

### Manufacturer

Georgia-Pacific Gypsum LLC  
133 Peachtree Street  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Georgia-Pacific Canada LP  
2180 Meadowvale Boulevard, Suite 200  
Mississauga, ON L5N 5S3

Technical Service Hotline: 1-800-225-6119

### Description

**DensShield® Tile Backer** is a substrate that, when properly installed, provides significant water and moisture resistance — making it excellent for protecting both tile installations and stud cavities. DensShield Tile Backer is composed of a water-resistant treated core that is covered front and back with fiberglass mats. The mats are permanently integrated with the core during manufacturing, preventing delamination problems that can occur with paper-faced greenboard. On the tile side, DensShield Tile Backer's heat-cured acrylic coating stops surface water and retards moisture transmission, protecting the wall cavity.

Unlike cementitious backer boards, DensShield Tile Backer has a built-in water barrier. DensShield Tile Backer is 12 lbs (5.4 kg) to 32 lbs (15 kg) lighter per 4' x 8' (1220 mm x 2438 mm) panel, depending on manufacturer, than cement board, which makes installation easier. DensShield Tile Backer provides excellent dimensional stability and strength so it can be installed parallel or at right angles to framing in wall and ceiling applications.

DensShield Tile Backer, with its fiberglass mat design, has been independently tested, as manufactured, in accordance with ASTM D3273 and has scored the highest achievable rating (10 out of 10) for mold resistance. DensShield Tile Backer has been shown to be excellent for tile and non-tile installations in wet and non-wet applications, in areas of high humidity, and in appropriate fire-rated wall assemblies. It is ideal for interior walls, ceilings, residential and light commercial floors and countertop applications in high moisture areas such as baths, showers, kitchens, laundries, swimming pool areas and locker rooms.

### Primary Uses

DensShield Tile Backer is the first and only tile backer listed as a GREENGUARD microbial-resistant product by a leading third-party organization, GREENGUARD Environmental Institute. This listing means DensShield Tile Backer, which features fiberglass mats instead of the paper facings used on the surface of traditional tile backers, resists mold growth. The microbial-resistant test is based on ASTM Standard D6329, a testing standard set by ASTM International, which develops testing guidelines and procedures for building material, products, systems and services.

DensShield Tile Backer provides an excellent backer for sidewalls and ceilings in bathtub and shower installations, where it provides an even, solid substrate for tile. DensShield Tile Backer may also be finished with paint or wallpaper for non-tile areas that require superior fire and moisture resistance where

its moisture barrier and water-repelling qualities are desirable. DensShield Tile Backer also adds stabilizing and fire resistant qualities to countertop installations.

1/4" (6.4 mm) and 1/2" (12.7 mm) x 4' (1220 mm) wide DensShield Tile Backer can be used as a substrate in floor tile applications for residential and light commercial use as defined in the *Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation* published by the Tile Council of North America.

### Limitations

Tiles should be applied on the grey coated side of DensShield Tile Backer.

DensShield Tile Backer should not be used in commercial saunas, steam rooms, around fireplaces or areas where prolonged exposure to heat exceeds 125° F (52° C).

DensShield Tile Backer panels should not be used as a shower pan base.

DensShield Tile Backer should not be used for exterior installations.

DensShield Tile Backer panels should not be used as a base for nailing and mechanical fastening.

DensShield Tile Backer should not be used in conjunction with passive solar heat systems.

For floors, use floor grade tile, 2" x 2" (51 mm x 51 mm) or larger.

Use framing or furring when applying over concrete or masonry block.

Adhesives alone should not be used to install DensShield Tile Backer. Nails, screws or staples may be used alone or in combination with adhesives.

Since DensShield Tile Backer has a built-in moisture barrier; never install vapor retarders directly behind DensShield Tile Backer panels. In retrofit applications, some paints or other wall coverings may constitute a vapor barrier; remove or effectively penetrate these coverings prior to installing DensShield Tile Backer panels.

DensShield Tile Backer should not be used in shower floors.

### Technical Data

DensShield Tile Backer panels are mold-resistant, and have scored a 10, the highest level of performance for mold resistance under the ASTM D3273 test method.

When tested in conformance with ASTM E96, DensShield Tile Backer panels achieved a perm rating of less than 1.5 (42.9 ng/Pa • s • m<sup>2</sup>) alone, 1.0 (28.6) with dry set mortars.

In a test by an independent testing laboratory, DensShield Tile Backer was subjected to a shower of water at 110° F (43.3° C), 12 minutes per hour, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for six months. The installation had no grout between the tiles. No deterioration occurred to either the DensShield Tile Backer board, the framing members or the wall cavity.

continued →

### Submittal Approvals

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

Contractor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

5/8" (15.9 mm) DensShield® Fireguard® Tile Backer is UL and ULC classified as Type DS and included in numerous assembly designs invested by UL and ULC for hourly fire resistance ratings, including 1-hour and 2-hour wall assemblies.

5/8" (15.9 mm) DensShield Fireguard Tile Backer is classified as "Type X" in accordance with ASTM C1178 and may replace Type X gypsum board specified in generic rated wall assemblies listed in the Gypsum Association Fire Reference Design Manual, Publication GA-600.

DensShield Tile Backer has passed the Robinson Floor Test/ASTM C627 in both 1/4" (6.4 mm) and 1/2" x 4' (12.7 mm x 1220 mm) wide thicknesses with a rating of light commercial.

**Handling and Use—CAUTION**

This product contains fiberglass facings 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 (MSDS) is available at [www.gpgypsum.com](http://www.gpgypsum.com) or call 1-404-652-5119.

**Sizes and Edges**

Thickness	Width x Length
1/4" (6.4 mm)	4' x 4' (1220 mm x 1220 mm)
1/2" (12.7 mm)	32" x 5' (813 mm x 1524 mm) 4' x 5' (1220 mm x 1524 mm) 4' x 8' (1220 mm x 2438 mm)
5/8" (15.9 mm)	4' x 8' (1220 mm x 2438 mm)

Edges: Square

Manufactured to meet ASTM C1178 Fiberglass Mat Water-Resistant Gypsum Backing Panel



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

**SALES INFORMATION AND ORDER PLACEMENT**

U.S.A. Midwest: **1-800-876-4746** West: **1-800-824-7503**  
South: **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)



**TRADEMARKS** DENSSHIELD, FIREGUARD and the GEORGIA-PACIFIC logo are trademarks owned by or licensed to Georgia-Pacific Gypsum LLC. GREENGUARD is used under license through the GREENGUARD Environmental Institute.

**WARRANTIES, REMEDIES AND TERMS OF SALE** For current warranty information for this product, please go to [www.gpgypsum.com](http://www.gpgypsum.com) and select the product for warranty information. All sales of this product by Georgia-Pacific are subject to our Terms of Sale available at [www.gpgypsum.com](http://www.gpgypsum.com).

**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.gp.com/safetyinfo](http://www.gp.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.