Gold Bond® BRAND SoundBreak® XP® Gypsum Board consists of two pieces of high-density, mold-, mildew- and moisture-resistant gypsum board, with a specially designed PURPLE® paper, laminated together with a sound-damping, viscoelastic polymer. This acoustically enhanced, fire-resistant gypsum core is encased in heavy paper that is 100-percent recycled on both sides and offers superior abrasion, mold, mildew and moisture resistance.

Use it for high-rated Sound Transmission Class (STC) rated wall and ceiling assemblies, where sound transmission between rooms or dwelling units is a concern.

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

Sizes: 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) thick Regular Boards and 5/8 in. (15.9 mm) thick Type X Boards are available in 4 ft. (1,219 mm) widths and standard lengths of 8 ft. (2,438 mm) to 12 ft. (3,658 mm). 3/4 in. (19.1 mm) thick Type C SoundBreak Boards are available in 4 ft. (1,219 mm) widths and standard lengths of 8 ft. (2,438 mm) to 10 ft. (3,048 mm).

Finishing: Slightly 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. For optimum mold and mildew performance, use ProForm® BRAND XP® All Purpose Joint Compound or ProForm® BRAND XP® Lite Joint Compound.

1. Heavy Mold-, Mildew- and Moisture-Resistant Face Paper
2. Enhanced High-Density Mold-Resistant Core
3. Viscoelastic Polymer
**Basic Uses**

**APPLICATIONS**
- Use it for interior wall and ceiling assemblies, where sound transmission between rooms or dwelling units is a concern.
- 5/8 in. (15.9 mm) SoundBreak® XP® Gypsum Board may be used where Type X Gypsum Board is specified in fire-rated assemblies.

**ADVANTAGES**
- Provides high-rated Sound Transmission Class (STC) values per an independent third-party acoustical laboratory using ASTM E90 test procedures.
- Achieves high STC values in a thinner wall assembly, increasing usable floor space.
- Provides STC Ratings up to 56 for single-layer, steel stud partitions and up to 67 for area separation walls.
- Superior sound damping, cost-efficient material that finishes easily and decorates in the same manner as standard gypsum board.
- For speed of installation and lower installation costs, vertical board joints do not require acoustical sealant.
- Resists the growth of mold per ASTM D3273 with a score of 10, the best possible score.
- Resists the growth of mold per ASTM G21 with a score of 0, the best possible score.
- Heavy abrasion-resistant paper and dense core provide greater resistance to surface abuse and indentation when tested in accordance with ASTM C1629.
- Installs like traditional gypsum board without requiring additional clips or channels.
- Cuts by scoring deeply from both sides before snapping or by using a hand or power saw.
- Fire-resistant material will not support combustion or transmit temperatures greatly in excess of 212°F (100°C) until completely calcined, a slow process.

- Dimensionally stable product with negligible expansion and contraction under normal atmospheric conditions.
- Features the GridMarX® guidemarks on the board to allow for faster and more accurate installation.
- Achieves GREENGUARD and GREENGUARD Gold Certification. GREENGUARD Certified products are certified to GREENGUARD standards for low chemical emissions into indoor air during product usage. For more information, visit: [ul.com/gg](http://ul.com/gg).
- Qualifies as a low-VOC emitting material by meeting California Specification 01350. For more information, visit: [http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/greenbuilding/specs/section01350/](http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/greenbuilding/specs/section01350/).

