

# board

## Non-hazardous water-resistant and easy to cut tile backerboard for walls & floors

### DESCRIPTION

Strong, durable, fire rated non-hazardous, water/mould and impact-resistant tile backer board for wall & floors.

#### Use for

- Providing a complete and easy to use BAL tiling solution.
- Easy to cut and easy to use water and mould-resistant tile backer board. Provides a stable substrate to both wall and floor.
- Suitable for dry or wet interior environments prior to fixing wall and floor tiles.
- Use to paint or wallpaper over when rooms are not to be fully tiled.

The board provides a stable substrate for most types of tile/stone and will take a maximum weight of 100kg per m<sup>2</sup> when fixed to a solid background. Is ideal in association with an approved design for:

- Heavy Duty Showers and Power Showers\*
- Wet Rooms\*
- Kitchens, bathrooms, laundry and utility rooms
- Fireplaces and open burners\*
- Boxing around pipes and bath panels
- Underfloor heating
- Swimming Pool areas\*
- Use with more than one type of finish i.e. painted and tiled areas
- Fixing accessories such as toilet roll holders, shower curtain rails, mirrors, shelves etc. (Note: heavy fixings must be screwed to the supporting wall/noggins)

*\*Further technical guidance may be required prior to the use in wet installations to ensure they are incorporated as part of an approved construction. Please contact the BAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE for free advice.*

#### Restrictions: NOT suitable for

- Exterior use
- Swimming Pool Tank

#### PRODUCT INFORMATION

**Composition:** Magnesium oxide board, inorganic substances and alkaline resistant fibreglass mesh. Low energy manufacturing process.

**Colours:** White

**Type:** Internal use only

**Sizes:** 1200mm x 600mm

**Thickness:** Floors - 6mm and 12mm  
Walls – 12mm only

#### Key Features:

- Simple, easy to handle, fix and with dust free cutting
- Water-resistant
- Hold a maximum weight limit 100kg per m<sup>2</sup>\*
- Provides a strong and stable surface for finishes
- Ideal for fixing most finishes including:
  - Tiles/ stone and mosaics
  - Emulsion and oil based paints and wallpaper
  - Plaster and render applications
- Tested and approved to BBA
- Ideal for power showers, wet rooms

**Tile after:** Once securely fixed and rigid, tiling can be started immediately.

## SURFACE PREPARATION

### GENERAL

Ensure surfaces to be tiled are flat, clean, sound and free from contamination.

1. Ensure any studwork is made from seasoned timber or suitable proprietary framework at maximum 300mm centres vertically and horizontally
2. When screw fixing BAL BOARD use stainless steel/ galvanized screws and ensure no fixings protrude. For walls apply fixings at a minimum of 15mm from the edge and 20mm from the corner of the board. When fixing, start at the centre and work outwards to prevent distortion within the boards. When fixing to walls, a 6mm gap should be left above the finished floor level to allow for settling of the frame or movement. All fixings should be flush with the surface of the board.
3. When tiling using BAL cementitious based tile adhesives, prime the face (rough face) of BAL BOARD with one coat of BAL PRIME APD (Diluted 1:1 by volume with water). Allow to dry before taping the board joints. No priming required for BAL WHITE STAR PLUS.
4. When using BAL BOARD for heavy weight coverings, additional fixings/anchors should be used.
5. All board joints must be reinforced using BAL SCRIM TAPE before tiling.
6. Tiling can commence once all preparation has been completed.

### Wet Areas

In wet areas waterproof the background with BAL TANK-IT or BAL WATERPROOF 1C.

Fill any voids or gaps over 1mm with suitable filler/adhesive or sealant, and allow curing.

### Falls & Drainage

The floor substrate must be laid to the correct falls as recommended in BS 5385: Part 4. Gradients between 1:80 and 1:35 are recommended Falls of 1:80 should be the minimum; gradients steeper than 1:35 might be inconvenient and even dangerous. The drainage rate of the gully/drain must exceed the flow rate of the water source i.e. shower head.

### Surface regularity:

Surface Regularity is defined as the deviation in height of the surface of a flooring layer over short distances in a local area. In simpler terms, it is the 'flatness' or 'measure of unevenness' of the surface.

