

Fiberock® Aqua-Tough™ Tile Backerboard

Finishing flexibility, strength, and superior water resistance in a single panel

- Superior tile bond for ceramic tile
- Uniform composition provides both strength and water resistance
- Suitable for ceramic tile wall and tub surround applications in intermittently wet and dry areas

Description

FIBEROCK® brand AQUA-TOUGH™ tile backerboard is a unique fiber-reinforced gypsum product that represents a new era in substrate performance for wet or dry areas. This durable panel offers superior performance and tile bond because of its integral water-resistant core.

Unlike traditional water-resistant gypsum board, FIBEROCK tile backerboard derives both strength and water-resistance from its uniform composition. Made of a uniquely engineered gypsum/cellulose-fiber combination, FIBEROCK tile backerboard is strong and water resistant all the way through. With no paper to delaminate, FIBEROCK tile backerboard maintains its integrity even when wet.

Advantages

Abuse Resistant Engineered to provide increased resistance to abrasion, indentation and penetration. Outperforms paper-faced or glass mat faced panels. FIBEROCK tile backerboard has no paper face to tear or scratch.

Water Resistant FIBEROCK tile backerboard is water resistant through the core and intended for use in intermittently wet areas including tub surrounds.

Mold Resistant In independent lab tests per ASTM D3273-00 “Standard Test Method for Resistance to Growth of Mold on the Surface of Interior Coatings in an Environmental Chamber,” the score for FIBEROCK tile backerboard was 10 (highest score).

Fire Resistant These panels offer superior fire resistance and demonstrate exceptional surface burning characteristics.

Finishing Flexibility FIBEROCK tile backerboard can be finished with ceramic tile or painted.

Environmentally Friendly Made from 95% recycled materials. Awarded Green Cross Certification from Scientific Certification Systems.

Limitations

1. Maximum stud spacing:

Wall Panel	Frame Spacing	Nails	Screws
1/2"	16" o.c.	8" o.c.	12" o.c.

2. For marble and stone applications, consult current TCA guidelines for recommendations.
3. Do not use in areas subject to prolonged exposure to standing water— for instance, in gang showers, saunas, or hot-tub decks.
4. FIBEROCK Tile Backerboard must be tiled or painted, not used as a finish surface.
5. Panels should not be exposed to sustained temperatures above 125 °F (51.6 °C).
6. For fire-resistant or abuse-resistant construction over steel framing, a minimum of 20 gauge steel framing is required.
7. Do not use in areas subject to standing water, such as gang showers, saunas or hot-tub decks.

Product Data

Dimensions: 1/2" FIBEROCK tile backerboard, 3' x 5', 4' x 4', 4' x 5' and 4' x 8', with square-edge configuration
Compliance with standards: Meets ASTM standard C1278

Installation Practices

Environmental Conditions

In cold weather and during FIBEROCK tile backboard installation, joint finishing, and tile application, temperatures within the building shall be maintained within the range of 55-70 °F. Adequate ventilation shall be provided to carry off excess moisture. Wood framing shall approximate the moisture content it will reach in service prior to the application of the panels. FIBEROCK tile backerboard should be stored in an enclosed shelter providing protection from damage and exposure to the elements. Allow FIBEROCK backerboard to acclimate to the temperature and humidity conditions at the jobsite prior to installation.

Framing

Steel or wood wall framing to receive FIBEROCK tile backerboard shall be structurally sound and in general compliance with local building code requirements. Damaged and excessively bowed studs shall be replaced before installation of FIBEROCK tile backerboard.

Space wood and steel framing a maximum of 24" o.c. Framing shall be designed to meet L/360 deflection for tile and L/240 for flexible finishes such as paint. For floor applications, framing shall be designed to meet L/360 deflection.



