USG FIBEROCK® BRAND
AQUA-TOUGH™ AR INTERIOR PANEL

Gypsum-fiber abuse-resistant panels outperform paper-faced gypsum board in abuse-prone areas

- Aqua-Tough™ panels provide increased resistance to moisture and mold
- No face paper to scratch or tear
- Resist denting, breaking and puncturing, even in high-traffic areas
- Provide 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 percent

USG Fiberock® Brand Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels are engineered to provide increased resistance to moisture, mold, 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. USG Fiberock Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels are code approved for use in noncombustible construction. They have exceptional surface-burning characteristics (ASTM E84, Flame Spread 5, Smoke Developed 0) and fire resistance (ASTM E119). 5/8 in. USG Fiberock Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels may be used in lieu of Type X gypsum panels in over 50 fire-rated wall assemblies as listed in the Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) Fire Resistance Directory under “Type FRX-G.”

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.


Fire Resistant: Superior fire resistance and exceptional surface-burning characteristics. The 5/8 in. 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 97% recycled materials.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size (thickness x width x length)</th>
<th>Units (pcs.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1/2 in. x 4 ft. x 8 ft.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 in. x 4 ft. x 9 ft.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 in. x 4 ft. x 10 ft.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 in. x 4 ft. x 12 ft.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8 in. x 4 ft. x 8 ft.</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8 in. x 4 ft. x 9 ft.</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8 in. x 4 ft. x 10 ft.</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8 in. x 4 ft. x 12 ft.</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### TECHNICAL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>Unit of Measure</th>
<th>ASTM Test Method</th>
<th>5/8 in. USG Fiberock® Brand Aqua-Tough™ AR Interior Panel</th>
<th>1/2 in. Fiberock® Brand Aqua-Tough™ AR Interior Panel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flexural Strength</td>
<td>lbf</td>
<td>C473</td>
<td>&gt; 155</td>
<td>&gt; 110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compressive Strength</td>
<td>psi</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>&gt; 500</td>
<td>&gt; 500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nail-Pull Resistance</td>
<td>lb. (0.4 in. head diameter, dry)</td>
<td>C473</td>
<td>&gt; 145</td>
<td>&gt; 120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>psf</td>
<td>C473</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mold Resistance</td>
<td></td>
<td>D3273</td>
<td>10 (no growth)</td>
<td>10 (no growth)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface-Burning Characteristics</td>
<td>flame/smoke</td>
<td>EB4</td>
<td>5/0</td>
<td>5/0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thermal</td>
<td>&quot;R&quot;/k value</td>
<td>CS18</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>30/1.84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Compliance with Standards:** Meets ASTM C1278.

**Edge Configuration:** Long edges tapered; ends cut square.

### ABUSE-RESISTANT PERFORMANCE

- USG Fiberock Aqua-Tough AR Interior Panels are designed for interior use only.
- Panels may be attached to wood or steel-stud framing and furring channels.
- For improved abuse-resistant system performance, USG Sheetrock® and Beadex® Brand Paper-Faced Metal Corner Bead and Trim and USG Sheetrock® Brand Tuff-Hide™ Primer-Surfacer are recommended.

### GOOD DESIGN PRACTICES

1. Where USG Fiberock® Brand interior panel systems abut or intersect dissimilar construction or building structural components, isolation techniques, such as caulk and/or slip tracks, are required.
2. Control joints should be spaced at a maximum of 28 ft. o.c. in walls and above door jambs; 28 ft. o.c. in ceilings (50 ft. with perimeter relief) and at L-, T- or U-intersections. Location of control joints is the responsibility of the professional/architect.

### DELIVERY AND STORAGE OF MATERIALS

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.

### INSTALLATION

- 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.
- Attach panels to framing supports by: standard single nailing method, double nailing method, or power-driven screws. Space fasteners not less than 3/8 in. 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 USG Sheetrock® Brand Paper Joint Tape with USG Sheetrock® Brand Durabond® Joint Compound. For finishing use a USG Sheetrock® Brand All Purpose Joint Compound. In areas that will be tiled, finish joints with USG 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 UL fire-rated partition designs, refer to the specific UL design for proper fastener spacing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fastener Spacing</th>
<th>Ceilings (Wood- or Steel-Framed)</th>
<th>Walls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thickness</td>
<td>Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 in. parallel</td>
<td>parallel</td>
<td>16 in. o.c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 in. perpendicular</td>
<td>parallel</td>
<td>16 in. o.c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8 in. parallel</td>
<td>16 in. o.c.</td>
<td>7 in. o.c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8 in. perpendicular</td>
<td>24 in. o.c.</td>
<td>7 in. o.c.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*16 in. o.c recommended for abuse-resistant applications.

