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While ASTM defines two categories of gypsum panels, Regular and Type X, there is a third common category, enhanced Type X, which is often referred to as Type C. They provide varying degrees of fire resistance with the Regular core providing the least and the Enhanced Type X (Type C) the most. Regular core is a gypsum board that is composed primarily of a gypsum mineral that is calcium sulfate and two molecules of water. It is the chemically combined water that provides the product with excellent fire-resistive properties. The Gypsum Association's "GA-600 Fire Resistance and Sound Control Design Manual" states that the amount of water in gypsum is about 21% by weight. This water retains heat transfer through the material and, more important, is driven off as a vapor at elevated temperatures. As the water leaves, it generates fissures and voids, which generate structural integrity of the panel. This structural integrity is vital because when installed in a wall, the panel must withstand the rigors of the hose stream portion of the fire-resistive test. In a floor-ceiling assembly, the gypsum panel must have the capacity to remain in place through the fire test. The core of the Type X product is modified to offset the effect of the departing water. What defines a Type X panel is performance based in that the panel must meet specific test requirements when installed as part of an assembly. The definition can be found in the various ASTM gypsum panel specification standards, such as ASTM C1396, Standard Specification for Gypsum Board. There the board is defined by its fire performance in a specific assembly tested in accordance to ASTM E119, Standard Test Methods for Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials. The specific performance and assembly for a 5/8 inch thick panel is defined as the following: "Not less than 1 hour for boards 5/8 inch thick (or 3/4 hour for 1/2 inch thick) applied parallel with and on each side of load-bearing 2 by 4 wood studs spaced 16 inch on centers with 6d coated nails, 1 7/8 inch long, 0.0915 inch diameter shank, 1/4 inch diameter heads, spaced 7 inch on centers with gypsum board staggered 16 inch on each side and tested in accordance with Test Methods E119."

To achieve this level of performance was to negate the deleterious effect of the fissures and voids that occur in the Regular core. The effective solution was to add glass fiber strands to the gypsum core. There is no formal definition for the third type of board, Type C. It has been termed "enhanced Type X," yet no formal performance-based definition has been developed. However, published fire-resistive assembly tests reveal a marked improvement in fire resistance. A comparison between assemblies that differ only by the type of gypsum board shows the increased performance. Some assemblies where Type C was used can only achieve that level of performance with the Type C formulation. Most notably are floor- and roof-ceiling assemblies that have only one layer of gypsum board as a ceiling membrane. This single layer will be the Type C formulation and ceiling with the Type X core. Another area where there is a marked difference is in the protection of columns. Here many layers of Type X must be added to achieve the required performance of the system with Type C. The increase in performance with Type C is accomplished by addressing the voids and fissures created by the decreased water content. This is accomplished by the addition of core modifiers, most usually unexpanded vermiculite to the gypsum matrix. As the water turns to a vapor, the vermiculite must expand at the same rate and volume. A balancing act ensues in the formulation and distribution of the vermiculite. Gypsum boards tend to shrink in general during a fire, which is a cause for concern over the placement and finishing of gypsum panel joints. Consequently, too much vermiculite will negatively impact the performance of the panel. Too little will not effectively fill the fissures and voids, leaving the panel with diminished capacity. From a contractor's perspective, it is essential that the correct type of gypsum board be installed. Generally speaking, a Type C board can be used where a Type X was tested, but not necessarily the other way around. The installation of the incorrect panel may have detrimental effects on the performance of the assembly in a fire event. Robert Grupe is AWC's director of technical services. Send your questions to [email protected], or call him at (703) 538.1611. Want more articles like this? Subscribe to AWC's Construction Dimensions for free now. Fire-rated gypsum board is a form of drywall that helps prevent the spread of flames across a home or business. Gypsum is approximately 21% chemically combined water, which greatly contributes to its effectiveness as a fire-resistive barrier. When gypsum drywall is exposed to fire, the water is slowly released as steam, effectively slowing heat transmission. This gypsum is used to develop fire-resistant drywall. Fire-rated gypsum drywall is more fire-resistant because it contains glass fiber reinforcement and other additives within its specially formulated gypsum core to help it hold up longer