


1/2" BACKERBOARD COMPARISON CHART

|  HardieBacker™ 500 <small>with MoldBlock™ Technology</small> | Durock® Board | WonderBoard® | PermaBase® | DensShield® Board | Fiberock® Aqua-Tough™ Interior Panel & Backerboard | Greenboard | 1/2" EasyBoard® Backerboard | |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| PRODUCT COMPOSITION | Portland cement, ground sand | Portland cement, aggregate, glass-fiber mesh | Portland cement, aggregate, glass-fiber mesh | Portland cement, aggregate, glass-fiber mesh | Gypsum, fiberglass mat w/acrylic coating | Engineered gypsum fiber core | Gypsum with paper facing | Polysocyanurate Foam, Filament Glass Fibers |
| Flexural strength (psi) | 1700 | 750 | 900 | 750 | Not Indicated | Not Indicated | Not Indicated | 300 |
| Compressive strength (psi) | 6500 | 2300 | 2500 | 2250 | 450-600 | 500 | Not Indicated | Not tested |
| Recommended for shower areas by ANSI (American National Standards Institute) | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No | Yes |
| Approved for use in residential steam room applications | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | With Limitation ¹ | No | No | Yes |
| Gypsum-free | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No | No | Yes |
| Contains glass fibers | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No | Yes |
| Cuts cleanly & easily | Yes | No | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Non-abrasive | Yes | No | No | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Preprinted fastener pattern | Yes | No | Yes | No | No | No | No | Yes |
| Warranty | Lifetime limited; transferable (material and labor) | 30-year limited; transferable | Lifetime limited; non-transferable | 30-year limited; non-transferable | Lifetime limited; non-transferable | 20-year limited; transferable | May vary by manufacturer; non-transferable | 1-year limited, non-transferable |
| Weight (lbs./sq.ft.) | 2.6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1.8 | .4 |
| Product characteristics | Best selling brand of backerboard. Lightest cement board available. Offers flexibility of finish (it's the only cement board that can be painted). Delivers more compressive and flexural strength than any other backerboard on the market. Exclusive MoldBlock technology provides superior protection against moisture and mold. | Contains aggregate; can scratch porcelain and enamel surfaces. Product must be scored on both sides and glass mesh must be cut after snapping. When not tiled over, can only be painted in small areas because board is designed to micro-crack (Durock FAQs, www.usg.com). | Contains aggregate; can scratch porcelain and enamel surfaces. Product must be scored on both sides and glass mesh must be cut after snapping. Data on ASTM tests for mold growth not available. | Contains abrasive aggregate; can scratch porcelain and enamel surfaces. Product must be scored on both sides and glass mesh must be cut after snapping. | Tile wall applications have a maximum total weight limit of 4 lbs per square foot; tiles cannot be larger than 3/8"x 14"x 14" (DensShield product guide, www.gp.com). | Fiberock is not approved by the International Building Code for use in wet areas. Product composition is almost identical to greenboard; contains over 80% gypsum, which can disintegrate in wet areas. Additional warranty information: not warranted for tile greater than 14"x14" or less than 6"x6". | The 2006 International Residential Code (IRC) disallows the use of greenboard in wet areas. Product has gypsum core that can disintegrate with continuous moisture exposure and paper facing that serves as food source for mold. ANSI AN-3.5.1.1 and gypsum manufacturers caution against using greenboard in wet areas (www.gp.com, www.nationalgypsum.com, www.usg.com). | More fasteners needed to secure the product than other backerboards and nails can easily blow through the product. Protective clothing should be worn to protect skin from fiberglass filaments. Product can easily be damaged, must be stored/secured carefully due to its lightweight properties. 1/2" board should not be used on the floor as it can break. (www.custombuildingproducts.com) |

¹DensShield can only be used in residential steam room applications with a maximum shower size of 48 sq. ft.