MR (Moisture-Resistant) Board is a specially processed gypsum wallboard for use as a base for ceramic tile and other nonabsorbent finish materials in wet areas. The core, face paper and back paper of MR Board are treated to withstand the effects of moisture and high humidity. Its facing paper is colored light green to make it readily distinguishable from regular gypsum wallboard. MR Board may be extended beyond the area to be tiled. A tapered edge is provided so joints can be treated in the normal manner where MR Board extends beyond the tiled area. No special tapes or edge sealants are required. The tile adhesive eliminates the need for further corner treatment, nail spotting and edge sealing, or filling the edge taper in the area to be tiled.

Inexpensive backer for tile and other nonabsorbent finish materials.

Same installation procedure as regular gypsum board on walls. No additional tools or fasteners are required.

Provide appropriate blocking, headers or supports to support tub, other plumbing fixtures and to receive soap dishes, grab bars, towel racks and similar items as may be required.

Allow sufficient framing space between framing and fixtures so the inside lip of the fixture shall be in the same plane as the face of the MR Gypsum Wallboard. Fur as necessary.

Plumbing fixtures

Install shower pans, receptors or tubs prior to erecting MR Gypsum Wallboard.

Framing members shall be plumb and true. Place studs (wood or metal) not to exceed 24” o.c.

Install the bath or shower receptor before MR Board is applied. If stud spacing is greater than 16” o.c., horizontal framing or blocking should be installed approximately 1” above the edge of the fixture and at MR Board horizontal joints in area to receive tile.

Thickness: 1/2” and 5/8”  
ASTM permissible variations: In the nominal thickness of +/- 1/64” (0.4 mm) with local variations of +/- 1/32” (0.8 mm) from the nominal thickness.

Width: 4’  
ASTM permissible variation: +0”, - 3/32” (2.4 mm)

Lengths: 6’-16’ (1/2” increments)  
ASTM permissible variation: +/- 1/4” (6.4 mm)

Corners: Square  
ASTM permissible variation: +/- 1/8” (3.2 mm) in the full width of the board

Edges: Tapered

Weight: 1/2” – Approx. 1.9 lbs./sf  
5/8” – Approx. 2.4 lbs./sf

ASTM E 84 Surface Burning Characteristics  
(Fire Hazard Classification)  
Flame Spread: 15  
Smoke Developed: 0
FASTENING
Apply MR Gypsum Wallboard horizontally to the framing using nails or screws spaced no more than 8" o.c. driven flush with the gypsum board. Nails shall be standard gypsum wallboard nails of sufficient length to penetrate wood framing a minimum of 3/4". Screws shall be standard gypsum wallboard screws of sufficient length to penetrate framing a minimum of 5/8". During board application, coat all cut edges with approved water-resistant adhesive as recommended for tile application. In bath or shower areas, maintain a 1/4" space between the lower paper-bound edge of the board and the lip of the tub or shower receptor.

Joint treatment and caulking
Using water-resistant tile adhesive, meeting requirements of ANSI A136.1-1985, Type 1, lay a bead of adhesive on the tub or shower receptor flange and caulk all corners and around all openings prior to tile application. Spot nail and screw heads with water-resistant tile adhesive on surfaces to be covered with tile.

Decoration beyond tiled area
Treat all joints beyond the area to be tiled in a conventional manner using tape and joint compound.

PAINTING
1. Prime all exposed MR Board with a high-quality latex primer. If surface becomes marred or is not thoroughly covered, a second prime coat should be applied.
2. When the prime coat(s) has dried, apply a finish coat of high-quality paint such as latex semi-gloss enamel.

WALLCOVERING
1. Prime all exposed MR Board as in step 1 of Painting section above, using one or two coats of primer as required to adequately cover the surface and allow to dry. This treatment ensures adhesion of the wallcovering paste to the board and facilitates subsequent removal of wallcovering when redecorating.
2. Apply wallcovering in the conventional manner after primer is thoroughly dry.

Limitations
— MR Board is not recommended for use where there will be direct exposure to water or continuous high-humidity conditions such as found in saunas, steam rooms, gang shower rooms or swimming pool enclosures. Cementitious tile backer board should be considered.

— No vapor retarder should be placed behind the MR Board where tile is to be applied to the face. A vapor retarder can be created on the face of the MR Board by applying a skim coat of tile adhesive or by using a silicone grout for tile.

— The MR Board should not be used on exterior ceilings. Gold Bond Soffit Board is recommended for protected exterior ceiling applications.

— National Gypsum recommends application of MR Board to interior ceilings when framing does not exceed 12" o.c. for 1/2" MR Board and 16" o.c. for 5/8" MR Board, including use as a substrate when ceramic tile or similar materials are to be applied to the ceiling.

— Do not apply joint compound to joints or fasteners to be tiled. *

*This requirement may be waived if the applied tile in combination with the bonding adhesive employed fully protects the gypsum board and water-sensitive materials, if present (such as when joint compound is used), from penetration of water. Responsibility of performance of completed installations shall rest with the surfacing material manufacturer and/or the surfacing material applicator.