

HOW TO FINISH THE JOINT BETWEEN HARDIEBACKER® 500 CEMENT BOARD & DRYWALL

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When installing cement backer board, the transition point with the drywall needs to be flush and smooth so that the tile or other wall covering is installed correctly.

Joint Treatment:

If covered by tile (outside of wet area)- Pack joint with setting material used for tile installation, embed 2" alkali resistant fiberglass mesh tape and smooth over with trowel. Once setting material is set, set tile as required by the tile manufactures guidelines and area building codes.

If not covered by tile (outside of wet area) - Pack joint with drywall joint compound, embed paper drywall tape and finish joint as required by manufacturer requirements and area building codes.

Options and Notes:

- Installing additional studs (sistering) is not required but makes installation easier and provides for a better transition to non-cement board wall products. This can be done prior to installing an extra drywall strip to close the space (if needed).
- Shims can be used so that the front surface of the backer board is even with the front surface of the drywall. HardieBacker 500 cement board is 0.42 inches thick, slightly less than true 1/2 inch thickness.
- When using drywall compound over cement board, it is recommended, but not required, to use a faster setting-type joint compound (45 or 90 min), than typical joint compound. Make sure to follow manufacturer guidelines for the products used to finish the non-tiled area.

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