

# CGC FIBEROCK® BRAND AQUA-TOUGH™ AR INTERIOR PANEL



Gypsum fiber panels outperform paper-faced gypsum board 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
- Provides excellent fire resistance
- Offer an economical alternative to concrete block and plaster construction
- Ideal for institutional, commercial and residential interiors
- Certified, recycled content of 97%

## DESCRIPTION

CGC Fiberock® Brand Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels are engineered to provide increased resistance to moisture, mould, abrasion, indentation and penetration for interior walls and ceilings in demanding construction applications. These gypsum fiber panels are designed to outperform paper-faced gypsum board. Strong, solid and durable, they are approved for use in wet areas, including residential showers and tub surrounds. They also resist denting, breaking and puncturing, even in high traffic areas. CGC Fiberock® Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels are suitable for use in noncombustible construction. They have exceptional surface burning characteristics CAN/ULC S102, flame spread 5, smoke developed 0 and 15.9 mm (5/8")

CGC Fiberock® Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels may be used in lieu of Type X gypsum panels in over 50 fire-rated wall assemblies certified for Canada as listed in the UL Fire Resistance Directory under "Type FRX-G."

## 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.

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

**Mould-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, CGC Fiberock® Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels, earns the highest score of 10.

**Fire-Resistant:** Superior fire resistance and exceptional surface burning characteristics. The 15.9 mm (5/8") panel is cUL 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 97% recycled materials.

## LIMITATIONS

1. CGC Fiberock® Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels 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 52 °C (125 °F).
3. For fire-resistant or abuse-resistant construction over steel framing, a minimum of 0.9 mm thick (20 gauge) steel framing is required.

PRODUCT DATA  
SIZES AND PACKAGING

Dimensions	Units (pcs.)
12.7 mm (1/2") thick, 1220 mm (4') wide, 2440 mm (8') long	30
12.7 mm (1/2") thick, 1220 mm (4') wide, 2745 mm (9') long	30
12.7 mm (1/2") thick, 1220 mm (4') wide, 3050 mm (10') long	30
15.9 mm (5/8") thick, 1220 mm (4') wide, 2440 mm (8') long	24
15.9 mm (5/8") thick, 1220 mm (4') wide, 2745 mm (9') long	24
15.9 mm (5/8") thick, 1220 mm (4') wide, 3050 mm (10') long	24
15.9 mm (5/8") thick, 1220 mm (4') wide, 3660 mm (12') long	24

Edge: Long edges tapered; ends cut square.

TECHNICAL DATA

Properties	Unit of Measure	ASTM Test Method	15.9 mm (5/8") CGC Fiberock® Brand Aqua-Tough™ AR Interior Panel	12.7 mm (1/2") CGC Fiberock® Brand Aqua-Tough™ AR Interior Panel
Flexural Strength	lbf	C473	> 155	> 110
Compressive Strength	psi	n/a	> 500	> 750
Nail Pull Resistance	lb. (10 mm [0.4"] head diameter, dry)	C473	> 145	> 120
Weight	psf	C473	3.1	2.4
Mould Resistance	—	D3273	10 (no growth)	10 (no growth)
Thermal	"R"/kvalue	C518	—	0.30/1.84

Compliance with Standards: Meets ASTM C1278.

Edge Configuration: Long edges tapered; ends cut square.

Surface Burning Characteristics: CAN/ULC S102, flame spread 5; smoke developed 0.

ABUSE-RESISTANT PERFORMANCE

ASTM C1629 Abuse-Resistant Performance	
*Abrasion	Level 1
Indentation	Level 1
Soft Body Impact	Level 2
Hard Body Impact	Level 1

\*With a standard primer and two coats of finish paint, 15.9 mm (5/8") CGC Fiberock Aqua-Tough Interior Panels AR will achieve a Level 3 abrasion resistance.

GOOD DESIGN PRACTICES

1. CGC Fiberock® Brand Aqua-Tough™ AR Interior Panels are designed for interior use only.
2. Panels may be attached to wood or steel stud framing and furring channels.
3. For abuse-resistant or fire-resistant construction, 0.9 mm thick (20 gauge) or heavier steel framing members are required.
4. For improved abuse-resistant system performance, CGC Sheetrock®/Beadex® Brand Paper Faced Metal Corner Bead and Trim and CGC Sheetrock® Brand Tuff-Hide™ Primer-Surfacer are recommended.
5. Where CGC Fiberock® Brand systems abut or intersect dissimilar construction or building structural components, isolation techniques, such as caulk and/or slip tracks, are required.
6. Control joints should be spaced at a maximum of 8.5 m (28') on center in walls and above door jambs; or other opening 8.5 m (28') on center in ceilings (15 m [50'] with perimeter relief) and at L-, T- or U-intersections. Location of control joints is the responsibility of the professional/ architect.
7. 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 CGC Fiberock® Brand panels, it may be difficult to compensate for out-of-plane imperfections in framing.

DELIVERY & STORAGE OF MATERIALS

INSTALLATION

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

- 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 1.6 mm (1/16") of an inch. End joints should be loosely fit. Install panels a minimum of 9.5 mm (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, or power-driven screws. Space fasteners not less than 9.5 mm (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 and fill coat use CGC/Synko® Brand Paper Joint Tape with CGC Durabond® Brand Setting-Type Joint Compound. For finishing, use CGC/Synko® Brand All Purpose Joint Compound. In areas that will be tiled, finish joints with CGC Durock™ Brand 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 cUL fire-rated partition designs, refer to the specific UL design for proper fastener spacing.

