USG Interior Panel & Finishing Solutions

USG SHEETROCK® BRAND INSTALLATION AND FINISHING GUIDE

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USG

IT'S YOUR WORLD. BUILD IT.™

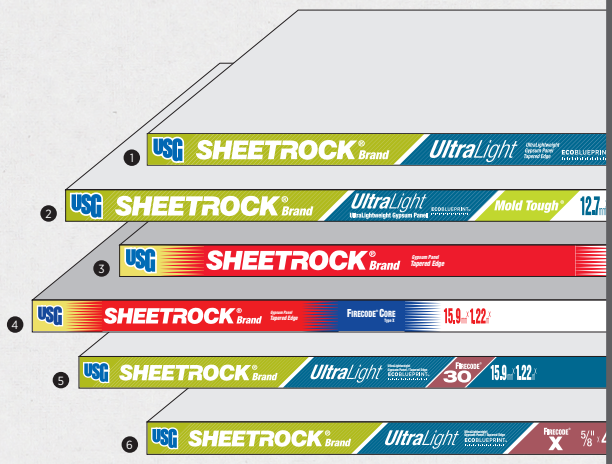
Achieving a smooth interior finish with USG Sheetrock® Brand Gypsum Panels is easy with proper planning from the start.

To get your project moving in the right direction, determine the materials and your application method, measure surfaces, estimate quantities and obtain the necessary tools to ensure a job well done.

PLANNING THE JOB

Selecting Materials

1. USG Sheetrock® Brand UltraLight Panels are innovative lightweight gypsum wallboard panels for use on walls and ceilings. Their high strength-to-weight ratio and superior sag resistance eliminate the need for traditional 1/2" sag-resistant ceiling panels.
2. USG Sheetrock® Brand UltraLight Panels Mold Tough® are the lightest moisture- and mold-resistant panels available. The panel's core is noncombustible, moisture-resistant and encased in 100% recycled moisture– and mold-resistant face and back papers.
3. USG Sheetrock® Brand Gypsum Panels have long edges tapered on the face side to form a shallow recess to receive joint compound and tape. Made in four thicknesses: 5/8", 1/2", 3/8" and 1/4". (The 1/4" thick panel should not be applied as a single layer but only to cover existing wall and ceiling surfaces.)
4. USG Sheetrock® Brand Firecode® X Gypsum Panels combine all the advantages of regular panels with additional resistance to fire exposure. Consult local building codes for fire-resistance requirements.
5. USG Sheetrock® Brand UltraLight Panels Firecode 30® are ideal for interior applications where 5/8" Type X panels are not required.
6. USG Sheetrock® Brand UltraLight Panels Firecode® X is available in one of two UL Type Designations (Type ULX and Type ULIX), depending on the market. Both panels have been formulated to achieve all of the strength and performance characteristics as standard 5/8" USG Sheetrock® Brand Firecode® X Gypsum Panels at a significantly reduced weight.



PLANNING THE JOB

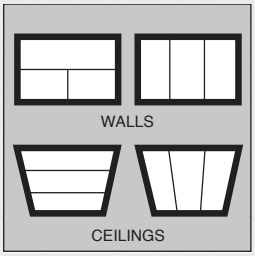
Application Products

Type W Bugle Head Screws attach single-layer gypsum panels to wood framing. Screws provide greater holding power than wallboard nails, minimize popping and help prevent damage to the panels.

1. USG Sheetrock® Brand Dur-A-Bead® Corner Bead is a galvanized steel reinforcement for protecting external corners.
2. USG Sheetrock® Brand No. 200-B Metal Trim is an L-shaped casing that provides protection and a neat finished appearance around window and door openings. Available for 1/2" and 5/8" gypsum panels.
3. USG Sheetrock® Brand Paper-Faced Metal Bead and Trim provides superior resistance to edge cracking and nail pops. Available in numerous styles and sizes, including 90° and bullnose profiles.

Horizontal or Vertical Application

Panels may be applied horizontally (long dimension across studs or joists) or vertically (long dimension parallel to studs or joists). Horizontal application using 12' panel lengths is ideal for walls because linear footage of joints is minimized. If possible, span the entire wall or ceiling from corner to corner. To minimize joints, use the longest length panels available and offset all end joints in adjacent rows.



Finishing Products

4. USG Sheetrock® Brand Paper Joint Tape is a high-strength paper tape that is lightly precreased for inside corner application and designed specifically for use with USG Sheetrock® Brand joint compounds to provide optimum performance.
5. USG Sheetrock® Brand All Purpose Joint Compound is used for embedding tape, finishing coats and filling coats over metal corner bead, trim and fasteners.
6. USG Sheetrock® Brand Plus 3® Lightweight All Purpose Joint Compound offers all the benefits of USG Sheetrock® Brand All Purpose Joint Compound with these exclusive advantages: up to 25% less weight than conventional-weight ready-mixed compounds, less shrinkage and easier sanding. Requires only two coats over metal corner bead and trim.
7. USG Sheetrock® Brand Easy Sand™ Lightweight Setting-Type Joint Compound (available in 5, 20, 45, 90 or 210 minute working times) is an easy-mixing, smooth-applying, quick-hardening, easy-sanding joint compound with low shrinkage and superior bonding. Ideal for patching projects.
8. USG Sheetrock® Brand UltraLightweight All Purpose Joint Compound is up to 40% lighter than conventional-weight compounds and provides overall high performance, as well as superior working qualities and good open time. It offers excellent bond over bead, trim and fastener concealments.

Decorating Products

9. USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer is a flat latex paint specially formulated to provide an excellent first (prime) coat over gypsum panels. It also equalizes surface porosity and texture differences, and minimizes decorating problems. It is not intended as a finish coat.

