

How high is your ceiling IQ? Start from the top and see!

Technology has a way of replacing good with better, complicated with simple. And where the installation of tiled ceilings is concerned, technology has given us the best of both. Today, residential ceiling systems are not only easier to install, but produce a much more attractive finished surface.

Unless you've been in the market for a ceiling lately, you may not be aware of important recent developments. You should be, though, if you're planning to turn that basement into a much-needed recreation room, or intend to repair a damaged ceiling.

To test your "Ceiling I.Q.," take this quiz; you may be surprised at what you learn:

1. All suspended (lowered) ceilings show the metal gridwork which supports the tile. True or false?

2. When attaching a new tiled ceiling directly to an existing plaster or drywall surface, the original ceiling must be smooth and level. True or false?

3. Furring strips and furring channels are the same thing. True or false?

4. What special tools are needed to install a new tile ceiling?

5. Most home handy-men (and handywomen) can install a 12' x 12' ceiling in less than a week-end. True or false?



INSTALLING A TILE CEILING is a lot faster and simpler now, thanks to new techniques like Armstrong's Integrid System. Lightweight metal furring channels replace old-fashioned wood strips—and instead of stapling the tile, you simply lock it into place with a cross tee that snaps on to the channel. No special tools are required.

ANSWERS

1. False. Exposed grid ceilings remain popular, but where a more formal look is desired with a lowered ceiling, Armstrong's Integrid Suspension System is a good answer. Here all the supporting gridwork is concealed behind the tile.

2. False. In fact, that's one of the chief advantages of the Integrid Furring Channel System. Leveling with shims and other devices is eliminated because the system levels itself.

3. False, again! Wood furring strips are becoming obsolete. Lightweight

metal furring channels are a lot easier to handle since you use fewer of them, and they don't require extensive nailing. Also, you're assured of a permanently level ceiling because metal suspension systems can't warp like wood.

4. None. Not even a staple gun is required to install today's new ceiling systems; ordinary household tools will do the job.

5. True. If you scored five correct, congratulations; you're a veritable ceiling genius. Four means you've a working knowledge. Less

than that means it might be a good idea to brush up on current ceilings information before you go out to shop.

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