

**Manufacturer**

Georgia-Pacific Gypsum                      Georgia-Pacific Canada  
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Atlanta, GA 30303                      Mississauga, ON L5N 5S3  
Technical Service Hotline: 1-800-225-6119

**Description**

**ToughRock® Veneer Plaster Base** for veneer plaster has a noncombustible (per ASTM E136), dimensionally stable, inert gypsum core. The front face and long edges are a blue colored, highly absorbent, special paper. The surfacings on both faces and the long edges are 100% recycled paper. The back paper is gray. The special face paper is designed for the application of gypsum veneer plasters meeting ASTM C587. The ends are square cut, smooth finished with no paper facing. Tradesmen often refer to ToughRock Veneer Plaster Base as “Blue Board” because of the facing color.

**Production Specification**

ToughRock Veneer Plaster Base is manufactured to meet the requirements of ASTM C1396 Section 10; CSA-A82.27-M; and Federal Specification SS-L-30D, Type VI, Grade R or X, Class 1, Form A, Style 3. The product conforms to the requirements of uniform IBC/IRC building codes for its intended use.

**Limitations**

- ToughRock Veneer Plaster Base is a non-structural product and must not be used as a nailing base to support heavy wall-mounted objects.
- It is intended for interior applications only.
- It must be kept dry and cannot be used where exposure to moisture is extreme or continuous.
- Do not use ToughRock Veneer Plaster Base where there is prolonged exposure to temperatures exceeding 125°F (52°C) and/or continuous exposure to extreme humidity; e.g., adjacent to wood burning stoves, heating appliances, steam rooms, showers, gang shower rooms and swimming pools.

**Installation**

ToughRock Veneer Plaster Base shall be installed according to the Gypsum Association Publication GA-216 “Recommended Specifications for the Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board” and ASTM C840 “Standard Specification for Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board” for non-fire rated construction. However, to achieve a designated fire resistance rating, installation and details must be consistent with tested assemblies as listed in the Gypsum Association “Fire Resistance Design Manual GA-600” and UL “Fire Resistance Directory.”

**Supplemental Materials**

*Fasteners:* Nails, screws or adhesive.  
*Joint System:* Tape, bedding compound.  
*Veneer Plaster.*

**Technical Data**

Flame spread rating of 15 and smoke developed 0, when tested in accordance with ASTM E84. The core is non-combustible when tested in accordance with ASTM E136.  
The 5/8” (15.9 mm) ToughRock® Fireguard® Veneer Plaster Base is UL classified, Type X.

**Application Standard**

For all non-rated assemblies, install ToughRock Veneer Plaster Base at right angles or parallel to framing using nails, screws or a combination of nails or screws with adhesive in accordance with ASTM C844, “Application of Gypsum Base to Receive Gypsum Veneer Plaster.” Reinforce joints with mesh tape and gypsum veneer plaster applied in accordance with ASTM C843, “Application of Gypsum Veneer Plaster.”  
Please refer to “Recommended Procedure for the Application and Finishing of Gypsum Panel Products (GA-216),” published by the Gypsum Association, and “Standard Specification for Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board, ASTM C840” for application procedures.

ToughRock Veneer Plaster Base can be cut to the necessary size by scoring the face paper with a sharp knife then snapping away the cut face. Then, cut or break the back paper by snapping the board in the opposite direction. Smooth all cut edges and ends by rasping or other suitable methods to form tight-fitting joints when installed.

**Handling Precautions**

Stack ToughRock Veneer Plaster Base flat on a level surface. As individual sheets are removed for installation, they should be raised up on edge carefully and carried in a vertical position. (Appropriate handling is outlined in Gypsum Association publications GA-216 and GA-801.) Avoid impact, undue flexing and damage to board edges, ends and corners. Avoid scuffing the face to be finished.

**Handling and Use—Caution**

This product may contain fiberglass which may cause skin irritation. Dust and fibers produced during the handling and installation of the product may cause skin, eye and respiratory tract irritation. Avoid breathing dust and minimize contact with skin and eyes. Wear long sleeve shirts, long pants and eye protection. Always maintain adequate ventilation. Use a dust mask or NIOSH/MSHA approved respirator as appropriate in dusty or poorly ventilated areas.

