GoBoard®

Johns Manville
A Berkshire Hathaway Company

Durable, Lightweight, Waterproof Tile Backer Board

GoBoard® is the lightweight, waterproof tile backer board from Johns Manville. It's engineered for durability, yet is up to 80% lighter than cement boards. GoBoard is easy to handle and can be cut right where it's installed with a basic utility knife without crumbling or disintegrating. And, best of all, it has waterproofing already built-in.

Fast installation*
Complete tile projects in half the time or less with no mess.

Ultra-lightweight
Up to 80% lighter than cement boards, yet engineered for durability.

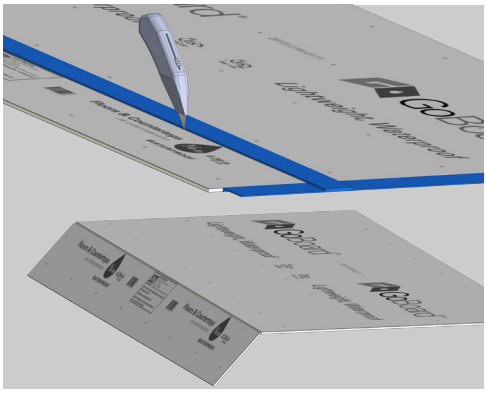
Easy to cut, handle & install
Simply cut with a utility knife and attach with GoBoard® Fasteners or GoBoard® Washers.

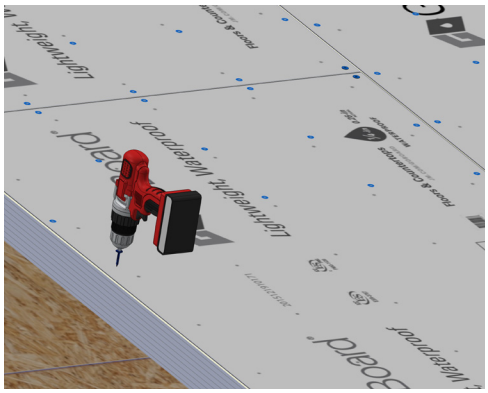
Waterproof built-in**
Seal only the board joints and fastener locations for a waterproof tile assembly per GoBoard® installation instructions.

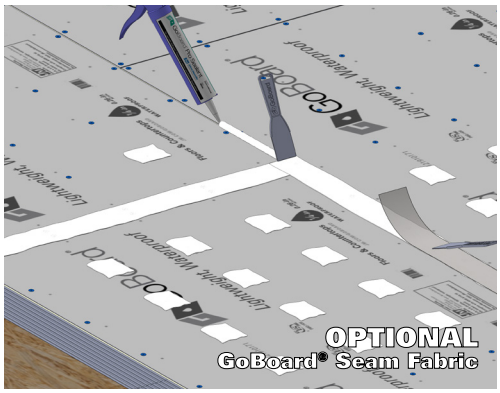
Available in six thicknesses for walls, ceilings, showers, tub surrounds, benches, shelves, vanities, floors and countertops.

*A typical shower project, waterproof installation, following manufacturer's installation instructions.
**Only board joints and fastener locations require a waterproof sealant per GoBoard installation instructions.

GoBoard® Installation Instructions for Floors, Countertops and Other Horizontal Surfaces







WOOD FLOORS

Framing:

- All framing shall comply with local building code requirements.
- Support framing must be designed for a maximum allowable assembly deflection of L/360 (L/720 for stone) under all intended live loads.

Control Joints:

- Consult TCNA Handbook installation Method EJ171.
- Location, width and details of control joints should follow sound architectural practices.
- Architect, builder or design professional must specify location of all control joints.

Subfloor:

- Joist spacing should not exceed 24" on-center.
- Exterior grade 5/8" plywood or ¾" OSB should be securely glued and fastened to joists.