	Thickness	Application	Frame Spacing	Fastener Spacing	
				Nails	Screws
Ceilings (wood or steel framed)	12.7 mm (1/2")	parallel	406 mm (16") o.c.	178 mm (7") o.c.	305 mm (12") o.c.
		perpendicular	406 mm (16") o.c.	178 mm (7") o.c.	305 mm (12") o.c.
	15.9 mm (5/8")	parallel	406 mm (16") o.c.	178 mm (7") o.c.	305 mm (12") o.c.
		perpendicular	610 mm (24") o.c.	178 mm (7") o.c.	305 mm (12") o.c.

	Thickness	Application	Frame Spacing	Fastener Spacing	
				Nails	Screws
Walls	12.7 mm (1/2")		610 mm (24") o.c.	203 mm (8") o.c.	305 mm (12") o.c.
			406 mm (16") o.c.	203 mm (8") o.c.	406 mm (16") o.c.
	15.9 mm (5/8")		610 mm (24") o.c.	203 mm (8") o.c.	305 mm (12") o.c.
			406 mm (16") o.c.	203 mm (8") o.c.	406 mm (16") o.c.

\*406 mm (16") o.c recommended for abuse-resistant applications.

- F. If waterproofing is desired, use CGC Durock™ Brand Waterproofing Membrane. See CGC Durock™ Brand Waterproofing Membrane (DSS\_Membrane\_DS\_CB595) for product information.
- G. Install trim at all internal and external angles formed by the intersection of either panel surfaces or other surfaces. Apply (paper-faced) corner bead to all vertical or horizontal external corners in accordance with manufacturer's directions.

## SURFACE TREATMENT

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CGC Fiberock® Brand Aqua-Tough™ AR Interior Panels must be surface treated with one of the following options, in accordance with CGC 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.)

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### 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 CGC Sheetrock® Brand First Coat Primer to cover surface. Allow surface to dry prior to decorating. Refer to CGC Technical Literature: J1095 for more information regarding CGC Sheetrock® First Coat Primer.

Note: A single coverage coat of USG Sheetrock® Brand Tuff-Hide™ Primer-Surfacer may be used in lieu of a skim coat of CGC/Synko® Brand All Purpose Joint Compound and the application of CGC Sheetrock® First Coat Primer. Refer to CGC Technical Literature EJC-OJ56 for more information regarding USG Sheetrock® Tuff-Hide Primer-Surfacer benefits and application.

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### 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 CGC Sheetrock® First Coat Primer to cover surface. Allow surface to dry prior to decorating. Refer to CGC Technical Literature: J1095 for more information regarding CGC Sheetrock® First Coat Primer.

Note: USG Sheetrock® Tuff-Hide Primer-Surfacer may be used in lieu of a second skim coat of CGC/Synko® All Purpose Joint Compound and the application of CGC Sheetrock® First Coat Primer. Refer to CGC Technical Literature EJC-OJ56 for more information regarding USG Sheetrock® Tuff-Hide Primer-Surfacer benefits and application.

\*When applying a skim coat, use only CGC/Synko All Purpose Joint Compound – DO NOT use lightweight compounds on CGC Fiberock Brand panels.

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### VENEER PLASTER

Joints should be treated with CGC/Synko® Paper Joint Tape and CGC Durabond® Brand Setting-Type Joint Compound. Joint surfaces must be treated with a separate coat of CGC Durabond Setting-Type Joint Compound to fully conceal the paper tape. When the joint is completely dry, treat entire wall surface with CGC plaster bonder according to application directions. Then apply CGC Diamond® Brand Veneer Basecoat Plaster from 1.6 to 2.4 mm (1/16" to 3/32") 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 CGC 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 CGC System Folder SA920 for complete plaster recommendations.

CGC Fiberock® Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels are acceptable for use as a ceramic tile backer. Refer to the TCNA Handbook for specific system and finishing requirements.

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### CERAMIC TILE APPLICATIONS

CGC Fiberock® Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels are acceptable for use as a ceramic tile backer. Refer to the TCNA Handbook for specific system and finishing requirements.

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### LIMITATIONS

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2. Panels should not be exposed to sustained temperatures in excess of 52 °C (125 °F).
3. For fire-resistant or abuse-resistant construction over steel framing, a minimum of 20-gauge steel framing is required.

#### PRODUCT INFORMATION

See [cgcinc.com](http://cgcinc.com) for the most up-to-date product information.

#### CAUTION

Dust may cause irritation to eyes, skin, nose, throat, and upper respiratory tract. Cut and trim with a utility knife or hand saw to minimize dust levels. Power tools must be equipped with a dust collection system. Wear eye, skin, and respiratory protection if necessary. If eye contact occurs, flush thoroughly with water for 15 minutes. If irritation persists, call physician. Do not swallow. If swallowed, call physician. For more information call Product Safety: 800-507-8899 or see the SDS at [usg.com](http://usg.com)  
**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

#### TRADEMARKS

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