



American Gypsum  
3811 Turtle Creek Blvd, Suite 1200  
Dallas, TX 75219  
214-530-5500

Technical Information:  
1-800-545-6302 ext. 5607  
[www.americangypsum.com](http://www.americangypsum.com)

# 1/2" Interior Ceiling Board

## DESCRIPTION

1/2" Interior Ceiling Board is specifically formulated to meet the need for a lower weight ceiling panel with increased integrity in its gypsum core, making its sag resistance equivalent to 5/8" type X wallboard. For interior ceilings where framing is spaced up to 24" o/c, Interior Ceiling Board is the ideal choice, especially when water-based textures are to be used. The wallboard panels consist of a fire-resistant gypsum core encased in 100% recycled natural-finish paper on the face side and sturdy liner paper on the back side. The face paper is folded around the long edges to reinforce and protect the core, with the ends being square-cut and finished smooth. Long edges of the panels are tapered, allowing joints to be reinforced and concealed with a joint compound system.

Gypsum wallboard manufactured by American Gypsum contains no asbestos.

## BASIC USES

5/8" wallboard panels were once considered the best product for ceiling applications where the framing is spaced up to 24" o/c. However, product weight has always been a hindrance to proficient construction. The lighter weight 1/2" Interior Ceiling Board is specifically designed for interior ceilings in standard residential and commercial applications where framing members are spaced up to 24" o/c and a water-based texture will be used.

## LIMITATIONS

1/2" Interior Ceiling Board is intended for interior applications only, do not use in exterior soffits or exterior ceiling applications.

Avoid exposure to temperatures exceeding 125°F (52°C), e.g., located adjacent to wood burning stoves and or heating appliances.

Avoid exposure to excessive or continuous moisture before, during and after installation, e.g., swimming pools, saunas or steam rooms. Eliminate any sources of moisture immediately.

Gypsum panels are a nonstructural product and should not be used as a nailing base.

Maximum span between ceiling framing members is 24" o/c

When 1/2" Interior Ceiling Board panels are used as a base for water-based texture finish, the weight of overlaid insulation shall not exceed 2.2 psf. Insulation blankets or batts should be recessed, with flanges attached or friction fitted to the sides of the studs or joists.

If blown-in cellulose insulation is used, take care to follow insulation manufacturer's specifications on addition of water, as additional moisture in this insulation can cause excessive gypsum wallboard to sag.

When a vapor retarder is installed on ceilings behind these ceiling panels, the ceiling insulation (batts or blankets) shall be installed before or immediately after the ceiling panels are installed. Where loose fill insulation is to be used above the ceiling, it shall be installed immediately after the ceiling panels are installed.

## STORAGE AND 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-238-03), which can be found at [www.americangypsum.com](http://www.americangypsum.com) under "Technical Data" - 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** - The building temperature shall be maintained at not less than 50°F (10°C) for adhesive application of gypsum board, during joint treatment, texturing, and decoration. When a temporary heat source is used the temperature shall not be more than 95°F (35°C) in any given room or area. Adequate and continuous ventilation shall be provided in the working area during the installation and the drying or curing period.

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

**Decoration** - The design professional, contractor and or owner shall review Gypsum Association's bulletin GA-214, "Recommended Levels of Gypsum Board Finish", in order to specify the proper level of drywall finishing needed to assure the desired results. (GA-214 can be found at [www.americangypsum.com](http://www.americangypsum.com) under "Technical Data" - click on Gypsum Association Literature)

For best painting results, all surfaces, including joint compound, should be clean, dust-free and not glossy. To equalize the porosities between the face paper and joint compound and improve fastener and joint concealment, the surface shall be primed and sealed with a full-bodied drywall primer before texturing or final decoration. The selection of the proper paint to give the specified or desired finished characteristics is the responsibility of the design professional, contractor and or owner.

Gypsum board that is to have a wall covering applied to it should be prepared and primed as described for painting.

**APPLICABLE STANDARDS**

<b>Manufacturing</b>	ASTM C 1396 section 12 (C 1395) Federal Specification SS-L-30D Type III
<b>Installation</b>	ASTM C 840 Gypsum Association GA-216 Gypsum Association GA-214
<b>Surface Burning Characteristics</b>	ASTM E 84 Flame Spread            15 Smoke Developed        0

**PRODUCT DATA**

**Sizes**

Thickness	Widths	Lengths	Edge Type
1/2" (12.7mm)	4' (1219mm)	8' - 12' (2438mm - 3658mm)	Tapered Edge

Special lengths may be available on special order. Consult your American Gypsum sales representative for details.

**Thermal Resistance "R" Value**    1/2" = 0.45

<b>SUBMITTAL APPROVALS</b>	<b>Job Name:</b>	
	<b>Contractor:</b>	<b>Date:</b>