**Material Safety Data Sheet**

Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is available upon request or online at [www.buildgp.com/safetyinfo](http://www.buildgp.com/safetyinfo).

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**Submittal Approvals**

Job Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Physical Properties

Properties	ToughRock® Veneer Plaster Base	ToughRock® FireGuard X™ Veneer Plaster Base
Thickness, nominal inches	1/2" (12.7 mm) ± 1/64" (0.4 mm)	5/8" (15.9 mm) ± 1/64" (0.4 mm)
Width, nominal	4' (1220 mm) ± 3/32" (2.4 mm)	4' (1220 mm) ± 3/32" (2.4 mm)
Length, Standard	8' (2440 mm) to 12' (3658 mm) ± 1/4" (6.4 mm)	8' (2440 mm) to 12' (3658 mm) ± 1/4" (6.4 mm)
Weight <sup>1</sup> , lbs./sq. ft., nominal (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	1.7 (7.8)	2.1 (9.5)
Edges	Tapered	Tapered
Flexural strength <sup>3</sup> , minimum		
Parallel, lbf. (N)	≥36 (160)	≥46 (205)
Perpendicular, lbf. (N)	≥107 (476)	≥147 (654)
R Value <sup>2</sup> , °F•ft <sup>2</sup> •hr/BTU (m <sup>2</sup> •K/W)	0.45 (0.08)	0.56 (0.10)
Nail Pull Resistance <sup>3</sup> , Minimum, lbf. (N)	≥77 (343)	≥87 (387)
Hardness, lbf. (N) (core, edge and end)	≥15 (67)	≥15 (67)
Humidified Deflection	10/8" (32 mm)	5/8" (16 mm)
Packaging	Two pieces per bundle, face-to-face and end taped	Two pieces per bundle, face-to-face and end taped
Surface Burning Characteristics <sup>4</sup> (per ASTM E84)		
Flame Spread	15	15
Smoke Developed	0	0
(The core is noncombustible when tested in accordance with ASTM E136.)		

<sup>1</sup> Represents approximate weight for design and shipping purposes. Actual weight may vary depending on manufacturing location and other factors.

<sup>2</sup> Per Gypsum Association document GA-235.

<sup>3</sup> Specified minimum values are as defined in ASTM C1396.

<sup>4</sup> Products qualify for NFPA Class A or IBC Class 1.



U.S.A. Georgia-Pacific Gypsum LLC  
 Georgia-Pacific Gypsum II LLC  
 Canada Georgia-Pacific Canada LP

#### SALES INFORMATION AND ORDER PLACEMENT

U.S.A. West: **1-800-824-7503**  
 Midwest: **1-800-876-4746**  
 South Central: **1-800-231-6060**  
 Southeast: **1-800-327-2344**  
 Northeast: **1-800-947-4497**

CANADA Canada Toll Free: **1-800-387-6823**  
 Quebec Toll Free: **1-800-361-0486**

#### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

U.S.A. and Canada: **1-800-225-6119**, [www.gpgypsum.com](http://www.gpgypsum.com)

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**UPDATES AND CURRENT INFORMATION** The information in this document may change without notice. Visit our website at [www.gpgypsum.com](http://www.gpgypsum.com) for updates and current information.

**CAUTION** For product fire, safety and use information, go to [www.buildgp.com/safetyinfo](http://www.buildgp.com/safetyinfo) or call **1-800-225-6119**.

**FIRE SAFETY CAUTION** Passing a fire test in a controlled laboratory setting and/or certifying or labeling a product as having a one-hour, two-hour, or any other fire resistance or protection rating and, therefore, as acceptable for use in certain fire rated assemblies/systems, does not mean that either a particular assembly/system incorporating the product, or any given piece of the product itself, will necessarily provide one-hour fire resistance, two-hour fire resistance, or any other specified fire resistance or protection in an actual fire. In the event of an actual fire, you should immediately take any and all actions necessary for your safety and the safety of others without regard for any fire rating of any product or assembly/system.