to fire exposure. Fire-rated drywall is referred to as "Type X" and must be third-party certified by an independent testing and listing agency such as UL (Underwriters Laboratories Inc.) and UL (Underwriters' Laboratories of Canada) to meet the fire performance requirements prescribed in the ASTM C1396 Standard Specification for Gypsum Board. Not only does this drywall reduce the spread of flames, saving countless lives each year, but it has become a requirement in the building codes for dry, fire-prone regions in order to limit the amount of damage caused by seasonal fires. The Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS), in partnership with Headwaters Economics, reported that more than 35,000 structures were lost to wildfires in the last decade. By mandating fire-resistant drywall in building codes, this number will start to drop. Fortunately, the cost of installing this drywall for homeowners is minimal. The IBHS reports that wildfire-resistant construction actually costs two percent less than typical construction materials. This means you can protect future homes from fire damage while saving money. At CertainTeed, we strive to create fire-rated drywall that meets the strictest code standards while looking ahead to develop even better products in the future. There are a few key factors to keep in mind as you shop for fire-rated gypsum board. The first is the Flame Spread Rating. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code has five classes of flame spread, which rates materials on a scale of 0-500+. This rating measures the rate at which a flame will spread over a material. Red oak has a rating of 100 and anything considered Class A fire-resistant needs a rating of 0-25. Fire-resistant drywall has a flame spread rating of 15, well below the maximum spread for a Class A product. Some CertainTeed products have a flame spread rating of zero. Additionally, most of our products have a Smoke Developed rating of zero, per ASTM E84, which means our products do not create smoke when they burn, helping families and firefighters see where they are going in the event of a fire. Types of Fire-Resistant DrywallCertainTeed is committed to offering gypsum fire-rated drywall to help builders in fire-prone areas construct safer homes. We offer multiple products based on your building codes and construction requirements. Type X fire-rated drywall has a gypsum core enclosed in ivory-colored face paper. This product is used in fire assemblies from 1 hour up to 4 hours. A one-hour fire-rated assembly is the standard for many building codes. Type X drywall is 3/8" (15.9mm) thick and installed on each side of 2x4 (89x89mm) wood studs spaced 16" (400mm) on center (o.c.) or 3/4" (610 mm) steel studs spaced 24" o.c. It has a minimum fire-rating for the assembly of 1 hour, which is a typical requirement for many building codes. Type C fire-rated drywall also has a gypsum core enclosed in ivory-colored face paper. Sometimes referred to as Improved Type X, it is similar in composition to Type X, except that it has more glass fiber reinforcement and other ingredients in the gypsum core that makes its fire resistive properties superior to Type X. Type C gypsum board is available in 1/2" (12.7 mm) and 3/4" (15.9mm) thicknesses. • MZTech® moisture- and mold-resistant drywall drywall is also available in Type X for enhanced fire resistance. • GlasRoc® Interior high-performance interior drywall features a special formulation, treated core, and fiberglass mat facer technology, designed to provide exceptional moisture, mold and fire protection for interior applications and exterior soffits. • GlasRoc® Shaftliner fire-rated drywall is a model of Type X that is made for multi-story buildings and multi-family residential apartments and condominiums. The thick gypsum board has a specially formulated fire-resistive, noncombustible, and moisture resistant core. This protects your home from mold and moisture as well as the spread of fire. • GlasRoc® Sheathing is an exterior-facing product made with cementitious glass mat facers that are embedded into a water-resistant gypsum core. This Type X exterior sheathing features excellent fire-resistance properties and numerous fire-rated assemblies. Each of our fire-resistant drywall options is developed with specific climates and building types in mind. Browse our products to learn which ones are best for your area and building needs. With your careful planning and dedication to fire containment, you can help residents in your area keep their homes and businesses standing during wildfire season. Lightweight Type X drywall productsLightweight Type X gypsum board products are relatively new to the construction industry and blur the line between Type X and Type C. As Type X products, they are included in most fire-rated wall designs but are also permitted in many floor-ceiling and roof-ceiling assemblies that require Type C products. For example, 5/8" Gold Bond® EVOLVE X™ Fire-Shield® Gypsum Board is specially formulated to be 20% lighter than standard Type X gypsum board and can be used in designs M553, L558, and P533 for wood framed floor-ceiling and roof-ceiling assemblies. How to avoid costly errors during construction A common question