Class	MAXIMUM PERMISSABLE DEVIATION FROM a 2M STRAIGHT EDGE (MM)	APPLICATION
SR1	3mm	Recommended for direct fixing of tiles and slabs with a tile adhesive

## BACKGROUNDS / BASES

Flush Transitions to Drywall	✓
Over Timber Subfloors	✓
Over Concrete Subfloors	✓
Over Timber Floors	✓

## USAGE & SERVICE CONDITIONS

Walls	✓	Floor	✓
Interior	✓	Exterior	✗
Dry	✓	Wet (1)(2)	✓
Swimming Pool areas	✗	Showers (2)(a)	✓
Internal Domestic and Commercial	✓	Steam Rooms (1)(2)(3)	✓
Worktops/ Countertops (3)	✓	Underfloor Heating (3)(4)	✓
Bath Panels & Tub Decks (2)(3)	✓		

(1) Tiles may be grouted using BAL ABSOLUTE GROUT.

(2) In wet conditions tank out with BAL TANK-IT or BAL WATERPROOF 1C

(3) Further technical guidance may be required.

(4) Used with BAL LEVEL MAX/ BAL LEVEL FAST Levelling Compounds and BAL RAPID-MAT/BAL FLEXBONE VARied or BAL FLEXBONE 2Easy Contact BAL Technical Advisory Service for further information.

### Note:

(a) Do not use shower for at least 2 weeks after completion of grouting – BS 5385:Part 4.

## SUITABLE SURFACES include:

### Brickwork/Lightweight blockwork walling

Allow new block mortar to dry for minimum 6 weeks. There should be no evidence of damp present.

**Fixing Method:** Screw fix the BAL BOARD into blockwork or brickwork at a maximum of 300mm centres horizontally and vertically using stainless steel galvanized screws. NOTE: install the 12mm BAL BOARD (broken bond or brick pattern). For uneven blockwork walls tile adhesive may be applied in addition to mechanical fixings. Before tiling apply one coat of BAL PRIME APD (Diluted 1:1 by volume with water) to the rough face of the BAL BOARD and allow drying. BAL RAPID-FLEX ONE can be used when fixing tiles on to BAL BOARD 12mm.

### Dense concrete/blockwork walling

Allow new block mortar to dry for minimum 6 weeks. There should be no evidence of damp present.

**Fixing Method (i):** Screw fix the BAL BOARD at 300mm centres horizontally and vertically into the dense concrete blockwork using stainless steel galvanized screws. NOTE: Install the 12mm BAL BOARD in a broken bond or brick pattern. For uneven blockwork walls tile adhesive may be applied in addition to mechanical fixings. Before tiling apply one coat of BAL PRIME APD (Diluted 1:1 by volume with water) to the rough face of the BAL BOARD and allow to dry. BAL RAPID-FLEX ONE can be used when fixing tiles on to BAL BOARD 12mm.

## **SUITABLE SURFACES include:**

### **Tongue and grooved floorboards/Existing timber sub floors**

Ensure existing timber floors are flat (SR1) and (i) sufficiently rigid and stable (ii) can carry the additional static and dynamic load without excessive deflection; and (iii) have adequate ventilation under the timber. The timber floor should be dry, rigid and securely fixed (screwed to joints at 300mm centres, including any cross-noggings, if necessary). Sand (abrade) surface and ensure any surface coatings removed, e.g. varnish, lacquers etc, before priming with 2 coats of:

– BAL PRIME APD (undiluted) or

– BAL BOND SBR (diluted 1:2 by volume with clean water)

Allow each coat of primer to dry. Second coat applied at 90° to the first.

Fixing Method: Using a minimum 6mm notched trowel, apply a thin bed of BAL flexible tile adhesive to the floor such, see BAL TECHNICAL DATA SHEETS for further information on mixing and application. NOTE: Install the BAL BOARD in a broken bond or brick pattern and screw fix boards at 300mm centres into the existing floor. Before tiling, apply one coat of BAL PRIME APD (Diluted 1:1 by volume with water) to the rough face of the BAL BOARD and allow to dry. BAL SINGLE PART FASTFLEX can be selected or BAL RAPID-FLEX ONE combined with BAL RAPID-MAT/BAL FLEXBONE Varied uncoupling membrane can be used when fixing ceramics or stone to BAL BOARD 6mm. Alternatively, providing the floor is stable and free from deflection, BAL RAPID-FLEX ONE can be used when fixing tiles to an overlay of 12mm thick BAL BOARD. For further advice, contact BAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY AND SPECIFICATION SERVICE.