Installation:

- Measure, cut through outer facing with a utility knife and quickly apply downward pressure to snap. As an alternative, completely cut through GoBoard® using several strokes of a utility knife or a power tool. *See Safety and Handling section for proper PPE and precautions.*
- Stagger all board joints, ensuring that they do not line up with subfloor joints, and leave an 1/8" gap between all corners, edges and changes of plane.
- Apply mortar, as specified in the Approved Materials section, to the subfloor, combing it into a ribbed setting bed with a ¼" square notched trowel.
- Laminate pre-cut GoBoard® to subfloor by firmly pressing into mortar, ensuring that it is fully embedded.
- Fasten with GoBoard® Fasteners flush to surface of board at a maximum spacing of 8" and within ½" - 1" of perimeter edges. For alternative fasteners specified in the Approved Materials section, maximum spacing is 6".
- Completely fill all joints with GoBoard® Pro Sealant or GoBoard® Sealant and spread sealant at least 1" on either side of joint using a putty knife. Cutting a 1/8" to ¼" hole in the sealant nozzle will help force sealant into joint. Immediately apply optional GoBoard® Seam Fabric over sealant using a clean putty knife and gentle sweeping motion. Do not soak through fabric with sealant. Finally, seal all fasteners with minimum 2" patch of sealant.

CONCRETE FLOORS

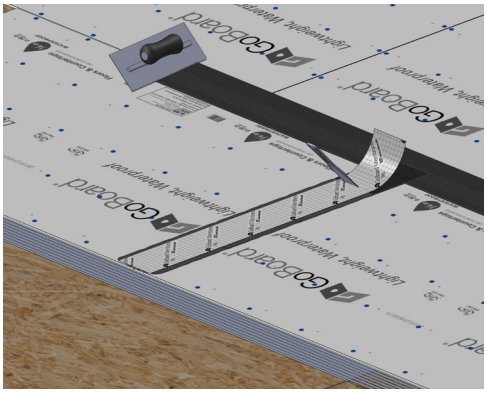
- Ensure that concrete floor is clean and fully cured and pre-fill surface imperfections with mortar, as specified in the Approved Materials section.
- Follow wood floor installation instructions, however, skip the fastening step and ensure that GoBoard® is fully embedded in the mortar.

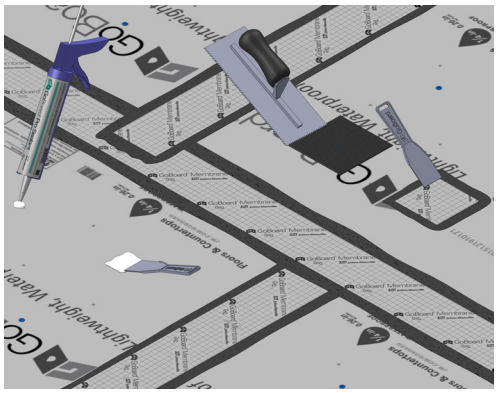
COUNTERTOPS

- Securely fasten ¾" exterior grade plywood to cabinet ensuring maximum surface variation is no more than 1/8" in 10' from the required plane.
- Follow instructions for wood floors in previous section.

EXTERIOR FLOORS, DECKS, AND BALCONIES

- Exterior surface being tiled must be sloped ¼" per foot away from any structures and relatively flat to ensure proper drainage.
- Consult TCNA Handbook installation methods F101 thru F105 depending on type of exterior tile installation. GoBoard® can be used as the waterproof tile underlayment meeting ANSI A118.10 requirements.
- Consult TCNA Handbook installation method EJ171 for control and expansion joints.
- Follow measuring and cutting instructions outlined in previous sections.
- Follow GoBoard® installation instructions for wood and concrete subfloors outlined in previous sections.
- When installing tile, include soft joints every 8 feet following EJ171.