to 1-800-NATIONAL Construction Services department is as follows: The contractor is installing 5/8" Type X gypsum board on the ceilings specified in the construction documents. A building inspector later points out that the UL design requires a Fire-Shield C gypsum board. Who is correct? The answer is: Everybody. Architectural drawings typically label gypsum board in fire-rated assemblies generically as Type X, even though not all Type X products will comply. It is important to consult the UL design or GA file number for the specific Type X product required, because it may be a Type C. The important thing to remember is that most wall assemblies allow 5/8" Type X products and do not require Type C (though Type C is permitted), but most floor-ceiling and roof-ceiling assemblies will require either 1/2" Type C or 5/8" Type C products. How are Type X and Type C products specified in fire-rated assemblies?The fire-rated assemblies found in the Gypsum Association GA-600 Fire Resistance and Sound Control Design Manual specify generic or proprietary 1/2" Type X and 5/8" Type X products. They do not reference Type C because, again, Type C has no technical definition. For generic designs specifying 1/2" Type X gypsum board, 1/2" Fire-Shield C, 1/2" XP Fire-Shield C, or 1/2" eXP Interior Extreme Fire-Shield Type C is required. For generic 5/8" Type X designs, both 5/8" Fire-Shield, XP Fire-Shield and eXP Interior Extreme Type X and Type C would be permitted. Proprietary designs for both 1/2" Type C or 5/8" products will specify the individual products by their exact trade names.UL designs do not reference Type X or Type C products at all. All UL designs will specify products by their individual product designation (a short code assigned to each product and listed on the individual product submittal), or they will have the following sentence:Gypsum Board\* — Any 5/8" thick UL Classified Gypsum Board that is eligible for use in Design Nos. L501, G512 or L305.UL design U305 is similar but slightly more stringent than the ASTM definition for 5/8" Type X and lists all 5/8" Type X products by all manufacturers. Therefore, any UL design with this sentence allows all Type X products without using the term "Type X."Need additional support? Contact the technical experts on National Gypsum's Construction Services team at 1-800-NATIONAL. Physical DescriptionAll gypsum panels are fire resistant and produced in a range of thicknesses, core formulations and optional special performance enhancements. The specialty products described on this site are examples of some of these options. For our discussion here we will focus on panels manufactured with a Type X core in a 5/8" (15.9 mm) thickness, widths of 48" (1.2 m) or 54" (1.4 m) and lengths from 8' (2.4 m) to 16' (4.9 m) or a Type C core in 1/2" (12.7 mm) or 5/8" (15.9 mm) thicknesses, widths of 48" (1.2 m) or 54" (1.4 m) and lengths from 8' (2.4 m) to 16' (4.9 m). In Type X products, the primary core additive is glass fibers. In Type C panels, the core is enhanced with glass fibers as well as other additives to provide an even higher level of fire-resistance than Type X panels. Facer materials for panels may be either enhanced, recycled paper or fiberglass mats. Individual boards are produced with square edges along the width of each panel and tapered edges along the length to simplify joint finishing. The applicable product standard for Fire-Resistant Gypsum Panels is ASTM C1396. Consult your gypsum manufacturer for other available product variations.Advantages and BenefitsEnhanced fire resistance was one of the first specialty performance characteristics added to standard gypsum panels, but until recently it was being primarily used in commercial and multi-tenant applications. It has much to offer single-family residential design and construction too. Fire Resistance - Whether Fire-Resistant Gypsum Panels are produced with Type X or Type C core formulations, they are designed to be used in the construction of wall and floor/ceiling systems that reduce flame spread and smoke generation better than standard gypsum board. Fire-Resistant Gypsum Panels are classified for use in UL assemblies that can deliver fire ratings up to 3 hours in ceilings and as long as 4 hours in wall and column systems. To review a collection of these system assemblies that meet a wide range of design requirements, refer to GA-600 Fire Resistance and Sound Control Design Manual. Any Fire-Resistant Gypsum Panel classified as a Type C or Type X product is approved for use in any fire-rated assembly where the corresponding panel type is specified. Construction Efficiency - Fire-Resistant Gypsum Panels are just as easy to install and finish as the standard gypsum panels covering the largest proportion of interior wall and ceiling surfaces in most single-family homes. Score-and-snap cutting and reliable compatibility with a broad range of finishing treatments make them a popular and efficient construction choice to provide enhanced fire safety in new construction as well as remodeling.Noise Attenuation - Gypsum drywall panels have long been recognized as an effective material in the construction of interior partitions designed to help control unwanted noise because of their