

FIBEROCK® Brand Interior Panels

VHI Abuse-Resistant

Cutting Panels

1. Cut ends, edges, scribe, and make cutouts within fields of panels in a workmanlike manner. Panels should be cut to size utilizing a knife and straight edge. A power saw should be used only if it is equipped with a dust-collection device. Panels may be cut by scoring and snapping, or by sawing, working from the face side. A SNAPPER SHEAR® tool specifically designed for FIBEROCK Brand Panels may also be used.
2. When using the score-and-snap method, score the panel twice and snap the panel away from the cut face. The backside of the panel is then broken by snapping the panel in the reverse direction.
3. FIBEROCK Brand VHI Panels should be scored and snapped working from the mesh side.
4. If a power-operated saw is used, a low-RPM, 3-1/2" (89 mm) carbide-blade, portable saw is recommended.
5. Where necessary to obtain neatly fitting joints, a rasp or surform should be used to smooth cut edges.
6. Holes for pipes, fixtures, and other small openings can be cut out with a saw or a drywall router equipped with a 1/4" carbide bit. When using a router, panels should be held away from the wall to avoid damage to utility boxes.

Basic Single-Layer System

1. Position all ends and edges of panels over framing members, except when joints are at right angles to framing members, as in perpendicular application.
2. Apply panels first to the ceiling, then to the walls. Install panels vertically whenever possible. For horizontal panel application, panels must be gapped 1/16" of an inch. End joints should be loosely fit. Install panels a minimum of 3/8" above the floor. To minimize end joints, use panels of maximum practical lengths. Offset panel end joints a minimum of 16" on all surfaces. Offset both vertical and horizontal joints on opposite sides of walls a minimum of 16".
3. Space fasteners not less than 3/8" 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.
4. For non-fire-rated applications, refer to the table below for fastener spacing. For UL fire-rated partition designs, refer to the specific UL design for proper fastener spacing.

| | | | Maximum Fastener Spacing | |
|-------|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Walls | Thickness | Framing Spacing* | Nails | Screws |
| | 1/2" | 16" o.c. | 8" o.c. | 16" o.c. |
| | | 24" o.c. | 8" o.c. | 12" o.c. |
| | 5/8" | 16" o.c. | 8" o.c. | 16" o.c. |
| | | 24" o.c. | 8" o.c. | 12" o.c. |

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

| | | | Maximum Fastener Spacing | |
|----------|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Ceilings | Thickness | Framing Spacing* | Nails | Screws |
| | 1/2" | 16" o.c. | 7" o.c. | 12" o.c. |
| | | 24" o.c. | 7" o.c. | 12" o.c. |
| | 5/8" | 16" o.c. | 7" o.c. | 12" o.c. |
| | | 24" o.c. | 7" o.c. | 12" o.c. |

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

5. Install trim at all internal and external angles formed by the intersection of either panel surfaces or other surfaces. Apply metal or paper-faced corner bead to all vertical or horizontal external corners in accordance with manufacturer's directions.

Control Joint Installation

Attach control joint with staples spaced not over 6" apart in each flange. Cut end joints square and align for neat fit. Remove protective tape when joint treatment is completed. Break panel behind joint and back by double framing members (spaced 1/2" apart).



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| Fastener Application | Drywall Screws | Power-drive with an electric screw gun so screwheads are slightly below surface of panels. Do not drive screws closer than 3/8" from edges and ends of panels. |
| | Nails | Drive nails with heads slightly below panel surface. Drive nails no closer than 3/8" from edges and ends of panel. |
| Interior Joint System Application | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mix joint compound in accordance with manufacturer's recommendation. Use SHEETROCK Brand DURABOND Setting-Type Joint Compound for the embedment of the SHEETROCK Brand Joint Tape. Standard ready-mixed compounds (non-lightweight) can be used for the balance of finishing. 2. Apply joint compound in a thin uniform layer to all joints and angles to be reinforced. Immediately apply SHEETROCK Brand Joint Tape centered over joint and seated into compound. Sufficient compound must remain under the tape to provide proper bond. Follow immediately with a thin skim coat to embed tape, but not to function as a second coat. Fold and embed tape properly in all interior angles to provide a true angle. The tape or embedding coat must be hardened prior to application of second coat. Note: Do not use fiberglass tape. 3. Apply second coat of joint compound over embedding coat, filling panel taper flush with surface; cover tape and feather beyond first coat. On joints with no taper, cover the tape and feather on either side of tape. 4. Extend finish coat beyond second coat on all joints and feather to a smooth uniform finish. As required, sand lightly between coats and following the final application of compound to provide a smooth surface ready for decoration. | |
| Finishing Fasteners | Finish fasteners with at least three coats of joint compound. | |
| Finishing Paper Faced Metal Drywall Bead and Trim | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apply bead and trim using USG SHEETROCK Brand Setting-Type Joint Compound and properly feather out to plane of surface. Compound must harden prior to application of subsequent coat. 2. Apply next coat, extending slightly beyond first coat, properly feathering to the plane of the surface. When dry, sand lightly when necessary. When sanding, take care not to roughen surface. | |
| SHEETROCK Brand TUFF-HIDE Primer- Surfacers, (Optional) | Treat all joints, fasteners and accessories with the recommended SHEETROCK® Brand joint treatment system. A minimum Level 4 finish is recommended (refer to Gypsum Association publication GA-214, "Recommended Levels of Gypsum Board Finish" or ASTM C-840 equivalent for a detailed description.) Apply a uniform coat of SHEETROCK Brand TUFF-HIDE Primer-Surfacers to entire surface using approved airless spray equipment to a minimum wet film thickness (WFT) of 15 mils. On all applications, a WFT in excess of 20 mils is not recommended. Use a WFT gauge to ensure proper application and maximum performance. Refer to USG publications J1613 and J1691 for complete recommendations. | |
| Veneer Plaster (Optional) | Joints should be treated with SHEETROCK Brand Joint Tape, embedded with SHEETROCK Brand DURABOND Setting-Type Joint Compound. Provide an additional coat of DURABOND to fully conceal the paper tape. When completely dry, treat entire wall surface with USG plaster bonder according to application directions. Then apply DIAMOND® Brand Veneer Basecoat Plaster from 1/16" to 3/32" thickness using a scratch and double-back technique. This is accomplished by applying a tight, 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 or trowel the surface to leave it rough and open for finish. With basecoat set and partially dry, apply IMPERIAL® Brand Finish Plaster or DIAMOND® Brand Finishing 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 System Folder SA920 for complete plaster recommendations. | |
| Ceramic Tile Applications | FIBEROCK Brand VHI Abuse-Resistant Interior Panels are acceptable for use as a ceramic tile backer in dry areas only. Refer to the TCA Handbook designs W221, W222, W223, W242 and W243 for specific system and finishing requirements. | |

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SAFETY FIRST!

Follow good safety practices. Read material safety data sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