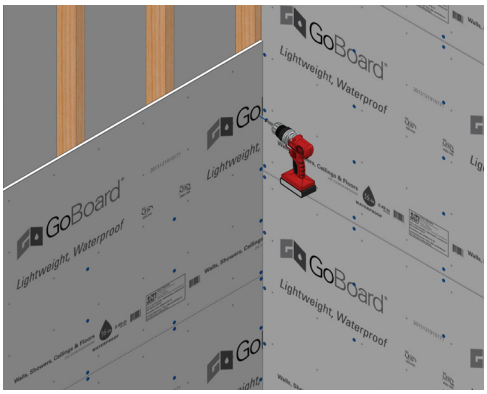


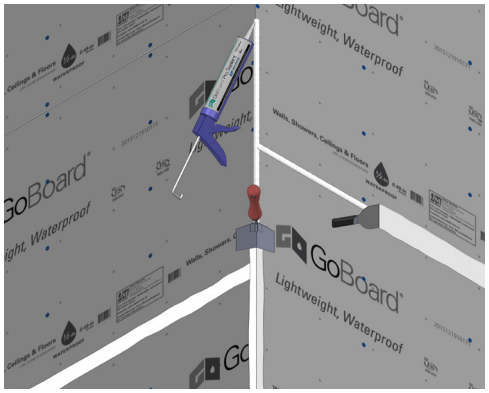


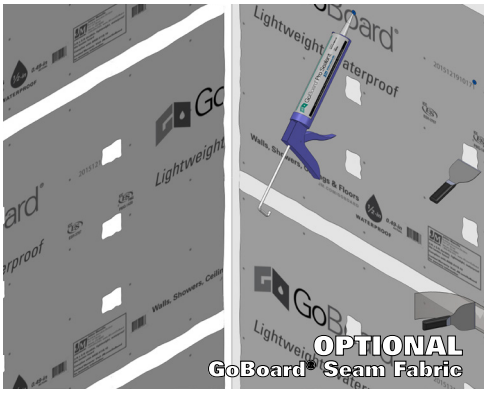
GOBOARD® BANDING

- Install GoBoard® following instructions in previous sections.
- Measure and cut GoBoard® Banding with scissors or a utility knife.
- Comb mortar, as specified in Approved Materials section, beyond extents of banding using a 3/16" x 5/32" v-notch trowel.
- Embed GoBoard® Banding into mortar ensuring proper placement.
- Using putty knife (knives) with blunt edge, ensure banding is fully adhered. If unsure, peel banding away from GoBoard® joint to reveal coverage and then reapply adding more mortar as needed.
- Overlap GoBoard® Banding at least 2".
- Remove excess mortar underneath GoBoard® Banding and beyond banding edges.
- To minimize buildup, especially within overlap joints, squeeze out excess mortar with putty knife (knives).
- For penetrations, cut GoBoard® Banding in 3" squares or larger and adhere with mortar following previous instructions.
- Alternatively, seal fastener penetrations with GoBoard® Pro Sealant or GoBoard® Sealant following instructions in previous sections.
- GoBoard® Pro Sealant or GoBoard® Sealant can be used in place of mortar.

GoBoard® Installation Instructions for Walls, Showers and Ceilings







WALLS

Framing Requirements:

- All framing should comply with local building code requirements.
- Framing members shall be spaced a maximum of 16" on-center and minimum 2"x 4" nominal (wood) or No. 20 gauge (metal).
- Studs shall be furred out flush with receptors and GoBoard® vertical edges should be continuously supported.
- As an alternative to furring strips, GoBoard® can be wet-shimmed by applying thin-set mortar directly to studs.

Installation:

- Measure, cut through outer facing with a utility knife and quickly apply downward pressure to snap. As an alternative, completely cut through GoBoard® using several strokes of a utility knife or a power tool. *See Safety and Handling section for proper PPE and precautions.*
- Install GoBoard® leaving 1/8" gaps between all board edges, corners and changes of plane. GoBoard® Spacers, tile spacers or paint sticks can be used to help maintain proper gapping between boards while installing fasteners. Fasten GoBoard® to studs with GoBoard® Fasteners flush to the surface of the board at a maximum spacing of 8" and within ½" of supported edges. For alternative fasteners specified in the Approved Materials section, the maximum spacing is 6".
- As an alternative to traditional fasteners, fasten GoBoard® to the studs with GoBoard® Washers at a maximum spacing of 12" following the detailed instructions at www.jm.com/goboard.
- For waterproof applications requiring ANSI A118.10, seal all joints and fastener penetrations with GoBoard® Pro Sealant, GoBoard® Sealant or a sealant specified in the Approved Materials section.
- Once all boards are installed with required 1/8" gaps, seal joints by liberally Seal joints by liberally applying a continuous bead of sealant making sure to completely fill 1/8"gaps. Cutting a 1/8" to ¼" hole in the sealant nozzle will help force sealant into joint. Spread excess sealant with a putty knife at least 1" beyond either side of joint keeping in mind the slightest pin hole may result in a leak, so careful attention is required when sealing joints. Depending on climate, sealant can begin to skin over in as little as 15 minutes.
- Optionally, joints can be reinforced with GoBoard® Seam Fabric following detailed instructions at www.jm.com/goboard.
- Once all board joints are sealed, seal fastener penetrations by applying a large bead of sealant over each fastener and then spread sealant with a putty knife making sure each fastener is completely covered with sealant.

