



# USG SHEETROCK® BRAND ULTRALIGHT PANELS MOLD TOUGH®

## Ultralightweight 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) panels with moisture and mold resistance for wall and ceiling applications

- The industry's first lightweight 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) panels with moisture and mold resistance
- Feature a noncombustible, moisture-resistant gypsum core encased in moisture- and mold-resistant, 100% recycled green face and brown back papers
- Superior score and snap for a cleaner edge and faster installation
- Comply with ASTM C1396, *Standard Specification for Gypsum Board*, for 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) water-resistant gypsum wallboard and 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) exterior gypsum soffit board
- Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) Classification as to surface-burning characteristics and noncombustibility
- Achieved GREENGUARD Gold Certification and qualifies as a low VOC emitting material (meets CA 01350)

### DESCRIPTION

USG Sheetrock® Brand UltraLight Panels Mold Tough® are lightweight 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) gypsum panels that feature proprietary core and paper technologies, resulting in a high strength-to-weight ratio composite design. The noncombustible, moisture-resistant gypsum core is encased in moisture- and mold-resistant, 100% recycled green face and brown back papers, and the face paper is folded around the long edges to reinforce and protect the core. When tested in accordance with ASTM D3273, *Standard Test Method for Resistance to Growth of Mold on the Surface of Interior Coatings in an Environmental Chamber*, the panels meet or exceed ASTM C1396 specifications. The ends of the panels are cut square and even, while the the long edges are tapered, allowing joints to be reinforced and concealed with USG Sheetrock® Brand joint treatment systems.

### INTENDED FOR

- Commercial or residential applications where 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) panels with moisture and mold resistance are desired
- New or repair and remodel construction
- Non-fire-rated wood- or steel-framed wall and ceiling applications
- Interior tile substrate in dry locations or areas with limited water exposure
- Protected exterior soffit and ceiling applications

### LIMITATIONS

1. Avoid exposure to sustained temperatures exceeding 125°F (52°C).
2. Avoid exposure to excessive, repetitive or continuous moisture before, during and after installation. Eliminate sources of moisture immediately.
3. Must be stored off the ground and under cover in accordance with Gypsum Association's GA-801, *Handling and Storage of Gypsum Panel Products*.
4. For protected exterior ceiling and soffit applications, the panels must be protected from direct exposure to weather. Refer to the *USG Gypsum Construction Handbook* for installation recommendations.
5. Not recommended for exterior soffits and ceilings which project upwards and away from the building proper.
6. Not suitable for use as a substrate for tile in wet areas such as tubs and showers, gang showers and other areas subject to direct water exposure.
7. Use as a tile substrate is limited to tile installed according to the most current TCNA and ANSI specifications. Consult with adhesive and tile manufacturers for recommendations for maximum size and weight parameters for use with gypsum board.

**INTERIOR INSTALLATION,  
FINISHING AND DECORATING**  
INSTALLATION

For maximum framing spacing in non-fire-resistance-rated applications of gypsum panel products, refer to Gypsum Association's GA-216, *Specifications for the Application and Finishing of Gypsum Panel Products* or ASTM C840, *Standard Specification for Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board*.

**Maximum Framing Spacing for Single-Layer Application**

Location	Gypsum Panel Thickness	Gypsum Panel Orientation to Framing	Maximum Framing Spacing OC
Ceilings <sup>1</sup>	1/2 in. (12.7 mm)	Parallel	16 in. (406 mm)
		Perpendicular	24 in. (610 mm)
Walls	1/2 in. (12.7 mm)	Parallel	24 in. (610 mm)
		Perpendicular	24 in. (610 mm)

**Maximum Framing Spacing for Multi-Layer Application Without Adhesive Between Layers**

Location	Gypsum Panel Thickness	Gypsum Panel Orientation to Framing	Maximum Framing Spacing OC
Ceilings <sup>1</sup>	1/2 in. (12.7 mm)	Parallel	16 in. (406 mm)
		Perpendicular	24 in. (610 mm)
Walls	1/2 in. (12.7 mm)	Parallel	24 in. (610 mm)
		Perpendicular	24 in. (610 mm)

**Note:**

- On ceilings to receive water-based texture material, 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) gypsum board shall be applied perpendicular to framing spaced 16 in. (406 mm) OC. See Appendix A.3 of Gypsum Association's GA-216, *Specifications for the Application and Finishing of Gypsum Panel Products* for more information.