F. If waterproofing is desired, use USG Durock™ Brand Waterproofing Membrane. See USG Durock™ Brand Waterproofing Membrane (CB595) for product information. For fluid-applied waterproofing, use USG Durock™ Brand Liquid Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane. See USG Durock™ Brand Liquid Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (CB817) for product information.

G. 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.

USG Fiberock interior 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.)

Apply a skim coat of joint compound at a trowel-applied consistency to entire surface and let dry using a USG Sheetrock® Brand ready-mix all purpose type joint compound or USG Sheetrock® Brand Cover Coat Compound.

Note:
When properly prepared as a skim coating material, these ready mixed joint compounds can be used in a skim coat operation. Refer to USG literature J2010 Finishing & Decorating Gypsum Panels for information and job acceptance concerning skim coating with USG Sheetrock® Brand ready-mix joint compounds.

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 coat (5-10 mils Wet Film Thickness) of USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer over the entire surface. Allow surface to dry prior to decorating. Refer to USG Technical Literature: J1095 for more information regarding USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer.

Note:
A single full coverage coat of USG Sheetrock® Brand Tuff-Hide Primer-Surfacer may be used in lieu of a skim coat of joint compound and the application of USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat Primer. Refer to USG Technical Literature J1613 and J1810 for more information regarding USG Sheetrock® Brand Tuff-Hide Primer-Surfacer benefits and application.
SURFACE TREATMENT CONT.

OPTION B

CERAMIC TILE APPLICATIONS

LIMITATIONS

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

TRADEMARKS
The trademarks USG, AQUA-TOUGH, BEADEX, DIAMOND, DURABOND, DUROCK, EASY SAND, FIBEROCK, IMPERIAL, MIDWEIGHT, PLUS 3, SHEETROCK, TUFF-HIDE, IT’S YOUR WORLD, BUILD IT, the USG logo, the design elements and colors, and related marks are trademarks of USG Corporation or its affiliates.

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NOTE
We shall not be liable for incidental and consequential damages, directly or indirectly sustained, 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 SDS and literature before specification and installation.

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 coat of joint compound at a trowel-applied consistency to entire surface and let dry using a USG Sheetrock® Brand ready-mix all purpose type joint compound or USG Sheetrock® Brand Cover Coat Compound.

Note:
When properly prepared as a skim coating material, these ready mixed joint compounds can be used in a skim coat operation. Refer to USG literature J2010 Finishing & Decorating Gypsum Panels for information and job acceptance concerning skim coating with USG Sheetrock® Brand ready-mix joint compounds.

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 coat (5-10 mils Wet Film Thickness) of USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer over the entire surface. Allow surface to dry prior to decorating. Refer to USG Technical Literature: J1095 for more information regarding USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer.

Note:
A single full coverage coat of USG Sheetrock® Brand Tuff-Hide Primer-Surfacer may be used in lieu of the second skim coat of joint compound and the application of USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat Primer. Refer to USG Technical Literature J1613 and J1810 for more information regarding USG Sheetrock® Brand Tuff-Hide Primer-Surfacer benefits and application.

Joints should be treated with USG Sheetrock® Brand Paper Joint Tape and USG Sheetrock® Brand Easy Sand™ or Durabond® Joint Compound. 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 USG Diamond® Veneer Basecoat Plaster from 1/16 in. to 3/32 in. thickness using a scratch and double-back technique. This is accomplished by applying a light, 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 USG Imperial® Veneer 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 literature SA920 for complete plaster recommendations.

USG 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.

1. USG 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 125 °F (51.6 °C).
3. For fire-resistant or abuse-resistant construction over steel framing, a minimum of 20-gauge steel framing is required.

SUBMITTAL APPROVALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contractor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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