CEILINGS

Framing Requirements:

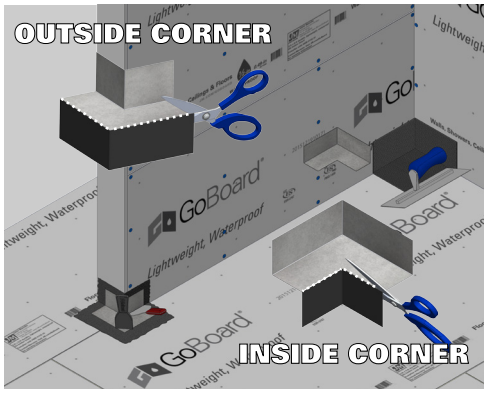
- All framing should comply with local building code requirements and must be capable of supporting total system dead load with deflection not to exceed L/360 of the span.
- Framing members shall be spaced a maximum of 16" on-center and GoBoard® edges should be continuously supported.

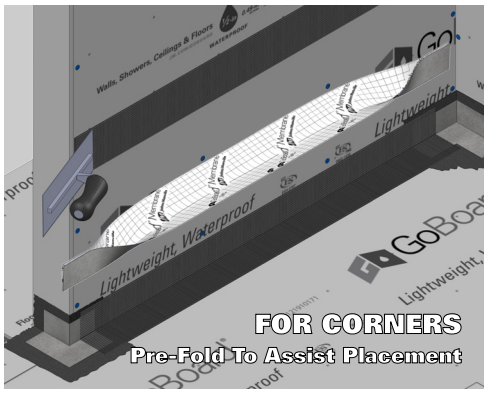
Installation:

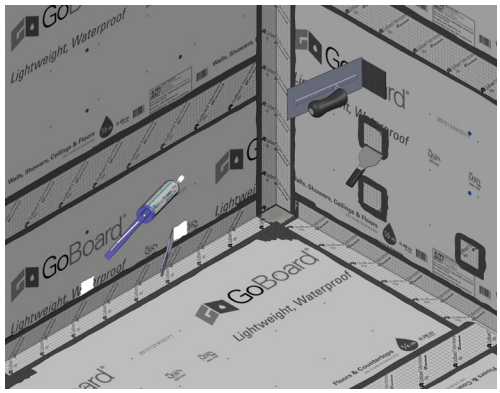
- Starting on one edge of the ceiling, measure the first GoBoard® to orient in the same length-wise direction as the wall installation and then proceed with cutting methods as previously discussed.
- Install fasteners, seal joints, change of plane joints and fastener penetrations following wall instructions.

STEAM SHOWERS

- **Residential Steam Showers:** Follow GoBoard® instructions in previous sections and then install GoBoard Membrane following instructions at www.jm.com/goboard. Alternatively, install a manufacturer approved vapor barrier directly to the wall studs an ceiling framing behind GoBoard®, per manufacturer's instructions or a liquid waterproofing membrane specified in the Approved Materials section.





