



1/4" BACKERBOARD COMPARISON CHART

	HardieBacker® <small>with MoldBlock® Technology</small>	Durock® Board and Durock® Next Gen	WonderBoard®	PermaBase®	DensShield® Board	Fiberock® Aqua-Tough™ Underlayment
PRODUCT COMPOSITION	Portland cement, ground sand	Portland cement, aggregate, glass-fiber mesh	Portland cement, aggregate, glass-fiber mesh	Portland cement, aggregate, glass-fiber mesh	Gypsum, fiberglass mat w/ acrylic coating	Engineered gypsum fiber core
Flexural strength (psi)	2100	1250	1500	1250	Not Indicated	Not Indicated
Compressive strength (psi)	7000	2300	2500	2250	1500	1250
Gypsum-free	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Free of glass fibers	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Cuts cleanly & easily	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Non-abrasive	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
"Ez Grid™" board recessed fastener pattern*	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Warranty	Lifetime limited; transferable (material and labor)	30-year limited; transferable	Lifetime limited; non-transferable	30-year limited; non-transferable	Lifetime limited; non-transferable	20-year limited; transferable
Weight (lbs./sq.ft.)	1.9	2	2	2	1.2	1.5
Warranted for use with vinyl tile applications	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Product characteristics	Best selling brand of backerboard. Lightest cement board available. Delivers more compressive and flexural strength than any other backerboard on the market. Exclusive MoldBlock® technology provides superior protection against moisture and mold. HardieBacker® EZ Grid® board offers a patented recessed fastener pattern for even easier installation; exceptional tile bond strength.	Contains abrasive aggregate that can scratch porcelain and enamel surfaces. Product must be scored on both sides and glass mesh must be cut after snapping.	Data on ASTM tests for mold growth not available. Contains abrasive aggregate that can scratch porcelain and enamel surfaces. Product must be scored on both sides and glass mesh must be cut after snapping.	Contains abrasive aggregate that can scratch porcelain and enamel surfaces. Product must be scored on both sides and glass mesh must be cut after snapping.	Manufacturer instructions state "Do not use DensShield in floor tile installation when using tile with less than 2" x 2" dimensions" (DensShield architectural specs, www.gp.com).	Product contains over 80% gypsum which can disintegrate in wet areas. According to installation instructions, panels must "acclimate to temperature and humidity at job site prior to installation" and panels must be handled "in an upright position to prevent breakage." Additional warranty information: not warranted for tile greater than 14"x14" or less than 6"x6".

*HardieBacker 1/4" board in 3' x 5' size

1/2" BACKERBOARD COMPARISON CHART

 HardieBacker® 500 <small>with MoldBlock® Technology</small>	Durock® Board and Durock® Next Gen	WonderBoard®	PermaBase®	DensShield® Board	Fiberock® Aqua-Tough™ Interior Panel & Backerboard	Greenboard	
PRODUCT COMPOSITION	Portland cement, ground sand	Portland cement, aggregate, glass-fiber mesh	Portland cement, aggregate, glass-fiber mesh	Portland cement, aggregate, glass-fiber mesh	Gypsum, fiberglass mat w/acrylic coating	Engineered gypsum fiber core	Gypsum with paper facing
Flexural strength (psi)	1700	750	900	750	Not Indicated	Not Indicated	Not Indicated
Compressive strength (psi)	6500	N.A.	2500	2250	450-600	500	Not Indicated
Recommended for shower areas by ANSI (American National Standards Institute)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Approved for use in residential steam room applications	✓	✓	✓	✓	With Limitation ¹	✗	✗
Gypsum-free	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Free of glass fibers	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Cuts cleanly & easily	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Non-abrasive	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Preprinted fastener pattern	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
Warranty	Lifetime limited; transferable (material and labor)	30-year limited; transferable	Lifetime limited; non-transferable	30-year limited; non-transferable	Lifetime limited; non-transferable	20-year limited; transferable	May vary by manufacturer; non-transferable
Weight (lbs./sq.ft.)	2.6	< 3	3	3	2	2	1.8
Product characteristics	Best selling brand of backerboard. Lightest cement board available. Offers flexibility of finish (it's the only cement board that can be painted). Delivers more compressive and flexural strength than any other backerboard on the market. Exclusive MoldBlock® technology provides superior protection against moisture and mold.	Contains aggregate; can scratch porcelain and enamel surfaces. Product must be scored on both sides and glass mesh must be cut after snapping. When not tiled over, can only be painted in small areas because board is designed to micro-crack (Durock FAQs, www.usg.com).	Contains aggregate; can scratch porcelain and enamel surfaces. Product must be scored on both sides and glass mesh must be cut after snapping. Data on ASTM tests for mold growth not available.	Contains abrasive aggregate; can scratch porcelain and enamel surfaces. Product must be scored on both sides and glass mesh must be cut after snapping.	Tile wall applications have a maximum total weight limit of 4 lbs per square foot; tiles cannot be larger than 3/8"x 14"x 14" (DensShield product guide, www.gp.com).	Fiberock is not approved by the International Building Code for use in wet areas. Product composition is almost identical to greenboard; contains over 80% gypsum, which can disintegrate in wet areas. Additional warranty information: not warranted for tile greater than 14"x14" or less than 6"x6".	The 2006 International Residential Code (IRC) disallows the use of greenboard in wet areas. Product has gypsum core that can disintegrate with continuous moisture exposure and paper facing that serves as food source for mold ANSI AN-3.5.1.1 and gypsum manufacturers caution against using greenboard in wet areas (www.gp.com, www.nationalgypsum.com, www.usg.com).

¹DensShield can only be used in residential steam room applications with a maximum shower size of 48 sq. ft.