

# Installation Guidelines

## Interior Wall Tile Bathtub/Shower (B412)

**SUBSTRATE: Wood or Metal Studs****UNDERLAYMENT: Backer Board- Cementitious or Fiber Cement****SETTING: Dry-Set, Latex-Portland Cement Mortar or Thin-Set Mortar**

- » Use this method in tub and shower enclosures over dry, well-braced wood or metal studs.
- » The stud spacing should not exceed 16" o.c. and must have minimum depth of 3 1/2".
- » Metal studs must be minimum 20 gauge.
- » Install the cement backer board leaving a 1/8" gap between boards. Fasten to the studs using galvanized nails, screws or other corrosion-resistant fasteners. Fasten every 6"-8" or according to manufacturer's instructions.
- » Leave a 1/4" gap between tub and backer board.
- » Mark where plumbing will need to come through and cut board with a utility knife or hole-saw.
- » Tape seams with alkali resistant glass fiber mesh tape 2" thick.
- » Apply a coat of water proof liquid membrane with a roller or brush.
- » Membrane is to lap over face of flange of tub unit or prefabricated shower receptor.
- » Press the water proof fabric into the coat of water proof liquid membrane until liquid membrane slightly oozes out the fabric.
- » Apply another coat of the water proofing liquid to the fabric and allow to dry (approx. 3 hours, per directions).
- » Apply one last coat of water proofing membrane to surface. Once dry, check for pinholes, cracks or any other defects. Allow to dry.
- » Apply a thin layer of thin-set to bed and apply tiles, keeping the 1/4" between wall and tub intact. Make sure that 95% of tile is touching bed. Allow thin-set to dry
- » Choose the grout most appropriate to the tile. Use a silicone caulk where corners meet as this will allow for shifting. Fill 1/4" gap between wall and tub with the same caulk.
- » Allow grout to dry and clean according to manufacturer's directions.

**SUGGESTED MATERIALS:**

- » Cementitious backer units: ANSI A118.9 or ASTM C1325 (Type B).
- » Fiber cement underlayment: ASTM C1288.
- » 2" alkali-resistant glass fiber mesh tape.
- » Dry-set mortar: ANSI A118.1
- » Latex-Portland cement mortar: ANSI A118.4
- » Grout: ANSI A118.6, A118.7 or A118.3
- » Flexible mildew-resistant sealant (silicone caulk): ASTM C920.
- » Metal studs: ASTM C645.
- » Membrane: ANSI A108.02-3.8.

**PREPARATION BY OTHER TRADES:**

- » Studs: install square and plumb.
- » Opening for recessed tub: not to exceed 1/2" more than length of tub.
- » Bathtub: install level and support with metal hangers or on wood framing members.
- » Fire and sound ratings: extend board required for ratings down to the floor behind the tub so that construction will be the same as the tested assembly.
- » Maximum variation in backing surface: 1/4" in 10' and 1/16" in 1' from the required plane.
- » 1/8" spacing between backer units filled solid with dry-set or latex: Portland cement mortar.
- » 2" alkali-resistant glass fiber mesh tape in dry-set or latex: Portland cement mortar.
- » Water-proof membrane: ANSI A118.10 per manufacturer's instructions and ANSI A108.13.

**INSTALLATION SPECIFICATIONS:**

- » Cementitious backer units: ANSI A108.11.
- » Fiber cement underlayment: per manufacturer's instructions.
- » Tile: ANSI A108.5.
- » Grout: ANSI A108.6 or A108.10.