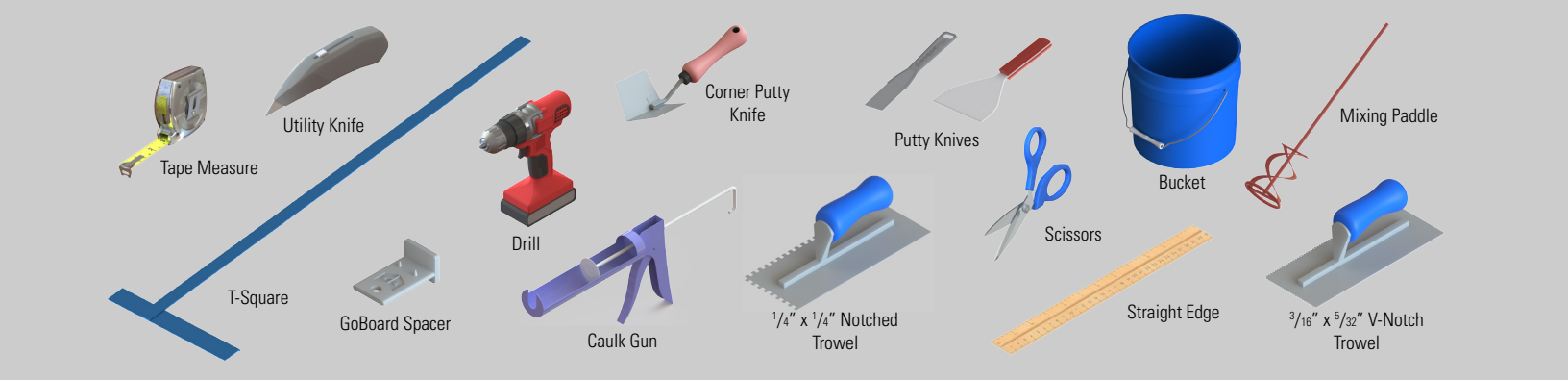


GOBOARD® CORNER AND BANDING

- Install GoBoard® following instructions in previous sections.
- With scissors, cut GoBoard® Corner as shown to produce both inside and outside corner accessories as needed.
- Comb mortar, as specified in Approved Materials section, beyond extents of inside and outside corners using a 3/16" x 5/32" v-notch trowel.
- Embed GoBoard® Corner into mortar ensuring proper placement.
- Using 2 putty knives with blunt edges, hold corner with one putty knife while removing excess mortar with other putty knife ensuring full coverage.
- For larger curbs and half walls, GoBoard® Corner can be overlapped keeping in mind they must overlap by at least 2" and excess mortar removed.
- Install GoBoard® Banding on horizontal joints following floor instructions.
- For inside and outside corners, pre-fold GoBoard® Banding on each end as shown or full length to ease placement into combed mortar.
- As with GoBoard® Corner force banding into inside corners using putty knife. While holding banding with one putty knife, fully embed into mortar and squeeze out excess mortar. This is especially important for overlap joints.
- Seal fastener penetrations following floor instructions.
- Installing corners before banding is recommended, but not required.

GoBoard® Approved Materials, Safety, Technical & Other Information

Recommended Tools



THICK BOARD GUIDE, 1", 1.5" and 2"

- Cut with circular saw, table saw or other power tools capable of cutting straight and square. Cutting with utility knife is possible, but requires cutting from both sides.
- GoBoard® edges can be machined, but removing large amounts of material from one side of board may result in curling.
- GoBoard® Pro Sealant, GoBoard® Sealant and mortar will adhere directly to foam edges or exposed foam.
- When constructing tub surrounds, benches and other tileable features, adhere pieces together with GoBoard® Pro Sealant or GoBoard® Sealant. Long wood screws can be used to secure feature while sealant cures. For waterproof applications, seal all penetrations.
- As with thinner GoBoard® products, the foam core is waterproof. Thus, no additional waterproofing is required when installing tile direct to exposed foam.

