

# FIBEROCK Brand



Interior Panel

Tough to the Core™

Water resistant, mould resistant, fire resistant, abuse resistant, the FIBEROCK **brand Aqua-Tough Interior Panel is a truly** versatile panel. It is the only high performance tile backer that can be tiled, painted or wall papered. FIBEROCK'S inherent strength and fire resistance combined with the AQUA-TOUGH formulation to protect it from moisture and mould put it in a category by itself. Follow the simple steps below to properly install FIBEROCK panels and ensure lasting, professional results.

#### **Tools and Materials**

hole-saw bits)

Hammer

○ Level

O Durock® Cement Board

Metal tape measure

○ CGC Paper Drywall Tape ○ Tile cutter

Safety glasses

Scoring tool

- Adhesive, mortar, grout O DURABOND Setting-Type O Caulk and caulking gun
- O Drill and bits (including ○ Sponge

  - Squeegee Straight edge

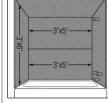
Joint Compound

- Utility knife (alkali-resistant glass fiber O Durock Screws or hot
  - dipped galvanized roofing nails
  - Wood rasp
  - Tile
  - Nippers Notched trowel

# Installation Guide

## **FIBEROCK Panel** Installation

## **Walls and Ceilings**



Typically you can use two 900 x 1500 mm (3' x 5') boards horizontally for tub backwall, one 900 x 1800 mm (3' x 6') board vertically at each endwall.



FIBEROCK's smooth surface can be tiled, painted or wall papered.

### To cut FIBEROCK, measure the

desired size on the front of the board and mark with a pencil. Score the marks 2 times with a utility knife, then snap the board to size. Smooth edges with wood rasp. Wear a dust mask and eye protection. Cutting with a low rpm circular saw equipped with a circular carbide-tipped blade is an alternative.



# Cutouts

To make cutouts for fixtures, outline area with a utility knife and score diagonal cut through the cutout, then punch out with a hammer. Alternatively, mark location and drill hole using the appropriate size hole-saw bit and drill. Smooth edges with rasp.

#### Attachment

Place a 6 mm (1/4") spacer strip or shim above the lip of tub or shower pan to hold bottom edge of FIBEROCK off



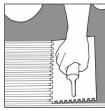
Fasten board to wood studs spaced at 400 mm (16") o.c.1 with 38 mm (1-1/2") hot-dipped galvanized roofing nails spaced 200 mm (8") o.c. for walls, 150 mm (7") o.c. for ceilings, or using 32 mm (1-1/4") DUROCK Screws

spaced 400 mm (16") o.c. for walls, 300 mm (12") o.c. for ceilings. (For steel stud<sup>2</sup> applications, use 32 mm (1-1/4") DUROCK Screws). Leave a maximum of 3 mm (1/8") gap between all panel edges.

10.C.: On centre or the spacing between the centrelines of two structural members or fasteners

<sup>2</sup>Steel studs must be minimum 0.9 mm (20 ga.) thick.

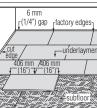
### Floors



Lamination Laminate 900 mm x 1500 mm (3" x 5") FIBEROCK Panel to minimum 16 mm (5/8")

thick exterior grade plywood

using adhesive or mortar suitable for bonding FIBEROCK backer board to plywood. Apply adhesive with 5 mm (5/32") V-notched trowel or mortar with 6 mm (1/4") square-notched trowel. Laminate and secure one panel at a time. Cover the adhesive with the board immediately.



Place panels with joints staggered from subfloor joints. Fit ends and edges closely but not forced together, leaving a max. 3 mm (1/8") gap. Fasten panels to subfloor while the adhesive is wet with 38 mm (1-1/2") hot-dipped ringed shank underlayment nails or 32 mm (1-1/4") Durock Screws spaced 200 mm (8") o.c. in both directions.

## **Countertops**



Attachment Install minimum 19 mm (3/4") exterior-grade plywood base across the wood cabinet supports, spaced a maximum of 400 mm (16") o.c. Position ends and edges

over supports. Staple-attach

#15 asphalt felt or 4 mil. polyethylene film using 6 mm (1/4") galvanized staples over the plywood base. Fasten to the plywood with 32 mm (1-1/4") Durock

Screws or 38 mm (1-1/2")

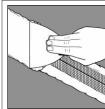
hot-dipped ringed shank

underlayment nails, spaced 200 mm (8") o.c. in both directions and around edges or with 6 mm x 22 mm (1/4" x 7/8") galvanized staples, spaced 100 mm

(4') o.c. in all directions.

## **Joint Treatment**

## Joint Treatment—Walls, Ceilings, Floors and Countertops



Prefill all joints, as well as outside corners of countertops, with latex-fortified mortar or Type 1 organic adhesive and then immediately embed tape and level joints.

Use Durock Cement Board Tape for strongest joints and the best bond.

For Tiled Areas—Embed **DUROCK Cement Board Tape** in latex-fortified mortar or latex-based Type I mastic

over the joint. Use the same material as specified for tile settina.

