

# FIBEROCK® Interior Panel

## Abuse Resistant, VHI



**FIBEROCK® Interior Panels, VHI provide superior abuse resistance in abuse prone areas.**

- AQUA-TOUGH™ formulation provides improved moisture resistance
- No face paper to scratch or tear
- Resist denting, breaking and puncturing, even in high-traffic areas
- Provide excellent fire resistance in partitions
- Offer an economical alternative to concrete block or plaster construction
- Ideal for institutional, commercial and residential interiors
- Certified, recycled content of 95 percent

**Description**

FIBEROCK Interior Panels, VHI are engineered to provide superior resistance to moisture, abrasion, indentation and penetration in demanding interior wall construction applications. Manufactured with reinforcing fiber mesh, these strong, solid and durable high-performance panels resist denting, breaking and puncturing—even in high-traffic areas.

These panels provide exceptional surface burning characteristics (ASTM E84, Flame Spread 5, Smoke Developed 0) and fire resistance (ASTM E119). 5/8" panels may be used in lieu of Type X gypsum panels in over 50 "Type FRX-G" fire-rated wall assemblies as listed in the UL Fire Resistance Directory.

FIBEROCK Interior Panels, VHI can be installed and finished using standard drywall techniques.

**Advantages**

**Abuse Resistant:** Engineered to provide increased resistance to abrasion, indentation and penetration, this panel outperforms paper-faced or glass mat-faced panels, with no paper face to tear or scratch. Reinforcing mesh provides high-performance resistance to denting, breaking and puncturing—even in high-traffic areas.

**Water Resistant:** Water resistant through the core and suitable for use in wet areas including residential showers and tub surrounds.

**Mold Resistant:** In independent lab tests per ASTM D3273 "Standard Test Method for Resistance to Growth of Mold on the Surface of Interior Coatings in an Environmental Chamber," FIBEROCK AR Interior Panels, AQUA-TOUGH, earns the highest score, 10.

**Fire Resistant:** Superior fire resistance and exceptional surface burning characteristics. The 5/8" panel is UL Classified for fire resistance (FRX-G) and listed in more than 50 UL wall designs.

**Finishing Flexibility:** Features a smooth, paintable surface that can also be finished with ceramic tile.

**Environmentally Friendly:** Made from 95% recycled materials, this panel has earned independent certification from Scientific Certification Systems (SCS) for this achievement.

**Product Data    Sizes and Packaging**

Size (thickness x width x length)	Units (pcs)
1/2" x 4' x 8'	30
1/2" x 4' x 9'	30
1/2" x 4' x 10'	30
1/2" x 4' x 12'	30
5/8" x 4' x 8'	24
5/8" x 4' x 9'	24
5/8" x 4' x 10'	24
5/8" x 4' x 12'	24

**Technical Data**

Property	Unit of Measure	ASTM Test Method	5/8" FIBEROCK	1/2" FIBEROCK
<b>Flexural Strength</b>	lbf	C473	> 155	> 110
<b>Compressive Strength</b>	psi	n/a	> 500	> 750
<b>Water Absorption</b>	% by wt. 2 hr. full immersion	C473	<5	<5
<b>Surface Water Absorption</b>	Grams	C473	1.6	1.6
<b>Nail-Pull Resistance</b>	lb. (0.4" head diameter dry)	C473	>145	>120
<b>Weight</b>	psf.	C473	3.1	2.4
<b>Mold Resistance</b>	—	D3273	10 (no growth)	10 (no growth)
<b>Surface Burning Characteristics</b>	flame/smoke	E84	5/0	5/0
<b>Thermal</b>	"R"/k value	C518		.30/1.84

**Compliance with Standards:** Meets ASTM C1278. **Edge Configuration:** Long edges tapered; ends cut square.



**Abuse-Resistant Performance**

**ASTM C1629 Performance**

*Abrasion	Level 1
Indentation	Level 1
Soft Body Impact	Level 3
Hard Body Impact	Level 3