mass and density. Fire-Resistant Gypsum Panels perform this role especially well. To design interior walls and ceilings that meet improved acoustical performance objectives, refer to GA-600 Fire Resistance and Sound Control Design Manual for assemblies with higher tested sound transmission class (STC) values. Fire-Resistant Gypsum Board can be used in any assembly where the corresponding UL-classified 1/2" Type C or 5/8" Type X drywall is approved. moreo Other Specialty Performance Properties - Fire-Resistant Gypsum Panels are also manufactured with a number of added performance characteristics as well. Consult individual gypsum panel manufacturers for other features and combinations of features that may include:Mold/Moisture ResistanceAbuse ResistanceImpact ResistanceReduced Panel WeightEnhanced Ceiling Span CharacteristicsLimitationsTo achieve the performance objectives specified for the walls and ceilings of a single-family residential project, a number of important limitations should be followed to ensure success. These recommendations are intended to provide general information only about considerations that are common in this category of special performance gypsum products: Fire-Resistant Gypsum Panels are intended for interior use only Fire-Resistant Gypsum Panels are nonstructural and are not designed to be a fastener base for mounting other materials to walls or ceilingso Avoid prolonged exposure to temperatures exceeding 125° wall and floor cavities must be dry before closing up or applying interior finisheso Not intended for constant exposure to moisture, ponding or cascading water to prevent mold and mildew growth, avoid exposure to water during handling, storage, installation and after installation are completeo Refer to GA-216 Application And Finishing Of Gypsum Panel Products for specific guidelines related to the application and finishing of gypsum panel products.Products vary by brand. For more specific limitations related to the gypsum panel being considered, consult with the product's manufacturer. Frequently Asked QuestionsBelow are answers to typical questions our technical experts address on a routine basis. These answers may provide additional information you are seeking as well. To submit an inquiry of your own, click here.1. Are 5/8" thick gypsum panels made without a fire-rated Type X core?This question is often asked by individuals looking to repair to a 5/8" regular board already in place. The short answer is no. At one time, there were 5/8" boards made with a typical core, which is why you will see these in some existing buildings. Their thickness and weight helped enhance sound control of the wall. However, the industry moved away from these in the 1990's in order to avoid confusion between regular 5/8" panels and Type X panels. Installation of the wrong panel type in areas where Type X was required was seen as a potential fire-safety issue.If you are repairing a wall that has typical core 5/8" board, you can use the Type X on the market today and create a proper repair.For Further InformationTo read more about the UL testing procedures to classify the fire-resistance characteristics of this gypsum panel product or wall assemblies where it is approved for use, refer to GA-600 Fire Resistance and Sound Control Design Manual. Understanding the differences in gypsum core types is a critical component to maintaining fire and safety standards. One key element in determining which drywall products meet specific code requirements is the UL type designation.In this article, we'll review common UL designation types used to identify the gypsum board products manufactured by Gold Bond Building Products, LLC, an affiliate of National Gypsum Company. These UL core type designations are stamped on the back of every UL classified Gold Bond gypsum board product. What are UL type designations?Created by Underwriters Laboratories, UL type designations are used to identify UL classified fire-rated gypsum panels based on their specific fire-resistant properties and compositions. These designations help architects, builders and code officials understand a gypsum board product's fire-performance characteristics, ensuring they choose materials that meet the fire-safety requirements for specific building applications.UL type designations identify which products meet the fire-resistance performance across different manufacturers' products. Each UL classified gypsum board type undergoes rigorous fire testing to meet specific time-based assembly ratings (e.g., 1-hour, 2-hour) for fire resistance. These designations ensure products are suitable for each fire-rated assembly specified by building codes.A quick reminder on Type X versus Type C gypsum boardThe gypsum board used in fire-rated assemblies can be described as either Type X or Type C.Type X gypsum board is defined by ASTM C1396, Standard Specification for Gypsum Board, and has a different definition for each board thickness: 1/2", 5/8" and 1".Type C gypsum board is not defined in any ASTM standard. Type C products are Type X products with special additives and have a "C" in their trade names to designate they have increased fire resistance.Gold Bond manufactures more than two dozen Type X and Type C