter constructions which are regarded as 'temporary buildings', normally do not require planning permissions and will not have a deep concrete foundation.

The experts from Swift Foundations say: "When planning a garden building, you might be tempted to think that the foundations must be a traditional wet-mix concrete slab. However, there are other methods of providing great foundations for your structure such as Swift Plinths from

Swift Foundations. These offer a number of advantages including height adjustability, simple installation, less mess created and the use of much less concrete." Find out more at swiftfoundations.co.uk.

If the construction has its own solid floor, it can often sit on a concrete plinth which will raise the whole structure off the ground, avoiding the problem of damp. Ideally the ground below would be level and solid, but in fact, some plinths are even suitable for use on uneven or undulating ground, and can bear loads of up to 2.5 tonnes. There should be a plinth at each corner of the structure, but of course for larger buildings you will need a number of additional plinths at key structural points.

GRIDWORK

For use with decking, concrete plinths are often paired with a wooden 'walk', which has

the advantage over wet-mix concrete that it can be disassembled and moved should you decide to reposition the building.

As an alternative to concrete slabs of a wooden base, increasingly popular is a type of square grid with interlocking connectors made from recycled plastics, and usually filled with gravel after laying. These grids can support a load of hundreds of tonnes even when empty, and are usually fitted with a permeable weed membrane cut to the size of the building's foundation. A similar system with smaller grids serves as a porous paver for paths and drives.

The best thing about plinth foundations and plastic grids is that they can normally be installed without special tools or skills, with no wastage, and with none of the backbreaking work and delay of pouring wet concrete and waiting for it to set. ■



SHARON STEWART/PA