   USG Sheetrock® Brand Wall and Ceiling Texture Paint applies easily and provides custom designs and patterns for interior surfaces. Note that this product is available in select markets. Check with your local USG sales representative for availability.

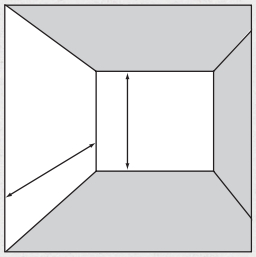
PLANNING THE JOB

Tools Needed

- Fasteners
  - Wallboard nails (per ASTM C514) for 1/4″, 3/8″ and 1/2″ thick panels: 1-3/8″ nails
  - 1-1/4″ Type W bugle head screws; screw gun or electric drill with special bit
- Panel adhesive (per ASTM C557 for wood framing). Adhesives for attaching gypsum panel products to steel framing members shall be as specified by the adhesive manufacturer.
- Caulk gun
- 4′ straightedge or wallboard T-square
- Utility knife and extra blades
- Metal tape measure
- Marking pencil
- Portable work light, extension cord
- Drop cloths
- Keyhole saw or jab saw
- Tin snips
- 5″, 8″ and 10″ wide joint-finishing knives
- Wallboard hammer
- Sanding block or piece of 2″ x 4″
- Mud pan
- Mud mixer
- 150- or 220-grit sandpaper or sanding sponge
- Dust mask
- Safety gloves for cut protection
- Safety glasses
- Sponge (small-celled polyurethane)
- Stepladder
- Panel lifter
- Scaffolding
- Pole or power sander with dust collection

Measuring and Estimating Quantities

To find out how many panels you will need, measure the length and height then multiply to determine square footage for each wall. Subtract the square footage of all large openings such as doorways and picture windows; don't bother with small openings such as electrical boxes and pipe fittings. Do the same for the ceiling. Total the figures and use the table on page seven to calculate the number of panels needed.



Read all instructions before installing gypsum panels so you know what you have to do and how much time you will need.

Gypsum Panel Coverage Calculator

No. of Panels	Size of Panels (sq. ft.)		
	4′x8′	4′x10′	4′x12′
10	320	400	480
11	352	440	528
12	384	480	576
13	416	520	624
14	448	560	672
15	480	600	720
16	512	640	768
17	544	680	816
18	576	720	864
19	608	760	912
20	640	800	960
21	672	840	1008
22	704	880	1056
23	736	920	1104
24	768	960	1152
25	800	1000	1200
26	832	1040	1248
27	864	1080	1296
28	896	1120	1440
29	928	1160	1392
30	960	1200	1440
31	992	1240	1488

Use the following table to determine the maximum frame spacing for direct application of gypsum panels to wood framing.

Frame Spacing for Single-Layer Application

Board Thickness	Location	Application Method (1)	Max. Frame Spacing o.c. in.
3/8″	ceiling (2, 3)	perpendicular (3)	16
—	sidewall	parallel or perpendicular	16
1/2″	ceiling (4)	parallel (3)	16
—	—	perpendicular	24 (5)
—	sidewall	parallel or perpendicular	24
5/8″	ceiling (4)	parallel (3)	16
—	—	perpendicular	24
—	sidewall	parallel or perpendicular	24

For USG Sheetrock® Brand UltraLight Panels

Board Thickness	Location	Application Method (1)	Max. Frame Spacing o.c. in.
1/2″	ceilings	parallel or perpendicular	24

(1) Long edge position relative to framing.
(2) Not recommended below unheated spaces.
(3) Not recommended if water-based texturing material is to be applied.
(4) USG Sheetrock® Brand Mold Tough® Panels are not recommended for ceiling where framing is greater than 12″ o.c. for single-layer resilient application where tile is to be applied.
(5) Max. spacing 16″ o.c. if water-based texturing material to be applied.

PLANNING THE JOB

To estimate the quantity of fasteners, compound and tape you will need, use the table below.

Fastener/Compound/Tape Calculator

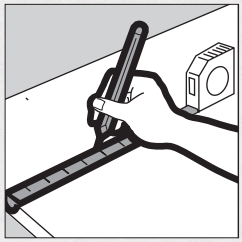
With this amount of USG Sheetrock® Brand Gypsum Panels	Use this amount of wallboard nails (1)	Or this amount of Type W Screws (2)	Use this amount of USG Sheetrock® Brand Joint Tape
sq. ft.	lb.	lb.	ft.
100	0.6	0.3	37
200	1.1	0.6	74
300	1.6	0.9	111
400	2.1	1.2	148
500	2.7	1.4	185
600	3.2	1.6	222
700	3.7	1.9	259
800	4.2	2.2	296
900	4.8	2.4	333
1000	5.3	2.7	370

With this amount of USG Sheetrock® Brand Gypsum Panels	Use this amount of USG Sheetrock® Brand All Purpose Joint Compound (3)	Use this amount of USG Sheetrock® Brand Plus 3® Lightweight All Purpose Joint Compound (3)	Use this amount of USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer (4)
sq. ft.	gal.	gal.	gal.
100	1.0	0.9	0.25
200	2.0	1.8	0.50
300	3.0	2.7	0.75
400	4.0	3.6	1.00
500	5.0	4.5	1.25
600	6.0	5.4	1.50
700	7.0	6.3	1.75
800	8.0	7.2	2.00
900	9.0	8.1	2.25
1000	10.0	9.0	2.50

(1) Spaced 7″ on ceiling; 8″ on wall. Reduce by 50% for adhesive/nail-on application.
(2) Spaced 12″ on ceiling; 16″ on wall.
(3) Coverage figures shown here approximate the amount of joint compound needed to treat the flat joints, inside corners and outside corners using metal corner bead, in a typical room. Coverage can vary widely depending on factors such as condition of substrate, tools used, application methods and other job factors.
(4) Calculations assume 400 sq. ft./gal.