fire-resistant drywall products. However, because UL does not primarily list brand names in their designs, it's crucial to understand what products correspond to which UL designation type.UL Type Designations: Type FSW and Type FSW-6Type FSW and Type FSW-6 are UL type designations that identify Gold Bond® gypsum board products with specific fire- and moisture-resistant properties that are suited to meet code requirements in commercial and residential applications.Type FSW Core: The UL type designation FSW, which stands for "fire-shield gypsum board", is assigned to several Gold Bond gypsum board products. These products share similar fire-resistance properties, allowing them to meet code requirements for various commercial and residential applications.Gold Bond gypsum board products stamped with the FSW designation include: 5/16" Gold Bond® XP® Fire-Shield® Gypsum Board, 5/8" Gold Bond® XP® Hi-Abuse® Gypsum Board (Type X)5/8" Gold Bond® XP® Hi-Impact® Gypsum Board (Type X)3/8" Gold Bond® XP® Fire-Shield® Gypsum Board (Type X)1" Gold Bond® Shaftliner® XP® (Type X)Type FSW-6 Core: The UL type designation FSW-6 is assigned to Gold Bond glass mat drywall products that are specially designed for areas that demand extra protection from moisture, making them ideal for exterior and high-moisture interior applications.Gold Bond drywall products stamped with the FSW-6 designation include:5/8" Gold Bond® eXP® Sheathing (Type X)5/8" Gold Bond® eXP® Interior Extreme® Fire-Shield® Gypsum Panel (Type X)5/8" Gold Bond® eXP® Tile Backer (Type X)5/8" Gold Bond® eXP® Interior Extreme® IR Gypsum Panel (Type X)5/8" Gold Bond® eXP® Interior Extreme® AR Gypsum Panel (Type X)5/8" DeXcell® FA® Glass Mat Roof Board.UL Type Designations: Type FSW-C and Type eXP-CType X gypsum board was developed as an enhanced Type X to reduce the number of layers of standard Type X gypsum board required in multilayered, fire-rated assemblies. Type C is used most often in horizontal applications, including roof-ceiling, floor-ceiling and horizontal shaftwell assemblies.Type FSW-C and Type eXP-C are the UL type designations that identify Gold Bond gypsum board products that are formulated with special additives to improve their fire resistance beyond standard gypsum boards.Type FSW-C Core: This core type enhances the fire-resistant properties of XP and Fire-Shield boards, making them suitable for more demanding fire-rated wall assemblies.Gold Bond gypsum board products stamped with the FSW-C designation include:1/2" Gold Bond® Fire-Shield C™ Gypsum Board (Type C)1/2" Gold Bond® XP® Gypsum Board (Type C)1/2" Gold Bond® XP® Gypsum Board (Type C)5/8" Gold Bond® Fire-Shield C™ Gypsum Board (Type C)5/8" Gold Bond® XP® Fire-Shield C™ Gypsum Board (Type C)5/8" Gold Bond® eXP® Interior Extreme® Fire-Shield C™ Gypsum Panel (Type C)Why understanding UL type designations mattersWhether you're an architect specifying materials, a construction manager overseeing compliance or a building contractor ensuring code adherence, understanding the UL type designations for fire-rated gypsum board products is a helpful resource for architects, builders and code officials — a helpful resource for architects, builders and code officials that identifies the various UL classified gypsum board products.Need additional support? Contact the technical experts on National Gypsum's Construction Services team at 1-800-NATIONAL. Type X gypsum wallboard, 5/8" in thickness (5/8" type X wallboard"), is manufactured for use as one component of an assembly/system (such as a wall) where a fire resistance rating is required in residential, commercial, or other structure by an applicable building code.5/8" type X wallboard is required to be manufactured in accordance with established ASTM standards defining type X wallboard as that which provides not less than one-hour fire resistance when tested in specified building assemblies/systems in a laboratory setting under certain controlled conditions and pursuant to certain ASTM procedures.Because ASTM procedures require that fire tests be conducted on complete building assemblies/systems and not just on the wallboard by itself, the ability of a particular 5/8" type X wallboard product to pass a specific ASTM fire test may well depend on factors other than the fire resistance of the wallboard being tested. These factors include the other components used to construct the building system being tested, the manner in which the system is constructed, and the inherent variability of ASTM fire tests.Independent third party organizations, such as Underwriters Laboratories Inc. ("UL"), may authorize manufacturers to certify or label their 5/8" type X wallboard as acceptable for use in one-hour fire rated systems based on criteria established by the third party organizations. The third party organizations may approve changes to certified formulations using criteria they believe appropriate, such as new full-scale ASTM fire tests, small-scale fire tests, or engineering studies and evaluations, and without requiring a fullscale ASTM one-hour fire test. Accordingly, the fact that a particular 5/8" type X wallboard product has been certified as acceptable for use in one-hour fire rated systems by a third party organization