

# Creating a unique home and car showroom at **Sandywood**

To turn his dream home into a reality, an entrepreneur and property developer wanted to create a unique indoor gallery to display his multi-million pound collection of cars. Thanks to a striking design, the specification of our high-performance products and exquisite craftsmanship from the sub-contractor, the end result is a one-of-a-kind showroom that brings his home – and beloved collection of vehicles – to life. This was an innovative, unique and transformative project, one that we were proud to help shape.

## Sandywood

For the ceiling of this unique gallery, Paul wanted to create 3D triangles, which would reflect upon the bodywork of the cars in a striking way. With the gallery being used to house a collection of prestige vehicles, the sub-contractor applied traditional skills and trusted materials in innovative new ways to achieve a flawless high-performance finish.

They also had to overcome a number of technical challenges, such as working at height and applying products to the narrow gaps between the triangles and geometric angles. Our versatile products and dependable formulations allowed the installer to execute the work with confidence, even whilst working under challenging and unfamiliar conditions.

**Project:** Sandywood,  
Greater Manchester

**Building Type:**  
New build, residential

**Client:** Paul Sweeney

**Architect:** Paul Sweeney

**Contractor:** Paul Sweeney

**Specialist Contractors:**  
George Wood & Son

**Key Benefits:**

- Fixing capability
- Durability
- High-quality finish

## Time-tested products for a contemporary design

In order to match the products specifically to Paul's vision for his home, the products chosen were not only selected for design purposes, but also to enable long-lasting protection and care for this distinctive space.

To help create the sharp, clean and secure finish of the geometric design, our Gyproc® WallBoard 12.5mm, British Gypsum Drywall Screws, Thistle® ProTape FT50, and Thistle Thin Coat Angle Bead were the ideal products for the project.



Thistle BoardFinish was the natural choice for great workability, smooth finish and consistent set time, which was important due to the number of different stages and elements in the ceiling's design. This allowed the installer to make the most of his time, by working effectively and efficiently. Its durable and high-performance base was also perfect for the application of decorative finishes, thanks to its exceptional fixing capabilities.

Another important factor to consider was the maintenance of the space and preserving the flawless finish. With the design area being technically challenging for the installer, it was important to get it right first time and that the products used were robust, durable and low maintenance. Thistle BoardFinish is highly durable and well suited for moderate impact areas, making it the perfect solution for those wanting to keep maintenance low.

## Innovative installation

Not only did the success of the project rely on the quality and reliability of the products and materials, but also the experience, skill and a creative approach from the installer.

In order to get into the narrow gaps between the triangles and achieve a high-quality finish, the installer had a stonemason cut down his tools.

On top of this, the installer taped each internal angle and beaded every external angle for strength and durability, helping to achieve a neat, clean finish across the multitude of angles. Fine casting plaster and a smaller trowel were used to achieve the sharp, pointed edges.

## Generations of skill, knowledge and craftsmanship

As the project required such technical knowledge and exceptional craftsmanship, Paul turned to George Wood & Son – a family business with a proven track record and four generations of plastering experience passed down from father to son since 1939. Having worked with its current owner Andrew Wood on previous projects, Paul knew the level of quality and attention to detail he could expect.

Even though the design and installation was unlike anything Andrew had worked on previously, his 36 years' experience working with our range of trusted, versatile drylining and finishing products allowed him to tackle the project with confidence. Working together, we were able to find new and better ways of doing things to provide the exceptionally high-quality finish that was needed. And, with our know-how and specific project support, Andrew was able to use the products in new and innovative ways to achieve stunning results.

## Built on relationships, trust and innovation

This project was ambitious in terms of the scale and complexity of the bespoke design, but it was also a very personal project for the property owner.

The striking design, specification of our versatile and reliable drylining and finish products, and fine craftsmanship of the installer all worked together to create an aesthetically pleasing, interesting and unique environment for the property developer to showcase his prized possessions.



**The standard of finish and quality is far beyond what I imagined. I always imagined it would be good, but this level of finish and quality is truly outstanding.**



**Paul Sweeney,  
Entrepreneur and  
property developer**

**We care about building better.**

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