1 MARKING

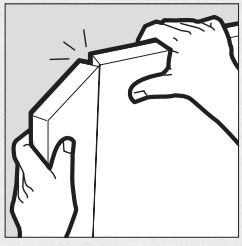
Place panel with light-colored face paper side up. Measure and mark panel size desired.



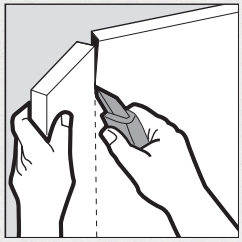
2 CUTTING

Line up straightedge or T-square with the marks and hold firmly against the panel. Draw pencil line as guide for scoring. Score through paper and lightly into the core. Wear a glove on your holding hand to protect you from cutting your hand.

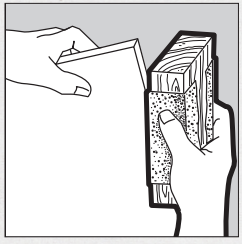
To break the panel core, securely grasp the board edges on both sides of the score line and snap board with a quick, firm movement.



Use utility knife with sharp blade for scoring. Complete cutting by running knife through back paper for the length of the panel and snapping back to face.

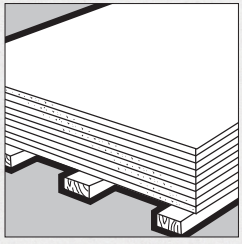


After cutting the panel, smooth the cut edge with a drywall rasp or sandpaper wrapped around a block of wood such as a piece of 2″ x 4″ lumber. Be sure to keep edge as square as possible. Always wear a dust mask when sanding.



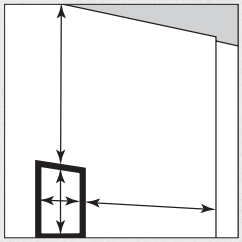
TIP

Gypsum panels are heavy and may bend or snap under their own weight. Be sure panels are properly supported prior to scoring.

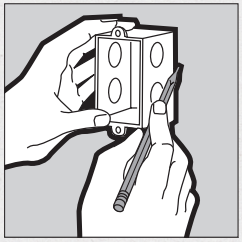


3 CUTOUTS

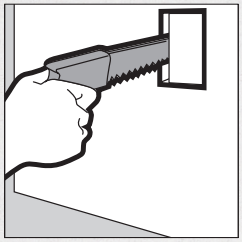
For openings such as an electrical outlet or switch box, measure across from the point where the side edge of the panel will rest to the near and far sides of the installed box. Then measure from the point where the top or the bottom edge of the panel will fall to the top and bottom of the box.



Trace the outline of the electrical box at the appropriate position on the gypsum panel.

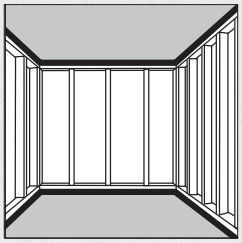


Cut with keyhole saw, jab saw or rotozip. Wear a dust mask if excessive dust is produced and the area cannot be ventilated.



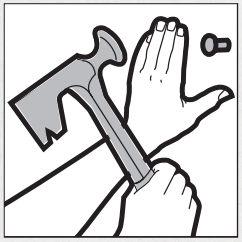
4 FRAMING

Prior to panel attachment, inspect the kiln-dried studs to ensure that the face of the the kiln-dried studs is straight and aligned. Warped or crooked framing should be repaired or replaced.

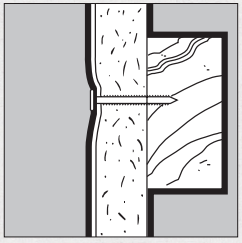


5 NAIL ATTACHMENT

Panel must be held tight to framing. Nail center of panel first, perimeter last. Space nails maximum of 7″ apart on ceilings, 8″ on walls and at least 3/8″ from ends and edges of panels.

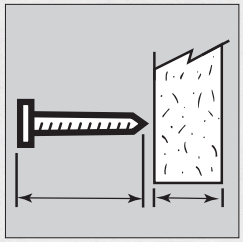


Seat nail so head is in a shallow dimple formed by last blow of drywall hammer.

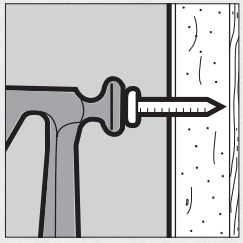


TIPS

For 1/4″, 3/8″ and 1/2″ thick panels, use 1-1/4″ wallboard nails. For 5/8″ panels, use 1-3/8″ wallboard nails.



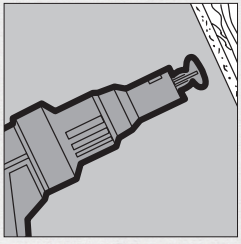
Drive nails in straight, not at an angle. Do not overdrive or countersink nails. This results in breaking the face paper or fracturing the gypsum core. If a nail happens to go in crooked, hold the panel tight against the framing and drive a second nail in about 2″ from the nail that punctured the paper. Then drive the first nail in below the surface of the board.



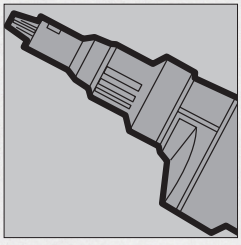
Double-nailing reduces the likelihood of nail pops. It is highly recommended for ceilings. Drive first nails 12″ o.c. along framing in the field of the board and second nails about 2″ from the first. Fasten the perimeter 7″ o.c. for ceilings and 8″ o.c. for walls.