**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.
# TECHNICAL DATA

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thickness¹, Nominal</th>
<th>1/2&quot; SoundBreak XP Gypsum Board</th>
<th>5/8&quot; SoundBreak XP Gypsum Board</th>
<th>3/4&quot; SoundBreak XP Gypsum Board</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Width¹, Nominal</td>
<td>1/2&quot; (12.7 mm)</td>
<td>5/8&quot; (15.9 mm)</td>
<td>3/4&quot; (19.1 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length², Standard</td>
<td>8' – 12' (2,438 – 3,658 mm)</td>
<td>8' – 12' (2,438 – 3,658 mm)</td>
<td>8' – 10' (2,438 – 3,048 mm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight, Nominal</td>
<td>1.9 lbs. / sq. ft. (9.28 k/m²)</td>
<td>2.2 lbs. / sq. ft. (10.74 k/m²)</td>
<td>2.3 lbs. / sq. ft. (11.23 k/m²)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edges¹</td>
<td>Slightly Tapered</td>
<td>Slightly Tapered</td>
<td>Slightly Tapered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flexural Strength¹, Perpendicular</td>
<td>≥ 107 lbf. (476 N)</td>
<td>≥ 147 lbf. (654 N)</td>
<td>≥ 167 lbf. (743 N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flexural Strength¹, Parallel</td>
<td>≥ 36 lbf. (160 N)</td>
<td>≥ 46 lbf. (205 N)</td>
<td>≥ 56 lbf. (249 N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humidified Deflection¹</td>
<td>≤ 10/8&quot; (31.8 mm)</td>
<td>≤ 5/8&quot; (15.9 mm)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nail Pull Resistance¹</td>
<td>≥ 77 lbf. (343 N)</td>
<td>≥ 87 lbf. (387 N)</td>
<td>≥ 87 lbf. (387 N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardness¹ – Core, Edges and Ends</td>
<td>≥ 11 lbf. (49 N)</td>
<td>≥ 11 lbf. (49 N)</td>
<td>≥ 11 lbf. (49 N)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bending Radius</td>
<td>10' (3,048 mm)</td>
<td>15' (4,572 mm)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermal Resistance¹</td>
<td>R = .45</td>
<td>R = .56</td>
<td>R = .64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permeance¹</td>
<td>45 perms</td>
<td>37 perms</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mold Resistance¹, ASTM D3273</td>
<td>Score of 10</td>
<td>Score of 10</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mold Resistance¹, ASTM G21</td>
<td>Score of 0</td>
<td>Score of 0</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface Abrasion¹</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indentation¹</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft-Body Impact¹</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hard-Body Impact¹</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Product Standard Compliance</td>
<td>ASTM C1396, C1766</td>
<td>ASTM C1396, C1766</td>
<td>ASTM C1396, C1766</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Fire-Resistance Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Type</th>
<th>Regular</th>
<th>Type X</th>
<th>SoundBreak</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UL Type Designation</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>SoundBreak XP</td>
<td>3/4&quot; SoundBreak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combustibility¹</td>
<td>Non-combustible Core</td>
<td>Non-combustible Core</td>
<td>Non-combustible Core</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface Burning Characteristics¹</td>
<td>Class A</td>
<td>Class A</td>
<td>Class A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flame Spread¹</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoke Development¹</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Applicable Standards and References

- ASTM C840 Standard Specification for Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board
- ASTM C1396 Standard Specification for Gypsum Board
- ASTM C1629 Standard Classification for Abuse Resistant Nondecorated Interior Gypsum Panel Products and Fiber-Reinforced Cement Panels
- 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
- ASTM G21 Standard Practice for Determining Resistance of Synthetic Polymeric Materials to Fungi
- 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 C136.
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.
7. Tested in accordance with ASTM D3273.
8. Tested in accordance with ASTM G21.
Cut gypsum board to allow for a minimum 1/4 in. (6.4 mm) gap between gypsum board and floor to prevent potential wicking of moisture.

Provide minimum 1/4 in. (6.4 mm) clearance between boards and adjacent concrete or masonry to minimize wicking of moisture.

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.

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 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.

FINISHING

Joints between SoundBreak® XP® Gypsum Board may be finished with either paper tape and ready mix joint compound or fiberglass mesh or paper tape and setting compound, such as ProForm® brand Interior Finishing Products.

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.

Prepare and prime gypsum boards prior to texturing.

Refer to GA-214 to determine the level of finishing needed to assure a surface properly prepared to accept the desired decoration.

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 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 using textures to hide these minor visual imperfections. Finish boards to a Level 5 finish, as outlined in GA-214.
Limitations

- 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.

- In single-ply installation, all ends and edges of gypsum board should occur over framing members or other solid backing except where treated joints occur at right angles to framing or furring members.

- Apply 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) gypsum board ceilings to be decorated with water-based spray texture perpendicular to the framing spaced a maximum of 16 in. (406 mm) o.c.

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

- Do not use boards as a nailing base as they are nonstructural.

- Avoid using in areas subject to constant and/or excessive moisture and high humidity, such as gang showers, saunas, steam rooms or swimming pool enclosures.

- Avoid using as a backer board directly behind tile in tub and shower areas.

- Do not install in pre-rock conditions.

- Do not finish joints until building is properly closed in and conditioned.
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.