SoundBreak XP Wall® Board -

Installation Recommendations



- 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 of moisture.



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.



- 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 align 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

- Remove improperly driven nails or
- 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.



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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.

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

Ceiling areas abutting 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 surfacemounted 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 ceiling 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. If necessary, 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 treat joints until building is properly enclosed.



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