For Untiled Areas—Embed CGC Paper Drywall Tape in DURABOND Setting-Type Joint Compound and wipe with a

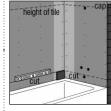
coating of joint compound over all joints and interior angles. Complete to level of finish specified in project requirements.

joint knife, leaving a thin

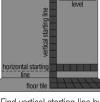
## **Installing Tile**

## **Measuring and Planning**

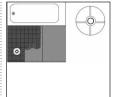
Establish tile height for walls by finding the low point of the floor next to the wall. Measure from this point to tile wainscot height including the cap. On new work where floor must be installed, allow for tile thickness.



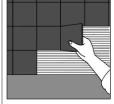
From low point, stack one row of tile to required height with dabs of mastic on the back of each tile-including the cap draw line at the top of the last full tile as caps are installed last.



Find vertical starting line by beginning from the center of the wall. Lay out a row of tiles to the corner. If cut comes to less than half the tile, adjust vertical starting line so its center hits middle of tile instead of tile joint.



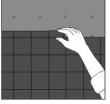
Find starting point for floors by placing tiles on floor in front of the tub and along the adjoining wall. Some tiles may have to be cut to fill in open spaces. Fit tiles to pipes, then draw starting line for adhesive.



## **Setting Tile**

To set tile, apply the adhesive or mortar you've selected to wall, floor or counter top using notched trowel, holding at 50° or 60° angle for walls.

Working a small area at a time, set tile with a slight sliding motion and press into place. This avoids adhesive pile-up on tile edge and in grout space. Keep tiles aligned so joints are straight and uniform. Use tile spacers, if desired. If adhesive is squeezed from under tile, you're using too much. Clean out excess adhesive before it dries.



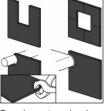
make a caulk joint along tub

rim.

**Cutting Tile** When beginning at the top, To trim tile, use a place tile to horizontal line, then butter each cap and place in position. This eliminates possibility of troweling adhesive above required height. Maintain 6 mm (1/4") shims beneath the bottom row of tiles to



professional tile cutting tool. Score tile only once for each cut. This prevents uneven breaking of tile and dulling of cutting wheel.



To make contoured and irregular cuts, use nippers to take small bites to prevent cracking or breaking of tile. With rod saw use long, even strokes to avoid binding. Smooth cut edges with an abrasive stone.

## **Grouting**

#### **Application of Grout On Walls**



Wait at least 24 hours after tile has been installed before grouting. Apply with a rubber float or squeegee at a slight angle to the walls. Go over each joint three times, spreading grout across tile diagonally.



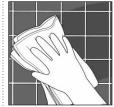
Fill joints completely. Remove excess grout with a float or squeegee as you go along.



Let grout set for 20 minutes, then wipe diagonally with a damp square-edge sponge.

Continue until grout lines are even and joints are smooth. Rinse sponge often but keep it as dry as possible. Let joints dry about 15 to 20 minutes or until a haze forms on the tile. Then polish with a clean white cloth.

### **Application of Grout On Floors and Countertops**



Wait at least 48 hours after the tile has been installed before grouting. Apply grout and force into joints with a rubber float. Remove excess grout by drawing float flat across tile at 45° angle.

Then wipe tile diagonally with damp sponge until joints are smooth and even. Rinse sponge often and wring it as dry as possible. Polish with clean paper towels or a clean white cloth.

Note: After you've completed grouting, it's important to put moisture back into the grout for a few days for stronger joints. Dampen grout now and then with a fine water spray during the first 24 hours while grout is curing. After the final cure—in about 2 to 3 weeks—protect grout surface on walls from dirt by coating with silicone tile and grout sealer. Do not use sealer on floors.

#### Walls

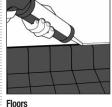
#### Floors

#### Countertops



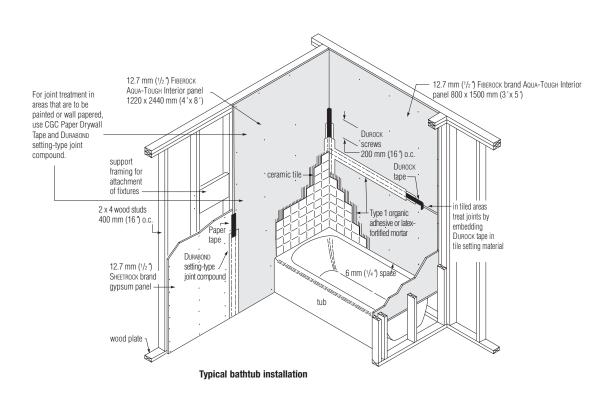


Walls
Fill 6 mm (1/4") space between
tub and bottom edge of tile
around tub with flexible sealant.
Also caulk around soap dish
and other wall fixtures. Fill
vertical grout lines at inside
corners and adjacent to door
jambs with flexible caulk rather
than stiff cement grout.



Floors
Caulk space where floor
edges meet walls with
sealant. Protect unglazed
mosaic or quarry tile with a
sealer.

Follow the same procedure for grouting floors. Caulk abutments of countertops and walls and, if needed, underneath sink edge.



## To install 4 FIBEROCK panels

12.7 mm x 800 mm x 1,500 mm (1/2" x 36" x 60"), you need:

150 fasteners

1 roll of coated tape 50 mm x 15 m (2 in. x 50 ft.)

946 ml of adhesive



Durock wood screws



For more detailed installation specifications please refer to FIBEROCK Brand AQUA-TOUGH Interior Panel data sheet EWB\_W118 or visit our web site at www.cgcinc.com





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