**Foil Back Gypsum Board**

**Gold Bond® Brand Foil Back Gypsum Board** consists of a fire-resistant gypsum core with a heavy, natural finish and 100-percent recycled paper on the face and a strong liner paper on the back side. A Type III aluminum foil vapor retarder, laminated to the back surface, is designed to prevent condensation from occurring within the wall cavity.

Use it on the interior face of exterior walls and ceilings in new construction and remodeling with furred masonry, wood or steel framing. It is effective for single-layer applications and as a base layer in double-layer applications that require a vapor retarder of 1 perm or less.

For speed of installation, GridMarX® guide marks are printed on the paper surface.

**Sizes:** 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) thick boards are available in 4 ft. (1,219 mm) widths and are available in standard lengths of 8 ft. (2,438 mm) to 16 ft. (4,877 mm). 5/8 in. (15.9 mm) thick boards are available in 4 ft. (1,219 mm) and 54 in. (1,372 mm) widths and standard lengths of 8 ft. (2,438 mm) to 16 ft. (4,877 mm).

**Finishing:** Long edges of the boards are tapered or square. Tapered edges allow joints to be reinforced with ProForm® Brand Joint Tape and concealed with ProForm® Brand Ready Mix Joint Compounds or ProForm® Brand Quick Set™ Setting Compounds.
Basic Uses

APPLICATIONS

- Use 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) Foil Back Gypsum Board for the interior face of exterior walls and ceilings where a vapor retarder is required. Also use it in non-fire-rated construction where framing members are spaced up to 24 in. (610 mm) o.c.
- Use 5/8 in. (15.9 mm) Foil Back Gypsum Board where enhanced fire safety and sound transmission performance are desired.

ADVANTAGES

- Optimal vapor retarder that prevents condensation from occurring in the wall cavity. In accordance with ASTM E96.
- All-in-one board reduces installation steps and offers labor savings.
- Versatile product that is appropriate for use on virtually all exterior wall and ceiling construction: wood frame, steel frame and furred masonry.
- Excellent working properties, including score and snap, reduced dust and improved strength-to-weight ratio.
- Features the GridMarX® preprinted fastening guide on the board to allow for faster and more accurate installation.

Installation Recommendations

GENERAL

- Install gypsum board in accordance with methods described in ASTM C840 and GA-216.
- Examine and inspect framing materials to which gypsum board is to be applied. Remedy all defects prior to installation of the gypsum board.
- GridMarX provides quick identification and uniform nail/screw patterns. Use GridMarX to make accurate cuts without drawing lines. GridMarX guide marks run the length of the board at five points in 4 in. (102 mm) increments. Marks run along the edge in both tapers and at 16 in. (406 mm), 24 in. (610 mm) and 32 in. (813 mm) in the field of the board. The marks cover easily with no bleed-through using standard paint products.
- Apply gypsum board first to ceilings at right angles to framing members, then to walls. Use boards of maximum practical length so that the minimum number of end joints occur. Bring board edges into contact with each other but do not force into place.
- Install batt or blanket ceiling insulation BEFORE the gypsum board on ceilings when installing a vapor retarder behind the gypsum board. Install the insulation IMMEDIATELY after the gypsum board when using loose fill insulation. Avoid installation practices that might allow condensation to form behind boards.
- Cut gypsum board to allow for a minimum 1/4 in. (6.4 mm) gap between gypsum board and floor to prevent potential wicking.
- Locate gypsum board joints at openings so that no joint will occur within 12 in. (305 mm) of the edges of the opening unless installing control joints at these locations. Stagger vertical end joints. Joints on opposite sides of a partition should not occur on the same stud.
- Hold gypsum board in firm contact with the framing member while driving fasteners. Fastening should proceed from center portion of the board toward the edges and ends. Set fasteners with heads slightly below the surface of the board. Take care to avoid breaking the face paper of the gypsum board. Remove improperly driven nails or screws.
## TECHNICAL DATA

