Drywall Installation

Estimating Materials

Quickly determine how much PURPLE® drywall will be needed to complete your project. Be sure to allow 10% to 15% overage for cutting and piecing.
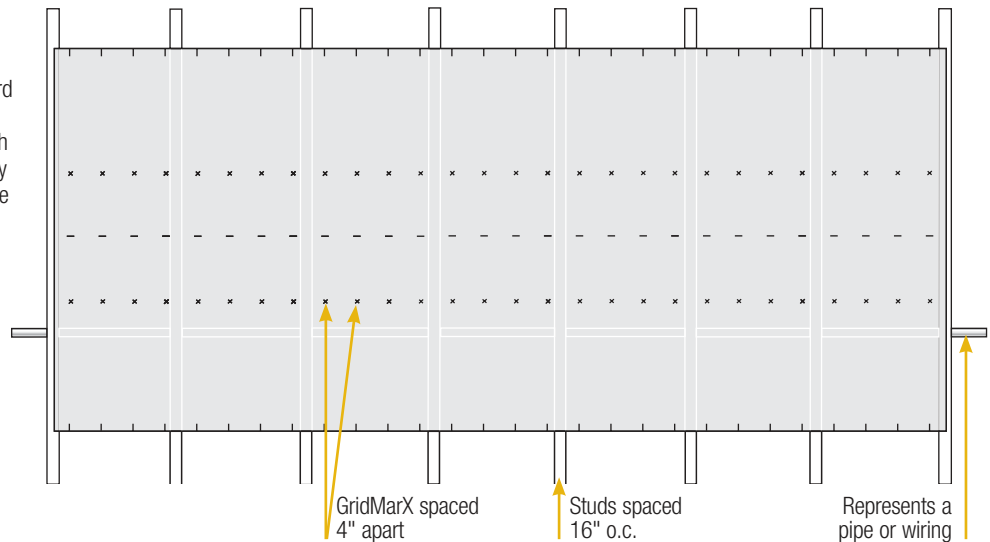
Handling and Storage

Store flat and off the floor. Keep dry prior to installation.

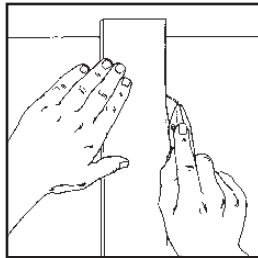| Sq. Ft. of Wall/Ceiling	Drywall Size 4' x 8'	4' x 12'	# of Nails	# of Screws
100	4	3	168	90
200	7	5	294	150
300	10	7	420	240
400	13	9	546	300
500	16	11	672	390
600	19	13	798	456
700	22	15	924	528
800	25	17	1050	600
900	29	19	1218	696
1000	32	21	1344	768

GridMarX®

To help simplify drywall installation, National Gypsum's PURPLE drywall products come standard with our unique GridMarX guide marks printed right on the paper surface. These marks align with standard building dimensions and help you quickly identify fastener lines for studs and make accurate cuts without having to draw any lines.

When applying the board horizontally, GridMarX serve as a reference mark to help identify the location of framing members behind the drywall. For example, if the framing member is located 2" to the right of the GridMarX reference mark at the top edge of the board, it will be located 2" to the right down the face of the board.
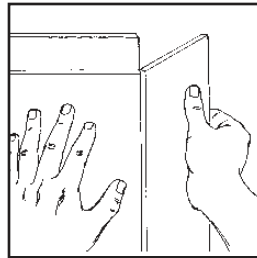

GridMarX spaced 4" apart

Studs spaced 16" o.c.

Represents a pipe or wiring
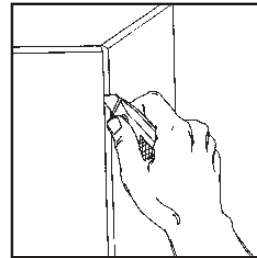
Cutting Drywall

Cut drywall to fit short walls, doorways and openings for electrical outlets, etc. Measure carefully and mark with a pencil.
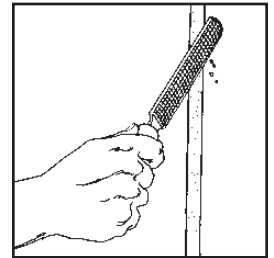

■ Using a straightedge and utility knife, score the drywall on the face paper side along the pencil line(s).