6 SCREW ATTACHMENT

Space screws a maximum of 12″ apart on ceilings, 16″ on walls and at least 3/8″ from ends and edges of panels. Sink screws to just below the panel surface, leaving the paper intact.



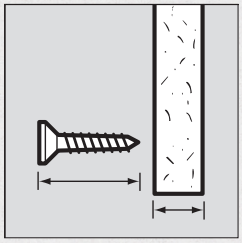
Use an electric screwgun equipped with an adjustable screw depth control head and Phillips bit. If an electric drill is used, be careful not to overdrive screws.



ATTACHING THE PANELS

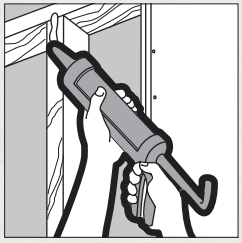
TIP

On 3/8", 1/2" and 5/8" thick panels, use 1-1/4" Type W Bugle Head Screws for superior holding power and high resistance to popping due to wood shrinkage.



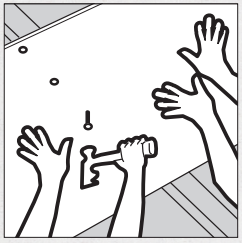
7 ADHESIVE ATTACHMENT

Select the proper adhesive for specific job requirements. Make sure that framing is clean, sound and free from oil, dirt or contamination. Apply adhesive and nails per instructions on adhesive cartridge. Do not use only adhesive to secure panels. Use either nails or screws. Make sure adhesive is fully cured before finishing to avoid screw pops.



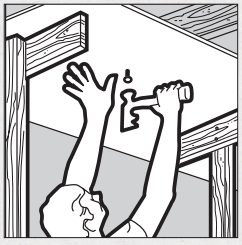
8 CEILINGS

Apply ceilings first. Because panels are difficult to maneuver over one's head, it's best to have a helper or two. Fasten panels to all joists and perimeter framing. Space nails maximum 7" apart along framing, screws 12" apart, starting in the center of the panel and working toward the perimeter. Double-nailing is recommended to reduce nail pops.



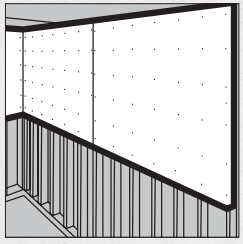
TIP

Make T-braces consisting of 1" x 4" nailed to 2" x 4" uprights that are 1/2" longer than floor-to-ceiling height. Wedge T-braces between floor and panel to support panel while driving fasteners to ensure firm contact with joists. The preferred method is to use a panel lifter tool (available at many building material rental outlets). See the table Frame Spacing for Single-Layer Application on page seven for application on ceilings.

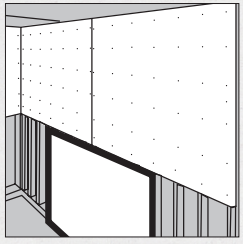


9 WALLS

Apply panels horizontally or vertically to framing. If applied horizontally, install top row first. Position first panel tight against the installed ceiling panel and fasten to studs. Space nails maximum 8" apart along framing, screws 16" apart, starting in the center of the panel and working toward the perimeter. Cut panels accurately so they do not have to be forced into place. Continue around the room.



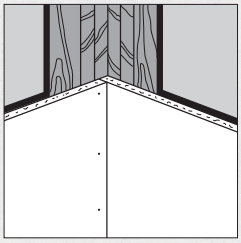
Apply lower row of panels so tapered edges meet with those of top row. Vertical joints should be staggered. Avoid vertical joints directly above or below a window, door or other opening for best decorating results.



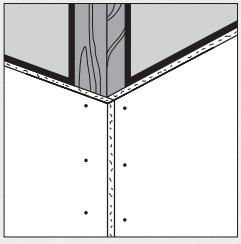
TIPS

Use a panel lifter tool to help install bottom panels. A filler strip may be needed to bring the wall to ceiling height. Put the filler strip at the bottom of the wall, cut edge down. The bottom joint usually is hidden by the baseboard.

To join panels at an inside corner, butt the second panel against the first and fasten the end of the second to a stud.



To join panels at an outside corner, lap the end of the second board over the end of the first. Make sure panels abut neatly—do not overlap or extend the end of the second board beyond the first. Fasten both panel ends to their common stud.

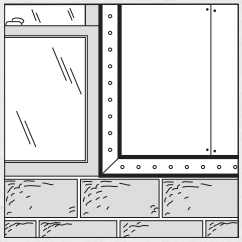


FINISHING THE PANELS

10 CORNERS

Method 1 — USG Sheetrock® Brand Dur-A-Bead® Corner Bead Reinforcement

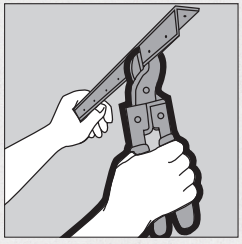
Using USG Sheetrock® Brand Dur-A-Bead® Corner Bead reinforcement, apply it to all exterior corners of walls, soffits and window returns. Hold bead firmly against corner and nail bead through small holes every 9″ on each flange. Make sure that nails penetrate framing members. Drive all nails below nose of corner bead and tightly into flange so joint compound will cover smoothly and evenly. Be careful not to dent the metal. Screw attachment is not recommended.



Install USG Metal Trim where gypsum panels butt windows or concrete block. Nail trim every 9″ through small holes in flange. Make sure that nails penetrate framing members.