**Fastener Spacing, Single-Layer Over Wood Framing**

Fastener Type	Location	Maximum Spacing
<b>Nails, 1-1/4 in. (32 mm) annular ring 5d drywall nail complying with ASTM C514, <i>Standard Specification for Nails for the Application of Gypsum Board</i></b>	Ceilings	7 in. (178 mm)
	Walls	8 in. (203 mm)
<b>Screws, 1-1/4 in. (32 mm) Type W bugle head complying with ASTM C1002, <i>Standard Specification for Steel Self-Piercing Tapping Screws for Application of Gypsum Panel Products or Metal Plaster Bases to Wood Studs or Steel Studs</i></b>	Ceilings	12 in. (305 mm)
	Walls	16 in. (406 mm)
<b>Screws (same as above)</b>	RC-1, ceilings or walls	12 in. (305 mm)
<b>Adhesive<sup>2</sup> with nails or screws (same as above)</b>	Ceilings, long edges perpendicular to framing members	16 in. (406 mm) at ends, one fastener per framing member at edges, one fastener in center of panel
	Walls, long edges perpendicular to framing members	16 in. (406 mm) at ends, one fastener per framing member at edges, one fastener in center of panel
	Walls, long edges parallel to framing members	16 in. (406 mm) along edges, one fastener per framing member at ends, one fastener in center of panel

**Note:**

- In order to minimize or eliminate the occurrence of raised protrusions or screw buttons, USG recommends the installer confirm that the adhesive has fully cured, has stopped shrinking and has stabilized prior to finishing the panel. For more information, refer to USG literature *USG Fastener-Related Drywall Installation Issues and Recommendations White Paper* (WB2757).

FINISHING AND DECORATING

For high-quality finishing results, USG recommends USG Sheetrock® Brand finishing products.

Painting products and systems should be used that comply with recommendations and requirements in Appendices of ASTM C840. For priming and decorating with paint, texture or wall covering, follow manufacturer's directions for materials used. Gypsum Association's GA-214, *Recommended Levels of Finish for Gypsum Board, Glass Mat and Fiber-Reinforced Gypsum Panels* should be referred to in order to determine the level of finishing needed to ensure a surface properly prepared to accept the final decoration.

All surfaces, including applied joint compound, must be thoroughly dry, dust-free and not glossy. Prime with USG Sheetrock® Brand First Coat™ Primer or with an undiluted, interior latex flat paint with high-solids content. Allow to dry before decorating.

**INTERIOR INSTALLATION,  
FINISHING AND DECORATING, CONT.**

FINISHING AND DECORATING

**TEST DATA**

To improve fastener concealment where gypsum panel walls and ceilings will be subjected to critical artificial or natural lighting, or will be decorated with a gloss paint (eggshell, semigloss or gloss), the gypsum panel should be skim coated with joint compound. This equalizes suction and texture differences between the drywall face paper and the finished joint compound before painting. When a Level 5 finish is required, use USG Sheetrock® Brand Tuff-Hide™ Primer-Surfacer. See *USG Sheetrock® Brand Tuff-Hide™ Primer-Surfacer Submittal Sheet (J1613)* for limitations and application instructions.

For more information, refer to USG literature *Finishing & Decorating Gypsum Panels White Paper (J2010)*.

