

CURRENT STATE OF REPAIRS:

A GUIDE TO AVOIDING UNDERLAYMENT REPAIR CODE COMPLIANCE ISSUES



For nearly 40 years, poured gypsum-based underlayments have played an important role in both fire and sound resistance in multifamily dwellings. Even though gypsum and lightweight concrete products can be used interchangeably as a heat sink, engineers and designers tend to give gypsum underlayments preferential consideration because they can achieve fire ratings at half the thickness of lightweight concrete. When repairing gypsum underlayment, maintaining the fire resistance of existing structures is critical for code compliance, which is why many products are tested per the ASTM E119/UL 263 standard for fire resistance.

"Because safety is never an afterthought at USG, we ensure all USG gypsum-based floor products are UL Classified and specified for use in the most popular fire-rated assemblies," said Brett Fleury, Product Marketing Manager, Performance Flooring, USG.

INDUSTRY STANDARDS

The trouble that's encountered when rehabbing old, existing gypsum floors with low-compressive strengths is that the gypsum is often fractured, broken and crumbling. Loose materials must be removed, which can leave the thickness of the gypsum underlayment below the minimum requirement of 3/4 inches. When that happens only gypsum repair products that are UL Classified and specified are approved for use in that assembly.



A UL Classified and specified repair product such as USG Durock™ Tuf-Skim™ Floor Patch is required to keep the fire rating of this floor.

GYPSUM UNDERLAYMENT REPAIR PROTOCOL: POURABLE SOLUTION

Step #1: Prepare existing underlayment

- Determine structural soundness
- Scrape and remove adhesives
 Remove loose debris and vacuum

Step #2: Apply USG Durock™ Brand Fusion™ Primer

Step #3: Pour USG Durock™ Brand
Quik-Top™ Self-Leveling Underlaymen

Step #4: Apply USG Durock™ Brand Primer-Sealer

Step #5: Apply floor covering adhesive

Step #6: Apply new floor covering



ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE

The USG Gypsum Underlayment Repair Solutions portfolio includes pourable and trowelable products that can be used to rejuvenate a bad floor and provide a new durable, smooth surface ready to receive today's most demanding types of floor coverings. All USG gypsum-based underlayments and patches are UL Classified and specified for use in over 130 fire-rated floor assemblies, including:

- USG Durock™ Brand Quik-Top™ Self-Leveling Underlayment
- USG Durock™ Brand Quik-Top™ FR (Fiber-Reinforced)
 Self-Leveling Underlayment
- USG Durock™ Brand Multi-Use Self-Leveling Underlayment
- USG Durock™ Brand Tuf-Skim™ Floor Patch