TIPS

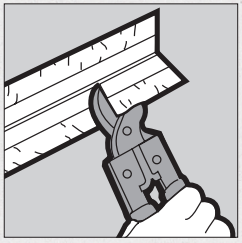
The easiest way to trim a corner bead to the correct length is to cut through the flanges with tin snips one flange at a time, bend and snap. Wear gloves to protect you from cutting your hands.



Force bead onto corner being careful that the flanges don't spread beyond 90° angle, making it hard to cover them with joint compound.

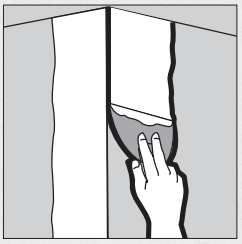
Method 2 — USG Sheetrock® Brand Paper-Faced Metal Corner Bead and Trim

Measure length of corner and cut trim to length with metal snips. For vertical wall installations, cut the corner trim 1/2″ (12.7 mm) shorter than the wall height.



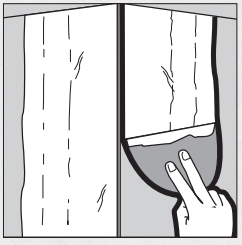
Using a 4″ taping knife, apply USG Sheetrock® Brand Joint Compound (All Purpose, Plus 3® Lightweight All Purpose or UltraLightweight All Purpose) or USG Sheetrock® Brand Setting-Type Joint Compound (Durabond® or Easy Sand™) to drywall slightly beyond where the edge of the trim will be. Helpful Hint: For this step, application of the compound often works best if the compound is thinned slightly with water. Add water in small increments (for 1 gallon of compound, add water in 2 oz. increments) and mix with compound.

Be careful not to overthin compound. (For outside corners, extend compound approximately 2″ or 50 mm from the corner on each side; for inside corners, extend 1-1/2″ or 38 mm from the other corner on each side.)

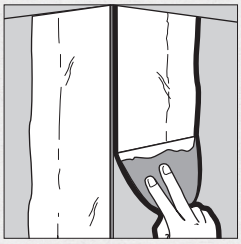


Place trim on wall and press into position. Corner bead should be aligned tight to ceiling. Embed trim by running the knife over it with even pressure at a 45° angle.

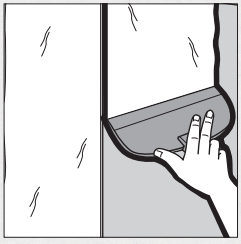
Use the knife (or a damp sponge) to remove excess compound, eliminating any air bubbles under the paper. Allow to dry.



Using a 6″ taping knife for outside corners (4″ for inside corners), apply another coat of joint compound (USG Sheetrock® Brand Easy Sand™, Topping, All Purpose, or Lightweight All Purpose). Keep this coat as smooth as possible. Feather out 5″ to 6″ (125 to 150 mm) from the nose of the trim on each side for outside corners (1″ or 25 mm past previous coat for inside corners). Let dry. Sand sides lightly where needed.



Use an 8″ or larger finishing knife for outside corners (4″-6″ knife for inside corners) to apply a finishing coat of the same ready-mixed or setting-type compound. Feather compound 8″ (200 mm) from nose of trim for outside corners (1″ [25 mm] past previous coat for inside corners). Let dry. Sand and prime.

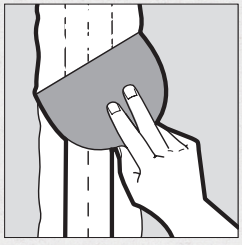


FINISHING THE PANELS

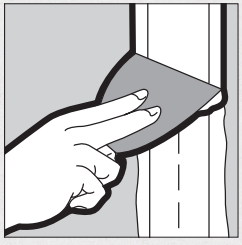
11 FIRST COAT, BUTT AND TAPERED JOINTS

For best results, joint compound should be thinned slightly with water for easier application. Add water in small increments (for 1 gal. of compound, add water in 2 oz. increments.) Start with butt joints. Apply an even coat of thinned joint compound for the length of the joint with a 5″ finishing knife.

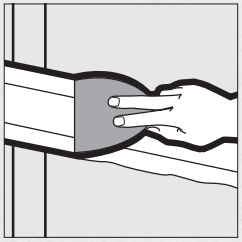
Center and lightly press tape into wet joint compound with fingers. Draw 5″ knife firmly along joint to tightly embed tape. Be sure there is sufficient joint compound under tape to prevent blistering of the tape.



While embedding the tape, remove excess joint compound from edge and apply as a thin coat over the tape.

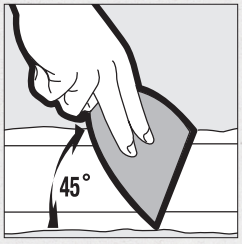


To reinforce tapered joints, follow same procedure. Tape should overlap tape applied to butt joints.

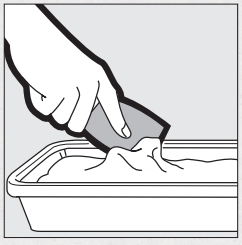


TIPS

For best results, apply medium pressure and hold knife at a 45° angle to panel.

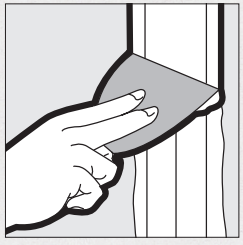


To apply joint compound neatly, dip the knife sideways into the pan so you load only half the width of the blade.



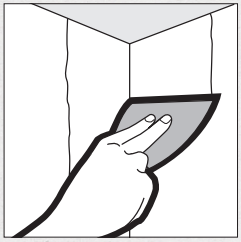
Keep the blade clean, especially of dried bits of compound, to avoid leaving scratches in the wet joint compound as you draw the knife over it. Discard any compound containing dried bits of material. Clean blade by drawing it over edge of pan.