Property		ASTM Test Method	Requirement	USG Sheetrock® Brand UltraLight Panels Mold Tough*
<b>Noncombustibility</b>		E136	Noncombustible	Meets
<b>Surface-burning characteristics</b>	Flame spread	E84	Flame Spread Index, not greater than 25 <sup>3</sup>	15
	Smoke developed	E84	—	0
	Class A	E84	Flame spread not greater than 25 and smoke developed not greater than 450	Meets
<b>Core hardness</b>	Field	C473 (B)	Not less than 11 lbf (49 N) <sup>3</sup>	Meets
	End	C473 (B)	Not less than 11 lbf (49 N) <sup>3</sup>	Meets
	Edge	C473 (B)	Not less than 11 lbf (49 N) <sup>3</sup>	Meets
<b>Flexural strength</b>	Parallel	C473 (B)	Not less than 36 lbf (160 N) <sup>3</sup>	Meets
	Perpendicular	C473 (B)	Not less than 107 lbf (476 N) <sup>3</sup>	Meets
<b>Humidified deflection</b>		C473	Not greater than 1-1/4 in. (32 mm) <sup>3</sup>	Meets
<b>Nail pull resistance</b>		C473 (B)	Not less than 77 lbf (343 N) <sup>3</sup>	Meets

**Note:**

3. Per ASTM C1396 for 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) gypsum wallboard.

Per ASTM C473, *Test Methods for Physical Testing of Gypsum Panel Products*, the average water absorption for USG Sheetrock® Brand UltraLight Panels Mold Tough® is not greater than 5% by weight after two-hour immersion.

In independent lab tests conducted per ASTM D3273 at the time of manufacture, the panels meet or exceed ASTM C1396 specifications. This ASTM lab test may not accurately represent the mold performance of building materials in actual use. Given unsuitable project conditions during storage, installation or after completion, any building material can be overwhelmed by mold. To manage the growth of mold, the best and most cost-effective strategy is to protect building products from water exposure during storage and installation and after completion of the building. This can be accomplished by using good design and construction practices.

**PRODUCT DATA**

<b>Thickness</b>	1/2 in. (12.7 mm)
<b>Lengths<sup>4</sup></b>	8-12 ft. (2438-3658 mm)
<b>Width</b>	4 ft. (1219 mm)
<b>Weight<sup>5</sup>, nominal</b>	1.35 lb./sq. ft. (6.59 kg/sq. m.)
<b>Edges</b>	Tapered
<b>Packaging</b>	Two panels per bundle

**Notes:**

4. Other sizes available by special order. Check with your local USG representative for availability.

5. Represents approximate weight for design and shipping purposes. For specific product weight in your area, contact your local USG representative or call the Customer Service Center at 800 950-3839.

## COMPLIANCE

- Comply with ASTM C1396 for 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) water-resistant gypsum wallboard and 1/2 in. (12.7 mm) exterior gypsum soffit board
- Classified as a Class A Interior Finish Material per Section 803.1 of the International Building Code® (IBC®)
- UL Classification as to surface-burning characteristics and noncombustibility
- Achieved GREENGUARD Gold Certification and qualifies as a low VOC emitting material (meets CA 01350)

## SUBMITTAL APPROVALS

<b>Job Name</b>	
<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Date</b>

### PRODUCT INFORMATION

See usg.com for the most up-to-date product information.

GREENGUARD Certified products are certified to GREENGUARD standards for low chemical emissions into indoor air during product usage. For more information, visit [ul.com/gg](http://ul.com/gg).

### CAUTION

Dust may cause irritation to eyes, skin, nose, throat and upper respiratory tract. Cut and trim with a utility knife or hand saw to minimize dust levels. Power tools must be equipped with a dust collection system. Wear eye, skin and respiratory protection if necessary. If eye contact occurs, flush thoroughly with water for 15 minutes. If irritation persists, call a physician. Do not swallow. If swallowed, call a physician. For more information call Product Safety: 800 507-8899 or see the SDS at [usg.com](http://usg.com).

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN**

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### SAFETY FIRST!

Follow good safety and industrial hygiene practices during handling and installation of all products and systems. Take necessary precautions and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment as needed. Read Safety Data Sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

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WB2660-USA-ENG/rev. 4-20  
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