does not necessarily mean that wallboard made according to that specific formulation has been certified to the ASTM E 119 standard test method (or one of its closely allied counterparts.) Gypsum board systems are tested based on the requirements of the ASTM E 119 standard. Referencing the same test method(s) by the building codes facilitates the descriptions, builders and comparisons of fire resistance in building assemblies/systems that have been objectively evaluated. Numerical fire resistance ratings created by ASTM E 119 tests may be considered as benchmarks for comparison purposes. The higher the numerical rating (i.e., one, two, three, or four hour(s)), the longer the assembly/system's comparative endurance. The hourly fire resistance ratings found in commercial and residential building codes that refer to an ASTM E 119 test do not imply that a specific assembly/system will remain intact for the prescribed time of the hourly rating in an actual fire situation. Fire resistance classifications are based on results of tests conducted on assemblies/systems created with specific materials and built in a specified manner; therefore, variations from the test conditions or the construction specifications (including, but not limited to, the type and size of materials and the method of construction) will affect the results of fire tests. Because fire exposure conditions vary with changes in a wide variety of factors, including the amount, nature, and distribution of available fuel; ventilation; and the size, configuration, and other characteristics of the compartment, the test method contained in the ASTM E 119 standard should not be considered to be representative of all fire conditions. Fire resistance ratings created through use of the ASTM E 119 test method reflect a relative measure of comparative assembly/system's performance under specific fire test conditions. ASTM E 119 test results should not be construed as having determined performance of an assembly/system under different conditions. To maintain industry-wide quality assurance standards for 5/8" type X gypsum wallboard, the Gypsum Association requires that all member companies relying on the general assemblies/systems contained in the Gypsum Association's Fire Resistance Design Manual subscribe to an on-going, third-party, in-plant, product inspection and labeling service. This objective certification and labeling process ensures that manufacturers continue to manufacture the same quality of product as that originally tested. For more information on Underwriters Laboratories test certification, follow-up, and labeling procedures, visit its Web site at www.ul.com. Choosing the right building materials matters, especially when fire resistance is a priority. Drywall, also known as gypsum board, is a go-to material in construction. But can it actually protect against fire? In this guide, we'll explore how drywall performs under fire exposure, what types offer protection, and how to use it effectively for safety and compliance. Fire resistance refers to how long a material can withstand flames and slow the spread of fire. While no building product is entirely fireproof, some offer valuable time during emergencies—protecting lives and property.In the construction world, manufacturers test materials using standardized methods to determine their fire resistance ratings, often expressed in 30-, 60-, or 90-minute intervals. See how we apply fire-resistant solutions across projects on our Services page.Standard drywall does offer basic fire resistance because gypsum, its core material, contains chemically bonded water. When exposed to heat, this water turns into steam and helps delay fire spread.Still, regular drywall only slows flames for about 30 minutes, and that's with proper installation and wall assembly. Fire-rated drywall—often labeled as Type X or Type C—features special additives like glass fibers that increase strength and fire resistance. Manufacturers design these panels to meet strict fire safety codes.Thicker panels (usually 5/8-inch)Reinforced with non-combustible fibersCertified to maintain structure under fire for 1 hour or moreSuitable for both residential and commercial spacesThinking about upgrading your space? Our team at HD Drywall can guide you through product selection and code compliance. Fire-rated drywall works best in areas that face high fire risk or require code compliance. Contractors typically install it inAttached garagesHallsways and stairwellsWalls separating apartments or townhousesUtility and mechanical roomsWe offer expert installation services tailored to each project's needs. Learn more about our company on the About Us page.Building codes often mandate the use of fire-rated drywall in specific zones. For instance, the International Building Code (IBC) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) set clear guidelines for drywall fire ratings and applications. At HD Drywall, we stay up-to-date with all safety codes and ensure every structure meets or exceeds regulatory standards. Check out real-world code-compliant installations on our Facebook page.Reality: Only specially designed fire-rated drywall provides reliable fire resistance.Reality: Most applications require