While embedding tape, draw the knife slowly along the length of the tape to provide an even distribution of joint compound. Don't worry about a few grooves or streaks in the joint compound. They will be covered over in the subsequent coats.

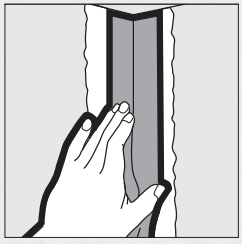


12 FIRST COAT, INSIDE CORNERS

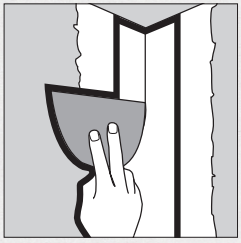
Use a 5″ joint finishing knife to apply thin layer of joint compound on both sides of corner. Extend compound slightly beyond area to be covered by tape.



Fold tape along center crease and lightly press into position with your fingers.



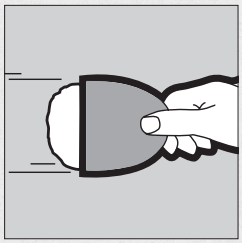
Tightly embed tape as with other joints.



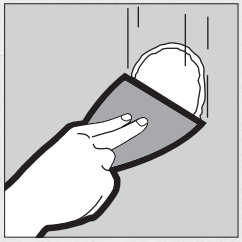
FINISHING THE PANELS

13 FIRST COAT, FASTENERS

For each fastener depression, apply joint compound with 5″ knife. Holding the blade almost flush with the panel, draw the joint compound across a fastener head and the dimple surrounding it.

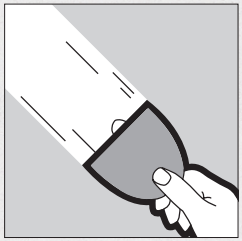


Then raise the knife blade to a more upright position and scrape off excess with a second stroke at a right angle to the first stroke. Compound should be level with panel surface.



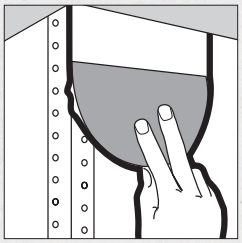
TIP

To determine if fasteners are properly seated prior to finishing, draw clean knife over each fastener. If metallic ring occurs, drive fastener below surface, being careful not to break paper.



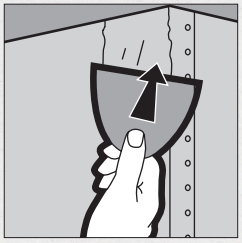
14 FIRST COAT, OUTSIDE CORNERS AND METAL TRIM

Apply joint compound with 8″ knife onto one flange of the corner bead. Work down the entire length of the bead. Hold knife at 45° angle and smooth compound—one edge of knife riding the metal, the other on the surface of the panel. Compound should extend onto panel a minimum of 4″. Repeat application for other flange. Use same application method for metal trim.



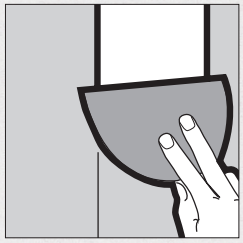
TIP

After filling first flange, the metal corner edge may have some lumps of joint compound. To remove, run 8″ blade up the bead while also moving it to the side. In this way, the compound is continuously moved aside as it is scraped off.

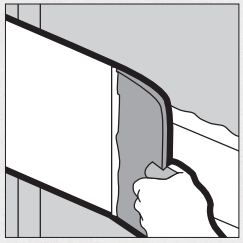


15 SECOND COAT, FLAT JOINTS AND FASTENERS

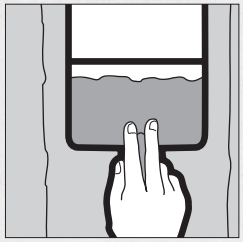
Allow first coat to dry overnight (drying time may vary, depending on temperature, humidity and jobsite conditions). Scrape off bumps, ridges and other imperfections with knife. Be careful not to damage surface.



Apply joint compound to tapered joints using an 8″ knife the length of the joint.

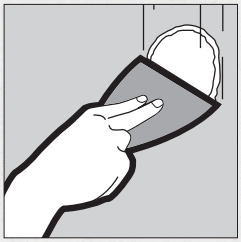


Apply pressure to knife edge farthest from the joint and lift the other edge just slightly above surface. Draw knife down joint. Repeat for opposite edge. This technique is called feathering. Joint compound should extend beyond first coat for a total width of 7″ or 8″.



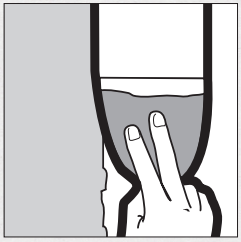
Apply a 7″-8″ coat of joint compound to each side of butt joints and feather. Compound should extend beyond first coat for a total width of 14″.

Apply a second coat to fasteners in same manner as first coat, leaving a very light mound of compound over fastener.



16 SECOND COAT, INSIDE CORNERS

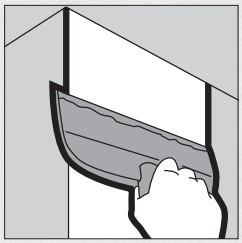
Allow first coat to dry overnight (drying time may vary, depending on temperature, humidity and jobsite conditions). Apply joint compound on one side using a 5″ knife for the length of the corner. Scrape off any compound that laps onto the second side. Feather out beyond first coat and allow to dry. After first side is dry, apply compound on other side and feather.