\*With a standard primer and two coats of finish paint, Fiberock Interior Panel, AR will achieve level 3 abrasion resistance

**Good Design Practices**

1. FIBEROCK Interior Panels, VHI are designed for interior use on walls.
2. Panels can be attached to wood or steel framing (20 gauge or heavier required).
3. For additional abuse resistance, SHEETROCK® brand paper faced metal corner bead and trim and SHEETROCK® brand TUFF-HIDE™ primer-surfacer are recommended.
4. Where FIBEROCK systems abut or intersect dissimilar construction or building structural components, isolation techniques, such as caulk and/or slip tracks, are required.
5. Control joints should be spaced at a maximum of 28 ft. on center in walls and above door jambs; 28 ft. on center in ceiling design (50 ft. with perimeter relief) and at L-, T- or U-intersections. Location of control joints is the responsibility of the design professional/architect.
6. Framing members should be straight and true. Studs and joints must be in true alignment; bridging, firestops, etc. must not protrude beyond plane of framing. Due to strength and rigidity of FIBEROCK panels, it may be difficult to compensate for out-of-plane imperfections in framing.

**Delivery and Storage**

All materials should be delivered and stored in their original unopened package and stored in an enclosed shelter providing protection from damage and exposure to the elements. FIBEROCK panels should be stored flat.

**Installation**

- A. Position all ends and edges of all gypsum fiber panels over framing members, except when joints are at right angles to framing members, as in perpendicular application or when end joints are back-blocked.
- B. Install panels vertically whenever possible. For horizontal panel application, panels must be gapped 1/16" of an inch. End joints should be loosely fit. Install panels a minimum of 3/8" above the floor. To minimize end joints, use panels of maximum practical lengths. Stagger end joints in successive courses with joints on opposite sides of a partition placed on different studs.
- C. Attach panels to framing supports by: (Standard Single Nailing Method) (Double Nailing Method) (Power-Driven Screws). Space 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. Hold panel in firm contact with framing while driving fasteners. Drive fastener heads slightly below surface of gypsum fiber panels in a uniform dimple.
- D. Concealment of joints, fasteners and trims in areas that will be painted: For taping use SHEETROCK® joint tape with SHEETROCK® DURABOND® setting-type joint compound. For finishing use SHEETROCK® all purpose joint compound. Do not use PLUS 3® lightweight all purpose or MIDWEIGHT™ joint compounds on FIBEROCK panels. In areas that will be tiled, finish joints with DUROCK™ tile backer tape and latex-fortified mortar or Type I mastic.
- E. For non-fire-rated partition designs, refer to the table below for fastener spacing. For UL fire-rated partition designs, refer to the specific UL design for proper fastener spacing.

Walls	Thickness	Frame Spacing*	Fastener Spacing	
			Nails	Screws
1/2"		24" o.c.	8" o.c.	12" o.c.
		16" o.c.	8" o.c.	12" o.c.
5/8"		24" o.c.	8" o.c.	12" o.c.
		16" o.c.	8" o.c.	12" o.c.

\*16" o.c recommended for abuse-resistant applications.

- F. Install trim at all internal and external angles formed by the intersection of either panel surfaces or other surfaces. Apply (metal) (paper-faced) corner bead to all vertical or horizontal external corners in accordance with manufacturer's directions.

**Surface Treatment**

FIBEROCK panels must be surface treated with one of the options, in accordance with USG recommendations. Option A may be used when surface uniformity is not of concern, i.e., the surface uniformity stipulation has been waived by the job managerial and/or inspection authorities and conditions described in Option B (below) do not exist.

**Option A**

Apply a skim coat\* of all purpose joint compound at a trowel-applied consistency to entire surface and let dry. The skim coated surface must be smooth and free of tool marks and ridges (a light sanding of the skim coating may be necessary to remove tool marks). Remove sanding dust from surface, then apply one full coverage coat (5-10 mils WFT) of SHEETROCK® brand First Coat primer to cover surface. Allow surface to dry prior to decorating. Refer to USG Technical Literature: J1095 for more information regarding First Coat primer; J510 for more information on skim coating. **Note:** A single coverage coat of SHEETROCK TUFF-HIDE primer-surfacer may be used in lieu of a skim coat of SHEETROCK® brand all purpose joint compound and the application of SHEETROCK First Coat primer. Refer to USG Technical Literature J1613 and J1810 for more information regarding TUFF-HIDE primer-surfacer benefits and application.