APPROVED MATERIALS

- **Fastening: Wood –** GoBoard® Fasteners (1¼" and 1⅝" long), GoBoard® Washers, backer board screws (1¼ and 1⅝" long), galvanized roofing nails (minimum 1½" long) or 16 gauge galvanized staples (minimum 1" x 1").
  Steel Framing – GoBoard® Fasteners (1¼" and 1⅝" long), GoBoard® Washers, or backer board screws (1¼" and 1⅝" long).
- **Bonding:** Dry set mortar compliant with ANSI A118.1 standard or Polymer modified thin-set mortar compliant with or ANSI A118.4 standard.
- **Joint Sealing:** GoBoard® Pro Sealant, GoBoard® Sealant, approved alternative sealants (see www.jm.com/goboard) or GoBoard® Banding plus accessories.
- **Liquid Waterproofing Membrane:** Approved product list is available in the approved alternative sealants document (see www.jm.com/goboard).
- **Grout:** Cement grout compliant with ANSI A118.6 standard, high performance cement grout compliant with ANSI A118.7 standard or epoxy grout compliant with ANSI A118.8 standard.
- **Tools:** Utility knife, scissors, pencil or pen for marking, straight edge, T-square, measuring tape, flat putty knives with blunt edges, corner putty knife, appropriate screw fastening device, ¼" square notched trowel, 3/16"x5/32" v-notch trowel, caulk gun and paint roller (for liquid sealant).

TECHNICAL DATA

Property	Method	GoBoard® (¼")	GoBoard® (½")	GoBoard® (⅝")	GoBoard® (1", 1½", 2")
Dimensions (feet)	ASTM C473	3'x5', 4'x8'	3'x5', 4'x64" 4'x8'	4'x8'	4'x8'
Thickness (inches)	ASTM C473	0.26	0.49	0.61	1.0, 1.5, 2.0
Board Weight (lbs/ft²)		0.40	0.50	0.58	0.62, 0.81, 1.0
R-Value (°F · ft² · h/BTU)	ASTM C518	1.2	2.3	2.9	5, 7.5, 10
Compressive Strength (avg. psi)	ASTM D2394	300	250	250	125
Moisture Movement (%)	ASTM D1037	<0.07	<0.07	<0.07	<0.07
Surface Burning Characteristics[1]	ASTM E84	Class A	Class A	Class A	Class B
Waterproof	ASTM D4068	Pass[2]	Pass[2]	Pass[2]	Pass[2]
WVT Permeance (perms)	ASTM E96	<1	<1	<1	<1
Resistance to Fungi / Bacteria	ASTM G21/G22	No Growth	No Growth	No Growth	No Growth
Freeze Thaw	ASTM C666	>25	>25	>25	>25
Robinson Floor Test	ASTM C627	Light Commercial	Light Commercial	—	—

[1]Per International Building Code Requirements
[2]ANSI A118.10 certified

LIMITATIONS

- GoBoard® must not be used as a structural load bearing member. Follow all local and national building codes.
- In flooring applications, GoBoard® is for Residential and Light Commercial use only.
- Fully embed GoBoard® into mortar, as specified in the Approved Materials section, prior to fastening for floor applications. For concrete floors, fasteners are not required.
- Where waterproof installations are required, ensure all joints and fastener penetrations are sealed with GoBoard® Pro Sealant, GoBoard® Sealant or a sealant specified in the Approved Materials section. All joints must have at least a ⅛" gap that is completely filled with sealant that extends at least 1" beyond either side of joints.
- As an alternative to sealant for waterproof installations, GoBoard® Corner and GoBoard® Banding can be used following instructions in previous sections.
- Treating joints with mortar, as specified in Approved Materials section, and 2" mesh tape is acceptable for installations not requiring waterproofing.
- For steam shower applications, an additional vapor barrier, such as GoBoard® Membrane, must be applied.
- For floor installations, tiles installed onto GoBoard® must be a minimum of 6" in size (individual tile dimensions).

SAFETY & HANDLING

- **Safety:** Please wear gloves, safety glasses and long sleeve shirts and pants and follow good safety practices when installing GoBoard®. Temporary mechanical abrasion (itching) of skin, eyes and respiratory tract may occur upon exposure to fibers or dust during handling. GoBoard® does not contain cement.
- **Storage and Handling:** GoBoard should be delivered to distributors in unopened packages and stored flat and in an enclosed shelter.

- GoBoard is waterproof.
- GoBoard core is not made from polystyrene and will not melt and flow.

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LIMITED WARRANTY
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