### **Flush Transitions to Drywall**

Ensure the framing is structurally sound and complies with local building regulations. Using 12mm BAL BOARD, align the board with the connecting drywall area. All joints must align with studding.

#### **Fixing Method:**

Applying the boards horizontally, screw fix the 12mm BAL BOARDS at 300mm centres horizontally and vertically using stainless steel galvanized screws. NOTE: Install in a broken bond or brick pattern

### **Over Concrete/Cement:Sand Screeds Subfloors**

Before using BAL BOARD, ensure that the substrate is flat (SR1), free from efflorescence, laitance, dirt and other loose materials. Remove all barriers to adhesion including polished concrete by the use of suitable mechanical methods.

Allow the following minimum drying times:

– Concrete/concrete block walls/clay brickwork: 6 weeks

– Cement:sand screed: 3 weeks

#### **Fixing Method:**

Before installing, prime all faces of the BAL BOARDS with BAL PRIME APD (Diluted 1:1 by volume with water) and allow to dry. Using a minimum 6mm notched trowel, apply a thin bed of BAL RAPIDSET FLEXIBLE FIBRE see BAL TECHNICAL DATA SHEET for further information on mixing and application.

NOTE: install the 6mm or 12mm BAL BOARD in a broken bond or brick pattern. Tape the joints using BAL SCRIM TAPE. BAL RAPID-FLEX ONE or BAL POURABLE ONE can be used when fixing ceramics or stone to BAL BOARD 6mm or 12mm.

### **Undertile electrical heating systems**

NOTE: For further information on other backgrounds and preparation, contact BAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY AND SPECIFICATION SERVICE.

### **Heated Screeds**

Suitable for use over sand/cement screeds with water fed underfloor heating encased within. Adhesive fixing method will be required.

NOTE: For further information on other backgrounds and preparation, contact BAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY AND SPECIFICATION SERVICE.

### **Cutting the BAL BOARD (BAL BOARD 6mm and 12mm)**

Easy to cut, score and snap. BAL BOARD only requires a suitable utility knife just score the board and snap. No special tools needed.

1. Mark out the area to be cut and using a straight edge as a guide, score down the board using a utility knife, making sure to slice through the glass fibre mesh.
2. Pull the board edge towards you and snap the board.
3. Cut out for areas of fittings and fixtures should be done before installing the board.

### **Painted and Wallpaper Finishes**

Preparation procedure when painting or wallpapering  
Internal dry areas

1. The BAL BOARD must be installed with the smooth face outwards.
2. Wipe the face of the board with a damp cloth and leave to dry.
3. All screw fixings and board joints must be filled used the appropriate decorating filler before painting or wallpapering.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION / GOOD PRACTICE ADVICE**

For detailed information and safety guidance, please refer to Product Material Safety Data Sheet [MSDS].

### **TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICE**

For free expert guidance on use of this product, or any aspect of tiling, contact the BAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY AND SPECIFICATION SERVICE on Tel: 01782 591120 or 03330 030160 or Email: [info@building-adhesives.com](mailto:info@building-adhesives.com)

### **SHELF LIFE**

12 months under normal dry conditions. Protect from frost and damp.

### **QUALITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS**

Manufacturing quality assurance standards conform to BS EN ISO 9001. Satisfies the environmental management requirements and operational scope of ISO 14001.

### **25 YEAR GUARANTEE**

*All BAL products are supplied with a 25-year product guarantee to be free from manufacturing defects and to be fit for purpose. The guarantee covers materials replacement costs and labour. This guarantee is subject to use of product in accordance with BAL's instructions and technical data, and good working practice. No liability can be accepted for any loss or damage arising from incorrect use of products or poor workmanship, over which BAL has no control. While products may be suitable for installations internally or externally, products when used externally are exempt from cover under the BAL 25 Year Guarantee. Terms and conditions apply. Full details are available for your review at [www.bal-adhesives.com](http://www.bal-adhesives.com).*

### **CONDITIONS OF SALE**

Sold subject to the Company's Conditions of Sale. Available on request.

*For sales and technical queries, contact:*

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NOTE: BAL reserves the right to update instructions, technical data and other information at any time without notice.

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