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1/2” Foil Back Gypsum Board</th>
<th>5/8” Foil Back Gypsum Board</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thickness</strong>, Nominal</td>
<td>1/2” (12.7 mm)</td>
<td>5/8” (15.9 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Width</strong>, Nominal</td>
<td>4’ (1,219 mm)</td>
<td>4’ (1,219 mm), 54” (1,372 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Length</strong>, Standard</td>
<td>8’ – 16’ (2,438 mm – 4,877 mm)</td>
<td>8’ – 16’ (2,438 mm – 4,877 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weight, Nominal</strong></td>
<td>1.6 lbs. / sq. ft. (7.81 k/m²)</td>
<td>2.2 lbs. / sq. ft. (10.74 k/m²)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Edges</strong></td>
<td>Square or Tapered</td>
<td>Square or Tapered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flexural Strength</strong>, Perpendicular</td>
<td>≥ 107 lbf. (476 N)</td>
<td>≥ 147 lbf. (654 N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flexural Strength</strong>, Parallel</td>
<td>≥ 36 lbf. (160 N)</td>
<td>≥ 46 lbf. (205 N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Humidified Deflection</strong></td>
<td>≤ 10/8” (31.8 mm)</td>
<td>≤ 5/8” (15.9 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nail Pull Resistance</strong></td>
<td>≥ 77 lbf. (343 N)</td>
<td>≥ 87 lbf. (387 N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hardness</strong>, Core, Edges and Ends</td>
<td>≥ 11 lbf. (49 N)</td>
<td>≥ 11 lbf. (49 N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thermal Resistance</strong></td>
<td>R = .45</td>
<td>R = .56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Permeance</strong></td>
<td>&lt; 0.1 perms</td>
<td>&lt; 0.1 perms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Product Standard Compliance</strong></td>
<td>ASTM C1396</td>
<td>ASTM C1396</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fire-Resistance Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Regular</th>
<th>Type X</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>UL Type Designation</strong></td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>F5W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Combustibility</strong></td>
<td>Non-combustible Core</td>
<td>Non-combustible Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Surface Burning Characteristics</strong></td>
<td>Class A</td>
<td>Class A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flame Spread</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Smoke Development</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Applicable Standards and References

- ASTM C840 Standard Specification for Application andFinishing of Gypsum Board
- ASTM C1396 Standard Specification for Gypsum Board
- ASTM E96 Standard Test Methods for Water Vapor Transmission of Materials
- ASTM E136 Standard Test Method for Behavior of Materials in a Vertical Tube Furnace at 750°C
- Gypsum Association, GA-214, Recommended Levels of Finish for Gypsum Board; Glass Mat and Fiber-Reinforced Gypsum Panels
- Gypsum Association, GA-216, Application and Finishing of Gypsum Panel Products
- Gypsum Association, GA-238, Guidelines for Prevention of Mold Growth on Gypsum Board

1. Specified values per ASTM C1396, tested in accordance with ASTM C473.
2. Tested in accordance with ASTM E136.
3. Tested in accordance with ASTM E84.
4. Please consult your local sales representative for all non-standard lengths and widths. Minimum order requirements may apply.
5. Tested in accordance with ASTM C518.
6. Tested in accordance with ASTM E96.
Foil Back Gypsum Board

- Provide minimum 1/4 in. (6.4 mm) clearance between boards and adjacent concrete or masonry to minimize wicking of moisture.
- Maintain a room temperature of not less than 40°F (4°C) during application of gypsum board.
- Maintain a room temperature of not less than 50°F (10°C) when using adhesive to attach the gypsum board and during joint treatment, texturing and decoration, beginning 48 hours prior to application and continuously thereafter until completely dry. Maintain adequate ventilation in the working area during installation and curing period.

**FOIL BACK GYPSUM BOARD INSTALLATION**

- To maintain the performance of Foil Back Gypsum Board, repair damaged foil area using foil tape prior to installing gypsum board.
- To minimize airflow, seal penetrations, such as outlets and switches, using pads or caulk.

