

# WonderBoard® Lite Installation Guide



## UNDERLAYMENT FOR TILE & STONE

1 PREP



## WonderBoard® Lite

### For Wood Floors & Countertops



**1/4" WonderBoard® Lite Backerboard**

Size	
36" x 60" x 1/4"	15 sq. ft.

### For Walls & Showers



**7/16" WonderBoard® Lite Backerboard**

Size	
36" x 60" x 7/16"	15 sq. ft.

WonderBoard Lite can be used in applications such as walls, ceilings, floors, decks, countertops and vanities. Use under any tile or natural stone.



Eligible for up to a **Lifetime Warranty** — No reported failures in 40 years



Meets All ANSI Specifications for Cement Backerboard



For Use in Wet Areas



For Indoor and Outdoor Use



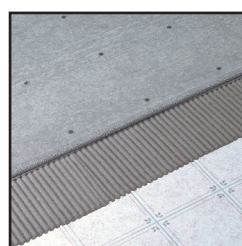
Contains No Wood Fiber or Gypsum

## Surface Preparation

### Floors & Countertops



5/8" subfloor with 16" on center framing



Installation over existing vinyl floor

#### Over Wood Subfloor

For best results, be sure plywood subfloor panels are gapped 1/8" at seams. If plywood is not gapped, saw cut joints all the way through the plywood sheets. Keep joints free of mortar.

- Subfloor and countertop base should be an exterior grade plywood with a minimum thickness of 3/4" when using 1/4" WonderBoard Lite. When using 7/16" WonderBoard Lite, base should be a minimum of 5/8" thick. The total wood subfloor including the plywood and WonderBoard Lite should be a minimum of 1" thick.
- Ensure the subfloor is structurally sound and clear of debris.
- Joists or framing should be spaced no more than 16" on center.

#### Over Vinyl Floors

Do not apply directly over cushioned or sponged back flooring. Subfloor under linoleum must comply with requirements of wood subfloor and should be well bonded.

- Clean flooring thoroughly and remove all waxes, coatings and other contaminants.

#### Over Existing Plastic Laminated Countertops

- If thoroughly bonded and rigid, clean to remove all contaminants then roughen surface with coarse sander.
- Remove any loose material.

#### Recommended:

Wear impervious gloves, such as nitrile, safety glasses and approved dust mask. Please read Safety Data Sheet for details.

## Installation for Ceramic Tile or Natural Stone

### Scoring & Cutting Panels



#### Tip:

Use a circular saw with a carbide-tipped blade for large cutouts or a drill with a masonry bit for small holes.

#### Score then snap WonderBoard Lite

Save time by pre-cutting all panels then fastening.

- With scoring tool or utility knife and straight-edge, score through fiberglass mesh on one side.
- Snap board at score line.
- Cut mesh on other side and snap back. Cut through mesh on both sides.
- Knock out piece with hammer and smooth with file.

### Floor or Countertop Installation: 1/4" or 7/16" WonderBoard Lite



Adhere to subfloor



Stagger surface and panel joints

- Using a 1/4" x 1/4" x 1/4" square-notch trowel, apply a leveling bed of polymer-modified thin-set mortar such as FlexBond® to the subfloor.
- Place WonderBoard Lite panels perpendicular to the plywood sheets, leaving a 1/8" gap between each panel.
- Stagger panel joints to eliminate a continuous gap line across the floor.
- Fasten WonderBoard Lite every 6"-8" around all edges using 1-1/4" cement backerboard screws or 1-1/2" galvanized roofing nails. Around perimeter of each board, position fasteners within 1/2" -2" of edges and throughout the panels.
- Fill all joints between panels with thin-set mortar then embed 2" wide fiberglass mesh tape and smooth. Leave a 1/8"-1/4" gap around perimeter of wall for expansion.

### Wall Installation: 7/16" WonderBoard Lite



Fasten to studs



Tape gaps

- In wet areas, nail or staple 15 lb. roofing felt or 4 mil polyethylene sheeting to studs prior to installing the WonderBoard Lite.
- Stagger panel joints to eliminate a continuous gap line across the wall.
- Fasten WonderBoard Lite panels to studs every 6"-8" around all edges using 1-1/4" cement backerboard screws or 1-1/2" galvanized roofing nails. Around perimeter of each board, position fasteners within 1/2"-2" of edges. Leave a 1/8" gap between panels, corners and floor.
- Fill gaps between panels and corners with a thin-set mortar, then embed 2" wide fiberglass mesh tape and smooth.

See website for how to waterproof with RedGard®.

### Setting Tile



Press tiles into place

Following the thin-set mortar instructions, you can now install the tile or stone.

- Clear all debris from WonderBoard Lite and vacuum to eliminate excess dust or dirt. Lightly dampen panels with sponge or cloth.
- Use a thin-set mortar and spread with a notch trowel (see trowel for correct size based on tile dimensions).
- Press tile firmly into place in a perpendicular motion across ridges, moving back and forth 1/8"-1/4".

#### Recommended:

Use one of CUSTOM's premium mortars for a Lifetime Warranty on your installation.

## Tools & Materials Checklist



- Level or straightedge
- Scoring tool
- Square notch trowel
- Hammer
- Drill and drill bits
- Latex or polymer-modified thin-set mortar such as: FlexBond® Crack Prevention Mortar
- 1-1/2" galvanized roofing nails or
- 1-1/4" Backerboard Screws
- 2" wide alkali-resistant fiberglass joint tape
- 1/4" WonderBoard Lite
- 7/16" WonderBoard Lite



Look for this icon on products that qualify for a **Lifetime Warranty**

Learn more at [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com)

Not for use over concrete/gypsum substrates.

WonderBoard Lite must not be used as a structural load-bearing member. Foundation must be sound at all times. WonderBoard Lite is unaffected by water but is not a water barrier.

Fire Performance: WonderBoard Lite has achieved a fire resistance rating for cementitious backer units per ANSI/UL 263 and CAN/ULC S101, Report No. 21766.

Refer to the Product Data Sheet for complete application, use, limitation and warranty information.

WonderBoard® Lite is a registered trademark of Modulars, Inc.



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