Suspended ceiling

Suspended ceilings are secondary [ceilings](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Ceilings) suspended from the [structural](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Structural) [floor slab](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Floor_slab) above, creating a void between the underside of the [floor slab](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Floor_slab) and the top of the suspended ceiling. The gap between a suspended ceiling and the [structural](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Structural) [floor slab](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Floor_slab) above is often between 3 to 8 inches which is why they are often referred to as dropped [ceilings](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Ceilings) or false [ceilings](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Ceilings).

Suspended ceilings are very popular in [commercial properties](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Commercial_property) as they provide a useful [space](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Space) for concealing unsightly wires and [installations](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Installation) that otherwise would alter the [interior](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Interior) [appearance](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Appearance) of the [building](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Building).

The [space](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Space) gained through [installed](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Installed) a suspended ceiling has proved useful for distribution of [heating, ventilation and air conditioning](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Heating,_ventilation_and_air_conditioning) ([HVAC](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/HVAC)) [services](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Services) and [plumbing](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Plumbing) and [wiring](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Wiring) [services](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Services), as well as providing a platform for the [installation](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Installation) of speakers, [light fittings](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Light_fitting), wireless antenna, [CCTV](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/CCTV), [fire](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Fire) and [smoke detectors](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Smoke_detector), motion detectors, [sprinklers](https://www.designingbuildings.co.uk/wiki/Sprinkler) and so on.