

JetBacker – Installation Guide

CUTTING JetBacker™ SHEETS

- Use a straight edge as a guide to score the sheet's face with a carbide-tipped scoring knife or utility knife and snap upward along the score line. The use of shears (manual, electric or pneumatic) is also acceptable.
- For cutouts and small holes, score around perimeter and break out from the face side with hammer.

COUNTERTOP INSTALLATION

Note: For countertop applications, consider 1/4" JetBacker board.

1. Ensure cabinets are level and secure

- Use minimum 1/2" exterior grade plywood or equivalent, positioned across the wood cabinet. Space between plywood supports is not to exceed 16" on center.

2. Determine layout of JetBacker cement board

- Do not align JetBacker cement board with plywood joints.
- Score and snap sheets to required sizes and make necessary cutouts.
- We recommend an 1/8" gap from sheet edges.

3. Attach JetBacker cement board to countertop

- Apply a supporting bed of dry-set mortar or modified thinset to plywood with a 1/4" square-notched trowel. Mastic can also be used with a 5/32" V-notched trowel.
- Use the fastener pattern as a guide. Fasten JetBacker cement board with specified nails or screws every 8" over the entire surface. Keep fasteners 3/8" from sheet edges and 2" in from sheet corners.

4. Tape joints prior to tiling

- Prior to setting the tile, fill all joints with the same mortar used to set the tiles.
- Embed 2" wide high-strength alkali-resistant glass tape in the mortar and level.

FLOOR INSTALLATION

Note: For floor applications, consider 1/4" JetBacker™ board unless 1/2" is needed for transition.

1. Ensure subfloor is structurally sound

On existing structures:

- Ensure subfloor is not damaged. Replace any loose, warped, uneven or damaged sections of floor.
- Make certain subfloor is a clean and flat surface.

For all Floors:

- Use minimum 5/8" exterior grade plywood or 23/32" exterior grade OSB, complying with local building codes and ANSI A108.11. Joists' spacing not to exceed a maximum of 19.2" on center.
- The floor must be engineered not to exceed the L/360 deflection criteria, including live and dead design loads, for the specific joist spacing used.

2. Determine layout of JetBacker cement board

On existing structures:

- Stagger all JetBacker cement board joints. Do not align with subfloor joints.
- Never allow all four corners of sheets to meet at one point.
- We recommend an 1/8" gap between sheet edges.
- Keep sheet edges 1/8" back between walls and cabinet bases.
- Score and snap sheets to required sizes and make necessary cutouts.

3. Attach JetBacker cement board to subfloor

- Apply a supporting bed of mortar or modified thinset to subfloor using a 1/4" square-notched trowel.
- Embed JetBacker cement board firmly and evenly in the wet mortar.
- Use the fastener pattern as a guide. Fasten JetBacker cement board with specified nails or screws every 8" over the entire surface. Keep fasteners 3/8" from sheet edges and 2" in from sheet corners.
- Set fastener heads flush with the surface without overdriving.

4. Tape joints prior to tiling

- Prior to setting the tile, fill all joints with the same mortar used to set the tiles.
- Embed 2" wide high-strength alkali-resistant glass tape in the mortar and level.

WALL INSTALLATION

Note: For wall applications, consider nominal 1/2" JetBacker™ board.

1. Ensure framing is structurally sound

- Must comply with local building codes and ANSI A108.11.
- Use a minimum of 2" x 4" wood studs or 20-gauge metal studs, which must be straight, properly aligned and spaced a maximum of 16" on center.
- In tub and shower enclosures, ensure that the framing is adequately reinforced at the corners.

2. Determine layout of JetBacker cement board

- Sheets may be installed vertically or horizontally.
- JetBacker can be installed with either the smooth or rough side of the backerboard toward the tile.
- Edges of the board parallel to framing must be supported by a structural framing member.
- Score and snap sheets to required sizes and make necessary cutouts

3. Attach JetBacker cement board to framing

- If required by local building codes, install a moisture barrier between studs and cement board.
- Install sheets 1/4" above floor, tub or shower pan.
- Fasten cement board with specified nails or screws a maximum of 8" around perimeter and all supporting studs.
- Keep fasteners 3/8" from sheet edges and 2" in from sheet corners.
- Set fastener heads flush with the surface, without overdriving.

4. Tape joints prior to tiling

- Fill all joints with mortar.
- Embed 2" wide high-strength alkali-resistant glass tape in the mortar and level.

