**DESCRIPTION**

Exterior Gypsum Sheathing is a water-resistant product designed for attachment to exterior side-wall framing as an underlayment for various exterior siding materials such as wood, metal or vinyl siding, masonry veneer, stucco, shingles, etc. The panel is manufactured with a wax-treated, water-resistant core faced with water-repellent paper on both face and back surfaces and long edges.

**GREENGUARD CERTIFIED FROM UL ENVIRONMENT**

Exterior Gypsum Sheathing has achieved UL Environment’s GREENGUARD GOLD Certification. GREENGUARD Certified products are scientifically proven to meet some of the world’s most rigorous, third-party chemical emissions standards, helping reduce indoor air pollution and the risk of chemical exposure while aiding in the creation of healthier indoor environments. For more information, visit www.ul.com/gg.

**BASIC USES**

Exterior Gypsum Sheathing is recommended for use in residential or commercial buildings and provides fire resistance and additional structural strength when used under exterior finishes such as wood, metal or vinyl siding, masonry veneer, stucco, shingles, etc. Exterior Gypsum Sheathing is designed for direct attachment to wood or metal framing with approved fasteners. Exposed joints are not intended for finishing with drywall joint compound and tape.

**LIMITATIONS**

The surface or face of Exterior Gypsum Sheathing is not designed to be finished similar to traditional wallboard nor is it a substrate for the direct application of stucco, paint or textures.

Exterior Gypsum Sheathing should not be used as a nailing base. Application of Exterior Gypsum Sheathing to framing by adhesive only is not recommended. Stud spacing must not exceed 24"o/c.

Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS) that incorporate Exterior Gypsum Sheathing are used with either mechanical fasteners or adhesives, depending on the EIFS manufacturer's recommendations. The performance of EIFS and recommendations for the proper method of attachment are the sole responsibility of the EIFS manufacturer, specifier and/or applicator.

**STORAGE AND HANDLING**

Exterior Gypsum Sheathing board does not generate or support the growth of mold when it is properly transported, stored, handled, installed, and maintained. However, mold spores are present everywhere and when conditions are favorable; mold can grow on practically any surface.

Where necessary, Exterior Gypsum Sheathing may be stored outside for up to one month, but must be stored off the ground and shall be sheltered from the elements with a protective covering. Sufficent risers must be used to assure support for the entire length of the wallboard to prevent sagging.

Gypsum board must be protected during transit with a weather-tight cover in good condition. Plastic shipping bags are intended to provide protection during transit only and must be promptly removed upon arrival of the load. Failure to remove the shipping bag can increase the likelihood of developing conditions favorable to the growth of mold.

Exterior Gypsum Sheathing that has visible mold growth must not be used. For additional information refer to Gypsum Association publication, “Guidelines for the Prevention of Mold Growth on Gypsum Wallboard” (GA-238).

Gypsum board shall always be stacked flat – NEVER on edge or end. Gypsum board stacked on edge or end is unstable and presents a serious hazard should it accidentally topple. Gypsum board should be placed so weight is evenly distributed and the floor is not overloaded.

**GOOD BUILDING PRACTICES**

Installation - The installation of Exterior Gypsum Sheathing should be consistent with methods described in the applicable standards noted below.

**4' wide (1219mm) Exterior Gypsum Sheathing:** Apply 4' wide sheathing vertically with vertical edges butting over the center of framing members. Fit sheathing snugly around all openings. Attach sheathing with nails or screws spaced not more than 4"o/c along ends and edges and 8"o/c in the field (staples 3" and 6" respectively). Horizontally applied square edge Exterior Gypsum Sheathing shall be covered with a weather-resistant barrier (#15 felt or equivalent), or horizontal joints sealed at time of application. Horizontal sheathing joints do not require back blocking.

Where shear values are not required, Exterior Gypsum Sheathing 4' (1219mm) wide shall be permitted to be applied parallel or perpendicular to framing. Exterior Gypsum Sheathing applied perpendicular (horizontal) to framing shall be covered with a weather-resistant barrier (#15 felt or equivalent), or horizontal joints shall be sealed at time of application.
**Fasteners**

Nails - shall be not less than 12 gauge, galvanized, with a minimum 7/16" (11mm) diameter head.

Staples - shall be galvanized steel, not less that 16 gauge and with a minimum 7/16" (11mm) crown.

Screws - standard specification for steel drill screws for the application of gypsum wallboard (ASTM C1002). Type W screws are designed for attachment to wood framing, and Type S screws are designed for attachment to light gage steel framing or wood framing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SHEATHING THICKNESS</th>
<th>WOOD FRAMING</th>
<th>STEEL FRAMING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nails 1 1/2&quot;</td>
<td>Screws 1 1/4&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2&quot;</td>
<td>1 1/2&quot;</td>
<td>1 1/4&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/8&quot;</td>
<td>1 3/4&quot;</td>
<td>1 5/8&quot;</td>
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Fasteners should bear tightly against the face of the sheathing, but should not cut into the face paper. Staples should be driven with the crown parallel to the framing. Fasteners should be no less than 3/8" from the edges and ends of the sheathing.

Shear Values - Shear values for wind or seismic forces based on racking test conducted in accordance with ASTM E 72 on 4' (1219mm) wide Exterior Gypsum Sheathing applied parallel to framing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sheathing Thickness</th>
<th>Shear Value Ultimate Load lbs/ft</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2&quot;</td>
<td>540</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/8&quot;</td>
<td>654</td>
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Where wind or seismic forces require shear walls to resist these lateral forces, most building codes provide allowable shear values for walls having Exterior Gypsum Sheathing applied to wood framing.

Decoration - Not recommended