multiple layers to meet the required fire rating.Reality: It's a crucial layer in a broader fire protection system that includes alarms, sprinklers, and fire doors.For holistic fire safety solutions, connect with us and get expert recommendations.Drywall does offer a level of fire resistance, but understanding the difference between standard and fire-rated drywall is key to making informed construction decisions. If safety, compliance, and protection are priorities, using fire-resistant drywall solutions is not just smart—it's essential. Looking for dependable drywall solutions that prioritize fire safety? Visit HD Drywall to start building safer today.1. Is all drywall fire-resistant?No, only fire-rated drywall is designed for enhanced fire resistance. Standard drywall has minimal fire-stopping ability.2. What is Type X drywall?Type X drywall is a fire-rated panel with added glass fibers, offering at least one hour of fire resistance when installed correctly.3. Where is fire-rated drywall required?It's commonly required in garages, stairwells, utility rooms, and between living units in multi-family structures.4. Does fire-rated drywall cost more? Yes, but the added cost is often offset by improved safety, insurance savings, and code compliance. When it comes to fire ratings for gypsum boards, there's quite a range. Regular drywall, like you'd find in most homes, usually has a fire rating of about 30 minutes. But if you're looking for something more fire-resistant, you've got options! Some Specialized Drywall OJ INC, can have ratings ranging from 1 hour to 3 hours or even more. These higher ratings are great for buildings where fire protection is a top priority, like commercial spaces or multi-unit residences. When it comes to building materials, fire safety is a critical consideration. Gypsum board, commonly known as drywall, plays a crucial role in providing fire resistance in buildings. Different types of gypsum board come with varying fire ratings, indicating their ability to withstand exposure to fire for a specified duration. In this discussion, we'll explore the fire ratings of different types of gypsum board and their applications. Is gypsum board the same as drywall in Sioux Falls, SD? Yes, standard drywall is typically the same as gypsum board. In Sioux Falls, SD, and throughout much of the United States, gypsum board is commonly referred to as drywall. It consists of gypsum plaster sandwiched between layers of paper and is used extensively in construction for interior walls and ceilings. The terms "gypsum board" and "drywall" are often used interchangeably to describe this building material. Let's start with the most common type of gypsum board found in residential and commercial constructions: standard drywall. This type of drywall typically has a fire rating of approximately 30 minutes. Standard drywall is composed of gypsum plaster sandwiched between layers of paper. While it offers some degree of fire resistance, it's important to note that its fire rating is relatively low compared to other specialized types of gypsum board. As a result, it's typically used in areas where minimal fire protection is required, such as interior walls and ceilings in residential buildings. Type X gypsum board is a fire-resistant variant that contains special additives to enhance its fire resistance properties. These additives help the board to withstand fire exposure for a longer duration compared to standard drywall. The fire rating of Type X gypsum board can range from 45 minutes to 1 hour or more, depending on the specific formulation and thickness of the board. This makes it suitable for areas where a higher level of fire protection is necessary, such as garages, utility rooms, and corridors in both residential and commercial buildings. Type C gypsum board and its fire resistance properties. It incorporates glass fibers and special additives that enhance its ability to withstand fire exposure for extended periods, often achieving fire ratings of 2 hours or more. Understanding the fire resistance capabilities of gypsum board is crucial for ensuring optimal safety and compliance with building codes in various construction projects. Moving up the scale in terms of fire resistance, we have Type C gypsum board. This type of gypsum board offers superior fire protection compared to both standard drywall and Type X gypsum board. Type C gypsum board is specially formulated with glass fibers and other additives that contribute to its enhanced fire resistance. It can achieve fire ratings ranging from 1 hour to 4 hours or more, making it ideal for use in high-risk areas where stringent fire protection measures are required. These areas may include stairwells, elevator shafts, mechanical rooms, and fire-rated partitions between units in multi-story buildings. OJ INC specializes in providing customized drywall solutions with tailored fire ratings. Their specialized drywall products are designed to meet specific fire safety requirements, offering custom fire ratings ranging from 1 hour to 3 hours or more. By leveraging advanced formulations and unique additives, OJ INC ensures that their drywall meets the stringent fire protection needs of various projects, making them a reliable choice