**FINISHING**

Refer to GA-214, *Recommended Levels of Finish for Gypsum Board, Glass Mat and Fiber-Reinforced Gypsum Panels*, to determine the level of finishing needed to assure a surface properly prepared to accept the desired decoration.

**DECORATION**

Ensure gypsum board surfaces, including finished joints, are clean, dust-free and gloss-free to achieve best painting results. Apply a coat of a quality drywall primer to equalize the porosities between surface paper and joint compound, improving fastener and joint concealment.

Selection of a paint to provide desired finish characteristics is the responsibility of the architect or contractor.

**CRITICAL LIGHTING AREAS**

Wall and ceiling areas abutting window mullions or skylights, long hallways, and atriums with large surface areas washed with artificial or natural lighting are a few examples of critical lighting areas. Strong side lighting from windows or surface-mounted light fixtures may reveal even minor surface imperfections. Light striking the surface obliquely, at a slight angle, exaggerates surface irregularities. If you cannot avoid critical lighting, minimize the effects by skim coating the gypsum board surfaces, by decorating the surface with medium to heavy textures, or by the use of draperies and blinds, which soften shadows. In general, paints with sheen levels other than flat, enamel paints and dark-toned paint finishes highlight surface defects; consider the use of textures to hide these minor visual imperfections.

**Limitations**

- Do not use over kraft-faced insulation or other vapor retarders.
- Do not use as a base for adhesively applied vinyl or other highly water-vapor resistant wall coverings.
- Do not use as a base for ceramic or other tile or as a base layer for prefinished vinyl wall panels in double-layer assemblies.
- Do not use Foil Back Gypsum Board in hot, humid climates, such as the southern Atlantic and Gulf Coast areas.
- Do not laminate the foil surface of Foil Back to any surface.
- Avoid exposure to excessive or continuous moisture and extreme temperatures. Do not expose gypsum board to temperatures exceeding 125°F (52°C) for extended periods of time.

- Properly ventilate or condition attic spaces to remove moisture buildup above gypsum board ceilings. If required, install a vapor retarder in exterior ceilings behind gypsum board.

- Avoid installing gypsum board directly over insulation blankets with facer flanges placed continuously across the face of the framing members; recess insulation blankets and attach flanges to the sides of framing.

- Isolate gypsum board from contact with building structure in locations where structural movement may impose direct loads on gypsum board assemblies.

- Provide control joints spaced not more than 30 ft. (9,144 mm) where employing long continuous runs of walls, partitions or ceilings without perimeter relief.

- Avoid gypsum board joints within 12 in. (305 mm) of the corners of window or door frames unless installing control joints at these locations.

- Space supporting framing for single-layer application of 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) and 5/8 in. (15.9 mm) gypsum board a maximum of 24 in. (610 mm) o.c.

- To prevent objectionable sag in gypsum board ceilings, the weight of overlaid, unsupported insulation should not exceed the following recommendations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Regular</th>
<th>Type X</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thickness, Nominal</td>
<td>1/2&quot;</td>
<td>5/8&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(12.7 mm)</td>
<td>(15.9 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Framing Spacing</td>
<td>24” o.c.</td>
<td>24” o.c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(610 mm)</td>
<td>(610 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight of Ceiling-Supported Insulation</td>
<td>1.3 psf</td>
<td>2.2 psf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(6.3 kg/m²)</td>
<td>(10.7 kg/m²)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For More Information

**ARCHITECTURAL SPECIFICATIONS**
National Gypsum Company’s CSI MasterFormat® 3-part guide specifications are downloadable as editable Microsoft® Word documents at: nationalgypsum.com.

**LATEST INFORMATION AND UPDATES**
For the latest technical information and updates, call NGC Construction Services: 1-800-NATIONAL (628-4662) or visit our website: nationalgypsum.com.