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Technical Information
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Exterior Soffit Gypsum Wallboard

DESCRIPTION

Exterior Soffit wallboard is the ideal material for exterior soffit applications and sidewalls of protected exterior corridors/breezeways with indirect exposure to the weather. The panel contains a non-combustible gypsum core with its long edges being tapered, and ends being square-cut and finished smooth. Exterior Soffit wallboard is available in: 1/2" panels with a non-rated core, 5/8" Type X core for use in fire-rated assemblies, and a 5/8" Type C core (Special Order).

Products manufactured by American Gypsum contain no asbestos and no detectable levels of formaldehyde.

GREENGUARD CERTIFIED FROM UL ENVIRONMENT

Exterior Soffit wallboard 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 Soffit wallboard is a sag-resistant panel for use in exterior ceiling applications and sidewalls in protected exterior corridors/breezeways with indirect exposure to the weather. Uses include marquees, large canopies, covered walkways, parking areas, carports, exterior soffits and sidewalls of protected corridors/breezeways. The panels are secured directly to wood framing, cross-furring of wood, metal framing or metal furring channels attached to main supports. With joints covered, Exterior Soffit wallboard will resist the passage of smoke. For additional information on smoke barriers, refer to Gypsum Association publication, "Building and Inspecting Smoke Barriers" (GA-618).

LIMITATIONS

- Exterior Soffit wallboard must be protected from direct exposure to water.
- When used in exterior ceiling applications, install fascia so that its drip line is at least 1/4" below the Exterior Soffit boards face.
- Not to be used in areas with direct exposure to water or continuous high humidity, e.g., saunas, steam rooms, gang showers or indoor swimming pools.
- Avoid exposure to temperatures exceeding 125°F (52°C) for extended periods of time.
- Exterior Soffit wallboard is a nonstructural panel and should not be used as a nailing base.
- Framing must be spaced no more than 16" o/c when using 1/2" Exterior Soffit wallboard and 24" o/c for 5/8" Exterior Soffit.

STORAGE & HANDLING

Gypsum 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. GYPSUM BOARD MUST BE KEPT DRY to prevent the growth of mold.

Gypsum board must be stored in an area that protects it from adverse weather conditions, condensation, and other forms of moisture. Job site conditions that can expose gypsum board to water or moisture must be avoided.

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.

Gypsum board 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), which can be found at www.americangypsum.com under "Technical Information" - click on Gypsum Association Literature.

Gypsum board must be stored off the ground and under protective cover. Sufficient risers must be used to assure support for the entire length of the wallboard to prevent sagging.

Gypsum board must be delivered to the job site as near to the time it will be used as possible. Individuals delivering gypsum board to jobsites should ensure that it is carried, not dragged, to place of storage/installation to prevent damage to finished edges.

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 - Installation of Exterior Soffit wallboard shall be consistent with methods described in the noted standards and references indicated below.

The design professional has the ultimate responsibility for location of control joints.

Fasten Exterior Soffit wallboard to wood framing members with either Type W 1 1/4" screws spaced 12" o/c or 1 1/2" nails spaced 7" o/c. For metal framing use Type S 1 1/4" screws, spaced 12" o/c.

Suitable fascia and moldings shall be provided around the perimeter to protect Exterior Soffit wallboard from direct exposure to water. Install fascia so that its drip line is at least 1/4" below the Exterior Soffit boards face.