■ Snap board along the score over the edge of a solid support. (A quick action produces the best results.)
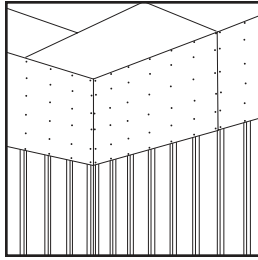
■ Using utility knife, cut through back paper.
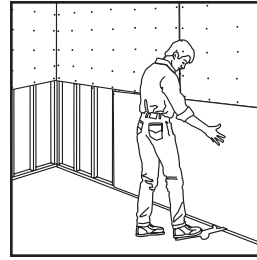
■ Smooth the rough edges with a rasp.

Walls

■ Abut top row of upper sidewall panels horizontally to ceiling.

Using the GridMarX, locate where the studs fall at the bottom of the board in relation to the marks. Use this as a guide.

Space nails 8" or screws 16" apart, starting at the center of the panel and working outward toward the perimeter.
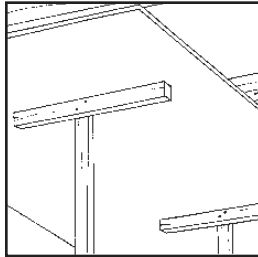
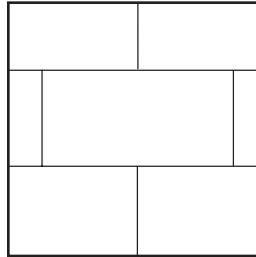■ Hold the lower sidewall panel snugly against upper panel. A panel lifter (as shown) will

help hold the panel until fastened. Begin fastening near the center of board and proceed to the outside.

Note: For added strength when applying drywall to studs, consider drywall adhesive in addition to nailing or screwing.
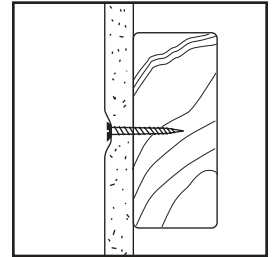
Ceilings

■ Start with ceiling, applying drywall at right angles to joists. Use panel lifter or a temporary T-brace to support weight.
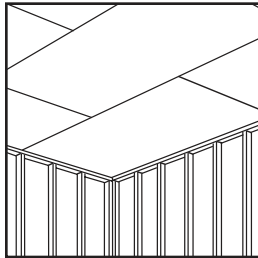
■ Stagger butt end (cut end) joints so joint does not extend across the ceiling. Never place a butt end next to a tapered edge.

Nail or screw drywall to the joists. The GridMarX guide marks are spaced 4" apart. Use the GridMarX to gauge your nail spacing. Space nails not to exceed 7", (a minimum of 3/8" and a maximum of 1/2" from drywall edge). Screws should be spaced no more than 12" apart on ceilings.
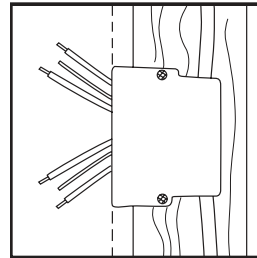
■ Slightly recess the nail or screw head. Indent face paper without tearing it.

Helpful Hints

■ Start with proper framing. Be sure studs are straight to provide adequate nailing surface at adjoining walls.

■ Align all electrical outlets, heating ducts, etc., so they will be flush with the drywall surface.

Helpful Hint: Use the GridMarX as a reference point to locate and cut drywall for electrical outlet boxes, which are generally located 16" up from the floor.

Building Your Own T-Braces

When installing drywall to ceilings, you may find it helpful to have "T-braces" to hold the drywall panels in place while driving nails or screws. Start with two 2x4 wood uprights that are 1/2" longer than the floor-to-ceiling height. Nail a 3' piece of 1x4 board to the long boards. Wedge the T-braces between floor and panel and you're ready to fasten the drywall to the ceiling joists.

NOTE: Renting a panel lifter is recommended for safety.

National Gypsum®