for builders and property owners seeking enhanced fire resistance. Apart from the standard types of gypsum board available in the market, there are also specialized options offered by manufacturers like OJ INC. These specialized drywall products are designed to meet specific fire safety requirements and can be customized to achieve various fire ratings based on project needs. For instance, OJ INC offers specialized drywall with custom fire ratings ranging from 1 hour to 3 hours or more. These custom fire ratings are achieved through advanced formulations, unique additives, and precise manufacturing processes. When considering gypsum board applications, it's essential to evaluate specific needs. Standard drywall suits interior walls, while fire-resistant Type X or Type C gypsum boards are ideal for areas requiring enhanced fire protection. Customized gypsum board services, like those offered by specialized manufacturers, provide tailored solutions for unique project requirements. Whether for residential, commercial, or industrial applications, selecting the right gypsum board service ensures optimal performance and safety in construction projects. 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Check out real-world code-compliant installations on our Facebook page.Reality: Only specially designed fire-rated drywall provides reliable fire resistance.Reality: Most applications require multiple layers to meet the required fire rating.Reality: It's a crucial layer in a broader fire protection system that includes alarms, sprinklers, and fire doors.For holistic fire safety solutions, connect with us and get expert recommendations.Drywall does offer a level of fire resistance, but understanding the difference between standard and fire-rated drywall is key to making informed construction decisions. If safety, compliance, and protection are priorities, using fire-resistant drywall solutions is not just smart—it's essential. Looking for dependable drywall solutions that prioritize fire safety? Visit HD Drywall to start building safer today.1. Is all drywall fire-resistant?No, only fire-rated drywall is designed for enhanced fire resistance. Standard drywall has minimal fire-stopping ability.2. What is Type X drywall?Type X drywall is a fire-rated panel with added glass fibers, offering at least one hour of fire resistance when installed correctly.3. Where is fire-rated drywall required?It's commonly required in garages, stairwells, utility rooms, and between living units in multi-family structures.4. Does fire-rated drywall cost more? Yes, but the added cost is often offset by improved safety, insurance savings, and code compliance. When it comes to fire ratings for gypsum boards, there's quite a range. Regular drywall, like you'd find in most homes, usually has a fire rating of about 30 minutes. But if you're looking for something more fire-resistant, you've got options! Some Specialized Drywall OJ INC, can have ratings ranging from 1 hour to 3 hours or even more. These higher ratings are great for buildings where fire protection is a top priority, like commercial spaces or multi-unit residences. 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Let's start with the most common type of gypsum board found in residential and commercial constructions: standard drywall. This type of drywall typically has a fire rating of approximately 30 minutes. Standard drywall is composed of gypsum plaster sandwiched between layers of paper. While it offers some degree of fire resistance, it's important to note that its fire rating is relatively low compared to other specialized types of gypsum board. As a result, it's typically used in areas where minimal fire protection is required, such as interior walls and ceilings in residential buildings. Type X gypsum board is a fire-resistant variant that contains special additives to enhance its fire resistance properties. These additives help the board to withstand fire exposure for a longer duration compared to standard drywall. The fire rating of Type X gypsum board can range from 45 minutes to 1 hour or more, depending on the specific formulation and thickness of the board. 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Let's start with the most common type of gypsum board found in residential and commercial constructions: standard drywall. This type of drywall typically has a fire rating of approximately 30 minutes. Standard drywall is composed of gypsum plaster sandwiched between layers of paper. While it offers some degree of fire resistance, it's important to note that its fire rating is relatively low compared to other specialized types of gypsum board. As a result, it's typically used in areas where minimal fire protection is required, such as interior walls and ceilings in residential buildings. Type X gypsum board is a fire-resistant variant that contains special additives to enhance its fire resistance properties. These additives help the board to withstand fire exposure for a longer duration compared to standard drywall. The fire rating of Type X gypsum board can range from 45 minutes to 1 hour or more, depending on the specific formulation and thickness of the board. 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