



HYDRO-BLOK 1" wallboard must be used for all commercial installations. The 1" wallboard should be notched (1/2") on the bottom edge to fit with the notch on HYDRO-BLOK shower pans. HYDRO-BLOK 1/2" wallboard may be used for residential installs

Drawing not to scale

HYDRO-BLOK Wallboard and Shower Pan(s) should be installed as per the HYDRO-BLOK installation guides for those products. Tile, stone and other products should be installed as per TCNA guidelines SR613/SR614.



A steam room or shower can be a relaxing escape where the heat and humidity soothe away tension and stress. However due to the high temperatures and moisture involved, steam rooms and showers require a more intricate installation to ensure that moisture does not reach building materials and structure outside the steam shower/room.

HYDRO-BLOK wallboard and shower pan products can help make the installation of a residential or commercial steam room simpler and faster than traditional mortar bed methods, all while providing the same long lasting durability of a HYDRO-BLOK shower. HYDRO-BLOK wallboard and shower pans are made of a closed-cell XPS foam which is 100% waterproof, unlike traditional cement backerboards. When installed according to the HYDRO-BLOK installation guides with HYDRO-BLOK joint sealant, they act as a initial waterproof barrier.

Application Notes

- **Steam rooms and shower should be constructed to the Tile Council of North America (TCNA) guidelines SR613 (masonry or concrete construction, commercial applications) and SR614 (wood or steel joist construction, residential installs).** HYDRO-BLOK wallboard and pre-sloped shower pan products may replace the mortar bed and/or the cement backboard as specified in those guidelines.
- Walls and ceilings should be fully insulated before installing your HYDRO-BLOK products to prevent condensation in the wall cavity (with potential for mold growth and damage to structure) and prevent excessive heat loss. While HYDRO-BLOK products provide increased insulating properties due to their foam core, they do not replace traditional between-the-studs insulation.
- Ceilings should be sloped at a rate of 2" per foot in order to prevent condensation dripping onto occupants. HYDRO-BLOK shower pans meet or exceed the recommended ¼" per foot slope to the drain.
- For residential installations, HYDRO-BLOK ½" wallboard may be used for walls and ceilings and should be installed as per the current HYDRO-BLOK Shower System Installation Guide.
- For commercial installations, HYDRO-BLOK 1" wallboard must be used for walls and ceilings. The lower edge of the 1" wallboard must be notched to mate with the ½" notch of HYDRO-BLOK shower pans and extensions. This joint must be sealed with HYDRO-BLOK Joint Sealant as per the current HYDRO-BLOK Shower System Installation Guide.
- A liquid waterproofing membrane with a PERM rating of 0.5 or better must be applied over all HYDRO-BLOK cement surfaces. The membrane may be applied over areas of HYDRO-BLOK joint sealant if desired. Liquid waterproofing membranes should be applied according to the manufacturer's instructions in order to obtain a PERM rating of 0.5 or better.
- The proper installation of the HYDRO-BLOK wallboard, showers pans and drain systems with HYDRO-BLOK joint sealant precludes the need for movement joints as specified in TCNA SR613/SR614.
- All other fittings and fixtures must be installed as per TCNA SR613/SR614.
- Ceramic tile for steam rooms and showers must meet ANSI A137.1 requirements and be approved by the manufacturer to be used in a steam room/shower. The TCNA does not recommend the installation of natural stone in steam room/showers. Tile should be installed with a dry-set cement mortar meeting the requirements of ANSI A118.15 using a thin-set method directly to the waterproof membrane. A properly sized notched trowel should be utilized to achieve a 95% coverage rate on the back of the tile. Tile grout should be a 100% epoxy or cement based grout meeting the requirements of ANSI A118.7.
- Please contact your HYDRO-BLOK dealer or distributor if you have any questions before installing your steam room or shower.