FINISHING THE PANELS

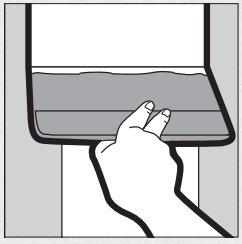
17 SECOND COAT, OUTSIDE CORNERS AND METAL TRIM

Allow first coat to dry overnight (drying time may vary, depending on temperature, humidity and jobsite conditions). Apply second coat with 8″ knife, feathering slightly beyond first coat.



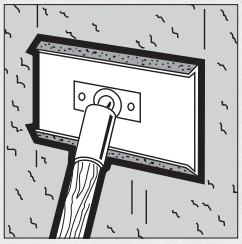
18 THIRD COAT, FLAT JOINTS AND FASTENERS

Allow second coat to dry overnight (drying time may vary, depending on temperature, humidity and jobsite conditions). If necessary, remove imperfections with knife or sandpaper. Apply a thin finishing coat with a 10″ knife to the flat joints and a 5″ knife to the fastener heads. Press knife firmly so joint compound fills depressions but does not significantly add to thickness. Feather edges at least 2″ beyond second coat.

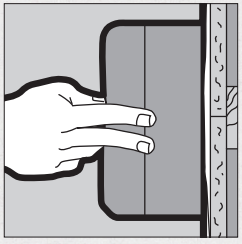


TIPS

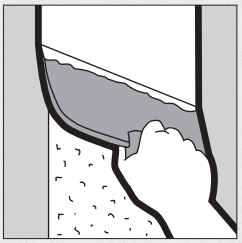
Do not sand unless it is necessary. If you do sand, use fine-grit sandpaper and be careful not to scuff the gypsum panel paper to minimize surface touch-up requirements. Use dust collection with HEPA filter with power sanding. Wear a dust mask if excessive dust is produced and the area cannot be ventilated.



Before applying the final coat, check to see if tapered joints are level with surface. Hold the 10″ blade across the joint, straight out from the wall. If the blade can be rocked across the joint, the joint is crowned. It must be hidden by feathering the final coat out as far as possible.

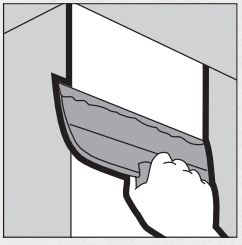


When applying earlier coats, minor depressions and grooves were not a problem. However, do not leave any during the application of this final coat or they will mar the finished surface.



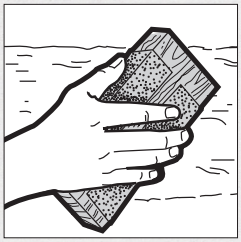
19 THIRD COAT, OUTSIDE CORNERS AND METAL TRIM

Allow second coat to dry overnight (drying time may vary, depending on temperature, humidity and jobsite conditions). Sand lightly if necessary. Apply third coat with 10″ knife, feathering slightly beyond second coat. A third coat is typically not required if USG Sheetrock® Brand Plus 3® Lightweight All Purpose Joint Compound is used.



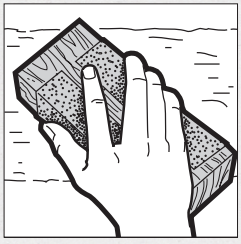
20 SANDING

Allow third coat to dry overnight (drying time may vary, depending on temperature, humidity and jobsite conditions). Lightly sand imperfections in finished joints, corners and over fastener heads. Carefully remove sanding dust with damp sponge. Use a dust collection with a HEPA filter with power sanding. Wear a dust mask if excessive dust is produced and the area cannot be ventilated.



TIP

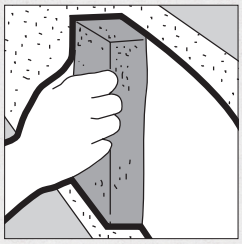
Use a fine-grit sandpaper wrapped around a block of wood so you don't dig into the joint compound. Avoid roughening the surface paper when sanding. If you do roughen it by accident, repair the damage by applying a little joint compound with a 5″ knife.



FINISHING THE PANELS

Wet Sanding

When only minimal sanding is needed, try wet sanding with a sponge. It eliminates dust and does not scuff the surface paper. Use a small-celled polyurethane sponge similar in appearance to carpet padding. Saturate sponge and wring to prevent dripping. Rub joints to remove high spots, using as few strokes as possible. Clean the sponge frequently during use. Wear a dust mask if excessive dust is produced and the area cannot be ventilated.



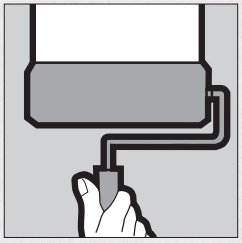
21 STORAGE AND CLEANUP

Before storing unused joint compound, clean sides and lid of container so no dried compound falls into the mixture. Level joint compound surface with knife and cover container tightly. If storing for an extended period, cover surface of joint compound with approximately 1/2" of clean water and cover container. Do not store in direct sunlight or where freezing conditions may occur. Pour off water before reusing joint compound. Clean tools with warm, soapy water.

Decorating the Panels

22 PRIMING

Prior to painting, apply USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer or a high quality, high solids flat latex paint. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations. For best results, use a high-quality roller with 1/8" to 1/4" nap.

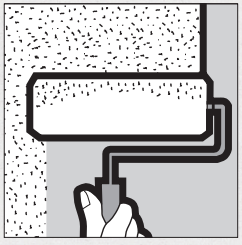


TIP

Keep the roller wet during application and do not rework the primer once it's applied. Overworking the primer may thin or remove underlying compound.

23 PAINTING AND TEXTURING

After the prime coat is dry, apply USG Sheetrock® Brand Wall and Ceiling Texture Paint or a high quality interior paint. Follow the recommendations on the container.

