

# FIBEROCK® Brand Interior Panels

## AQUA-TOUGH™

### Installation

Cut FIBEROCK Brand AQUA-TOUGH Interior Panels to size with a utility knife and straight edge. Use a power saw only if equipped with a dust-collection device. Panels may be cut by scoring and snapping or by sawing, working from the face side.

When using the score-and-snap method, score the panel twice and snap the panel away from the cut face. The backside of the panels is then broken by snapping the panel in the reverse direction. If a power-operated saw is used, a low-RPM unit with 3-1/2" carbide blade is recommended.

When necessary, 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). When a router is used, hold panels away from the wall.

Contractors installing tile and tile-setting materials should always follow current ANSI specifications, TCA guidelines and the specifications of the surfacing materials manufacturer.

### Framing and Fastener Spacing

	Thickness	Framing Spacing	Maximum Fastener Spacing	
			Nails	Screws
<b>Walls</b>	1/2"	16" o.c.	8" o.c.	16" o.c.
	1/2"	24" o.c.	8" o.c.	12" o.c.
	5/8"	16" o.c.	8" o.c.	16" o.c.
	5/8"	24" o.c.	8" o.c.	12" o.c.
<b>Ceilings</b>	1/2"	16" o.c.	7" o.c.	12" o.c.
	1/2"	24" o.c.*	—	—
	5/8"	16" o.c.	7" o.c.	12" o.c.
	5/8"	24" o.c.	7" o.c.	12" o.c.

\* Not permitted in wet areas.

**Note:** for UL fire-rated partition designs, refer to the specific UL design for proper fastener spacing.

### Wall Applications

1. Framing – Space wood and steel framing a maximum of 24" o.c. Framing shall be designed not to exceed L360 deflection for tile and L240 for flexible finishes like paint.
2. Cut panels to size with a utility knife and straight edge. Use a power saw only if equipped with a dust-collection device.
3. Position all ends and edges of panels over framing members, except when joints are at right angles to framing members, as in perpendicular applications or when end joints are back-blocked.
4. Install panels vertically whenever possible. End joints should be loosely fit. Install panels a minimum of 3/8" above the floor. Stagger end joints in successive courses with joints on opposite sides of a partition placed on different studs.
5. Attach panels to framing supports by spacing fasteners not less than 3/8" from edges and ends of panels and drive as recommended for specified fastening method. Drive fasteners in field of panels first, working toward ends and edges.

### Framing

**Wood** Use corrosion-resistant Type W or Type S buglehead screws or hot-dipped galvanized roofing nails. Fasteners must be of sufficient length to ensure a minimum 3/4" penetration into wood framing.

**Steel** Use corrosion-resistant Type S-12 buglehead screws for 25-12 ga steel framing. When using 25 ga steel framing fasteners should be spaced no greater than 8" o.c. Fasteners must be of sufficient length to ensure a minimum of 3/8" penetration into steel framing.

<b>Tub Surrounds</b>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Panel Application—After tub, shower pan or receptor is installed, place temporary 1/4" spacer strips or shims around lip of fixture. 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 panels to wood studs spaced max. 24" o.c. with corrosion-resistant screws or hot-dipped galvanized roofing nails. For steel studs (14-25 ga.), use corrosion-resistant screws. For fastener spacing requirement, refer to table on page two.</li> <li>2. Seal all openings around pipes, fittings and fixtures with waterproof flexible sealant. Allow areas to dry thoroughly prior to tile application. Wipe excess material from surface of panels. Remove spacer strips but do not caulk the gap at the bottom of panel.</li> <li>3. A waterproof membrane (ANSI A118.10) must be over upward-facing horizontal applications in wet areas.</li> </ol>
	<b>Ceilings</b>	
	<b>Framing</b>	Must be capable of supporting the total ceiling system dead load, including insulation, ceramic tile, bonding materials and panels, with deflection not exceeding L/360 of the span for tiled surfaces.
	<b>Panel Application</b>	Center end or edge joints on framing. Stagger end joints in successive courses. Fit ends and edges closely but not forced together. Fasten boards to framing using recommended fastener table on page one.
<b>Joint Treatment</b>	<b>Tiled Areas</b>	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.
	<b>Untiled Areas</b>	Embed SHEETROCK Brand Joint Tape in SHEETROCK Brand 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.
<b>Interior Ceramic Tile</b>		Follow ANSI Specifications and TCA Guidelines.

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**Note**

Products described here may not be available in all geographic markets. Consult your U.S. Gypsum Company sales office or representative for information.

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**SAFETY FIRST!**

Follow good safety practices. Read material safety data sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

