



ThermalStar® X-Grade® is Not Your Average Beadboard

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Today's expanded polystyrene products seem to be widely misunderstood. Many often think of soft and crumbly "beadboard," however, manufacturing techniques and technology advances have vastly improved the overall quality of expanded polystyrene (EPS) products that are used for construction applications.

While what's commonly referred to as beadboard technically is EPS, the similarities between beadboard and construction grade EPS end there. The following table will outline the differences between beadboard and ThermalStar X-Grade, manufactured by Atlas EPS.

Property	Beadboard	ThermalStar X-Grade
Strength	10 psi	Available as 15, 25, 40 or 60 psi
R-Value	Typically sold as R3, R4, R6 or R8	Available up to R25 or more
Recycle Content	Typically 30-50% by volume	All virgin material – 0% recycle content
Surface Appearance	Often rough, with the large void spaces, wire marks and inconsistent appearance from recycle content	Smooth surface, with consistent bead appearance and minimal void spaces
Enhancements Available	N/A	Wax matrix for enhanced moisture resistance and termite resistance
Water Absorption	Very loosely fused product with high water absorption	Excellent water resistance

Unlike commodity beadboard that is available through big box retailers, ThermalStar X-Grade will provide a stable, long term R-value, superior moisture resistance and durability for various construction applications. It is distributed through professional construction suppliers and not available as a commodity.

This bulletin is current as of the date above.

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