Materials	<p>A. Tile Backerboard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1/2" FIBEROCK tile backerboard, 3' x 5', 4' x 4', 4' x 5' and 4' x 8' <p>B. Joint Reinforcement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – For Tiled Areas: Embed DUROCK™ brand joint tape in latex-fortified mortar or latex-based Type I mastic over the joint. Use the same material as specified for tile setting. – For Untiled Areas: Embed SHEETROCK® brand joint tape in SHEETROCK® DURABOND® setting-type joint compound and wipe with a joint knife, leaving a thin coating of joint compound over all joints and interior angles. Complete to level of finish specified in project requirements. <p>C. Fasteners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Corrosion-resistant Type W or S buglehead screws for wood framing. – 1-1/2" hot-dipped galvanized roofing nails for wood framing. – Corrosion-resistant TYPE S-12 buglehead screws for 20-14 gauge framing. <p>Fasteners must be of sufficient length to ensure a minimum 3/4" penetration into wood framing, or to ensure complete thread engagement into steel framing.</p> <p>Nail heads shall be driven flush with panel surface. Locate fasteners not less than 3/8" from edges and ends of panels.</p> <p>D. Adhesives/Mortars Products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Meeting ASTM C557-73: multipurpose adhesive – Meeting ANSI A136.1: Type I organic adhesive – Meeting ANSI A118.1: dry-set mortar – Meeting ANSI A118.4: Latex-Portland Cement Mortar <p>E. Grout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Products meeting ANSI A118.6 and A118.3 (epoxy) <p>F. Tile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Tile shall meet ANSI A137.1.
Cutting Panels	<p>Cut FIBEROCK tile backerboard to size with a utility knife and straight edge. Use power saw only if it is equipped with a dust-collection device and a NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator is worn.</p> <p>When using the score-and-snap method, score the panel twice and snap the panel away from the cut face. If a power-operated saw is used, a low RPM portable saw with a 3-1/2" carbide-tipped blade is recommended.</p> <p>When necessary to obtain neatly fitting joints, use a rasp or SURFORM® to smooth cut edges. Holes for pipes, fixtures, and other small openings can be cut out with a saw or a drywall router equipped with a special bit (available from Rotozip Tool Corporation).</p>
Panel Application	<p>After tub, shower pan, or receptor is installed, place temporary 1/4" spacer strips or shim around lip of tub or shower pan to hold bottom edge of FIBEROCK tile backerboard off lip. Pre-cut board to required sizes and make necessary cut-outs. Fit ends and edges closely but not forced together. Install board-abutting top of spacer strip. Stagger end joints in successive courses. Fasten boards to wood studs spaced max. 16" o.c. and bottom plates with corrosion-resistant Type W or S screws or hot-dipped galvanized roofing nails spaced 8" o.c. (12" o.c. for screws). For metal studs; use corrosion-resistant Type S-12 screws for 20 gauge studs.</p> <p>Seal all openings around pipes, fittings, and fixtures with an approved waterproof flexible sealant. Apply the sealant to the raw panel core at cutouts. Allow areas to dry thoroughly prior to tile application. Before sealant dries, wipe excess material from surface of panels. Remove spacers strips and seal gap at bottom of panel.</p>
Joint Treatment	<p>Prefill joints as well as inside and outside corners with latex-fortified mortar or Type 1 organic adhesive and then immediately embed DUROCK joint tape and level joints. For joints where paint finish will be used, apply DURABOND setting-type joint compound and paper tape.</p>

Tile Setting	Contractors installing tile and tile-setting materials should always follow current ANSI specifications, TCA guidelines and tile manufacturers' recommendations. Maintain 1/4" shims beneath the bottom row of tiles and FIBEROCK tile backerboard to make a caulk joint along tub rim.
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Caulking	Fill 1/4" space between tub lip and bottom edge of tile around tub with flexible sealant. Also caulk around tub soap dish and other wall fixtures. Fill vertical group lines adjacent to door jambs with flexible caulk rather than stiff cement grout.
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Submittal Approvals:	Job Name	
	Contractor	Date

Product Information

See usg.com for the most up-to-date product information.

Trademarks

The following trademarks used herein are owned by United States Gypsum or a related company: AQUA-TOUGH, DURABOND, DURROCK, FIBEROCK, SHEETROCK. SURFORM is a trademark of The Stanley Works. TYPE S-12 is a trademark of ITW Buildex.

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We shall not be liable for incidental or consequential damages, directly or indirectly sustained, nor for any loss caused by application of these goods not in accordance with current printed instructions or for other than the intended use. Our liability is expressly limited to replacement of defective goods.

Any claim shall be deemed waived unless made in writing to us within thirty (30) days from the date it was or reasonably should have been discovered.

Note

All products described here may not be available in all geographic markets. Consult your local sales office or representative for more information.

Safety First!

Follow good safety and industrial hygiene practices during handling and installation of all products and systems. Take necessary precautions and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment as needed. Read material safety data sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