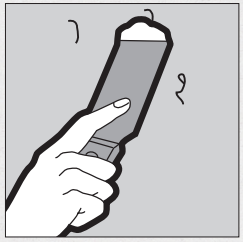


REPAIRING DAMAGED PANELS

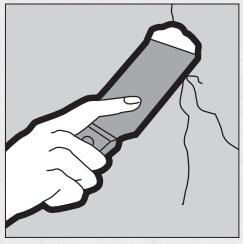
When repairing damaged panels, the ideal products to use are USG Sheetrock® Brand Easy Sand™ Lightweight Setting-Type Joint Compounds described on page five under Finishing Products.

1 PATCHING DENTS, VOIDS, HOLES, POPPED NAILS AND CRACKS

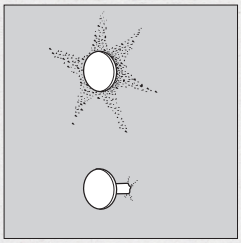
a. To repair a dent, sand and then fill with joint compound. Let harden. Add second coat if necessary. Sand and prime when dry.



b. To repair a small hole or crack, trim any loose pieces from the damaged area and wipe it clean. Fill with joint compound, using a putty knife. Let harden. Add second coat if necessary. Sand and prime when dry.



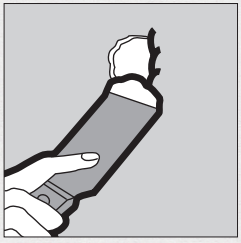
c. To repair a popped nail, drive and dimple new nail 1-1/2" from popped nail. Drive and dimple popped nail. Cover with joint compound. Sand and prime when dry.



2 PATCHING MEDIUM HOLES

a. Trim any loose pieces from the damaged area using a knife and wipe it clean.

b. Apply generous amounts of joint compound around edges and coat the perimeter of hole.



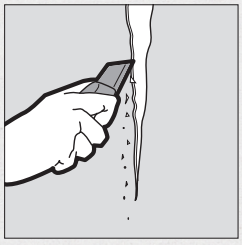
c. Crisscross two or three strips of joint tape over opening and embed tape in joint compound. Let harden.

REPAIRING DAMAGED PANELS

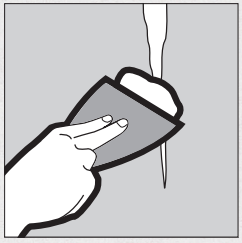
d. Apply coat of joint compound over taped area. Let harden and apply second coat. Sand and prime when dry.

3 REPAIRING LARGE CRACKS (OVER 1/8″)

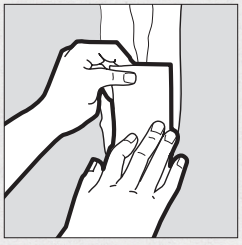
a. Trim any loose pieces from the damaged area using a knife and wipe it clean.



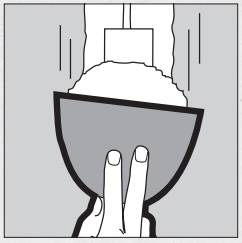
b. Apply compound to crack with 5″ finishing knife.



c. Embed tape in compound to bridge crack. Draw knife firmly over crack to tightly embed tape. Let compound harden.

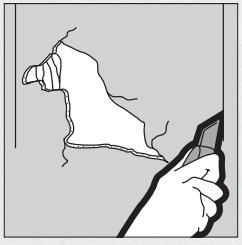


d. Apply compound over tape with knife. Let harden and apply second coat of compound if necessary. Sand and prime when dry.

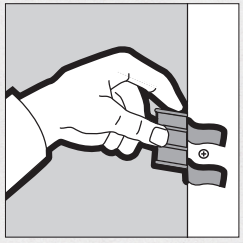


4 REPAIRING LARGE HOLES (OVER 2″) OR WATER-DAMAGED AREAS

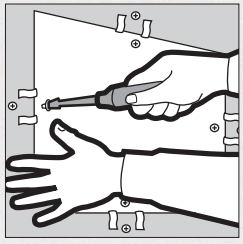
a. Cut out damaged panel section using a utility knife along the studs and a keyhole saw between the studs. Remove section with a hammer and remove old screws or nails.



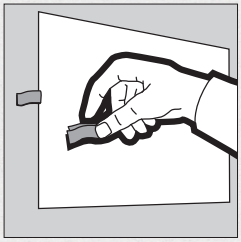
b. Slip drywall repair clips onto the edge of the damaged wall. Position screws about 3/4″ in from the edge and centered between the tabs. This will line up the screws with perforations in the clips. Screw through wall into each drywall repair clip.



c. Measure and cut new drywall panel section to fit damaged area. Screw through new drywall into each drywall repair clip. Screw into drywall, positioning screw opposite screw holding clip and about 3/4″ from edge.

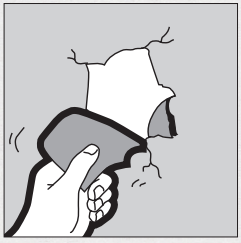


d. Remove tabs from each drywall repair clip. Apply compound and tape to all four section sides. Do not overlap tape. Apply second and third coats of joint compound, allowing each coat to harden before applying next coat and feathering out from previous coats. Sand and prime when dry.

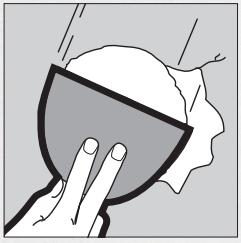


5 TORN GYPSUM PANEL FACE PAPER

a. Peel and remove loose face paper.



b. Apply a skim coat of joint compound with a joint-finishing knife to damaged area and feather to get a smooth finish. Let dry and apply second coat if necessary. Sand and prime when dry.



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