**Option B**

**Recommended in areas where one or more of the following conditions exist:** 1) Exposure to critical/severe lighting; 2) Paints with sheen levels other than flat are specified; 3) High value spaces exist; 4) Final surface smoothness and uniformity are expected and/or specified.

Apply two separate skim coats\* of all purpose joint compound at a trowel-applied consistency to entire surface and let dry. The skim coated surface must be smooth and free of tool marks and ridges (a light sanding of the skim coating may be necessary to remove tool marks). Remove sanding dust from surface, then apply one full coverage coat (5-10 mils WFT) of SHEETROCK First Coat primer to cover surface. Allow surface to dry prior to decorating. Refer to USG Technical Literature: J1095 for more information regarding First Coat primer; J510 for more information on skim coating. **Note:** SHEETROCK TUFF-HIDE primer-surfacer may be used in lieu of a second skim coat of SHEETROCK all purpose joint compound and the application of SHEETROCK First Coat primer. Refer to USG Technical Literature J1613 and J1810 for more information regarding TUFF-HIDE primer-surfacer benefits and application.

\* When applying a skim coat, use only SHEETROCK all purpose joint compound – DO NOT use PLUS 3® lightweight all purpose or MIDWEIGHT™ joint compounds on FIBEROCK panels.

**Veneer Plaster**

Joints should be treated with Sheetrock joint tape and Sheetrock setting-type joint compound (DURABOND®) or EASY SAND™). Joint surfaces must be treated with a separate coat of joint compound to fully conceal the paper tape. When the joint is completely dry, treat entire wall surface with USG plaster bonder according to application directions. Then apply DIAMOND® Brand Veneer Basecoat Plaster from 1/16" to 3/32" thickness using a scratch and double-back technique. This is accomplished by applying a tight, thin coat over the entire area, and immediately doubling back with plaster from the same batch to achieve full thickness. When basecoat plaster is firm, broom the surface to leave it rough and open for finish. With basecoat set and partially dry, apply IMPERIAL® Brand Finish Plaster using a scratch and double-back technique. Complete finishing when material is firm. Leave finished surface smooth and dense for decorating. Refer to USG System Folder SA920 for complete plaster recommendations.

**Ceramic Tile Applications**

Fiberock Interior Panels, VHI are acceptable for use as a ceramic tile backer. Refer to the TCNA Handbook for specific system and finishing requirements.

**Limitations**

1. FIBEROCK Interior Panels, VHI are designed for interior use only and should not be used in exterior applications.
2. Panels should not be exposed to sustained temperatures in excess of 125 °F (51.6 °C).
3. Minimum 20-gauge steel framing is required.

**Submittal Approvals**

<b>Job Name</b>		
<b>Contractor</b>		<b>Date</b>

**Product Information**

See usg.com for the most up-to-date product information.

**Trademarks**

The following trademarks used herein are owned by United States Gypsum Company or a related company: AQUA-TOUGH, DIAMOND, DURABOND, DUROCK, EASY SAND, FIBEROCK, IMPERIAL, MIDWEIGHT, PLUS 3, SHEETROCK, TUFF HIDE, USG, USG in stylized letters.

**Note**

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

**Notice**

We shall not be liable for incidental and consequential damages, directly or indirectly sustained, nor

for any loss caused by application of these goods not in accordance with current printed instructions or for other than the intended use. Our liability is expressly limited to replacement of defective goods. Any claim shall be deemed waived unless made in writing to us within thirty (30) days from date it was or reasonably should have been discovered.

**Safety First!**

Follow good safety/industrial hygiene practices during installation. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment. Read MSDS and literature before specification and installation.

