

Jobsite Repairs

DensElement® Sheathing

In the event that the DensElement® Sheathing component of the DensElement® Barrier System is damaged during delivery, installation or building operation, the following repair guidelines are recommended. Damaged areas should be assessed and repaired to maintain the desired fire resistance, water-resistive and air barrier (WRB-AB) properties of the sheathing. The appropriate repair method should be chosen according to the severity of the damage.

Repair Material List

- DensElement® Sheathing
- Utility knife or saw
- Flat metal track
- Standard sheathing fasteners
- Water-based primer or surface conditioner
- DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing

Misplaced Fastener Holes

If sheathing or cladding fasteners accidentally miss the stud when being driven, remove the fastener then fill and seal the vacated fastener hole with DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing.

Shallow Indentations or Minor Surface Damage

Damage to the DensElement® Sheathing that leaves the fiberglass mat intact with the gypsum core with little to no gypsum exposure may be sealed with DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing.

Deep Indentations or Extensive Surface Damage

Damage to the DensElement® Sheathing that results in the fiberglass mat being torn away, no longer intact with the gypsum core of the sheathing, or leaves the gypsum core exposed must be repaired.

If the fiberglass mat has disengaged from the core of the sheathing in a surface area that is:


- *Greater than 8 inches*, replace that section of sheathing following the steps in the repair section for “Large Size Holes”.
- *Less than 8 inches*, continue steps 1-3 below.
 1. Cut away and remove any loose fiberglass mat.
 2. Prime any exposed gypsum core with water-based primer or surface conditioner suitable for raw gypsum.
 3. Apply DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing to the entire primed area, covering a minimum 1” beyond the damaged area on all sides.

Small to Medium Sized Holes (1-8 inches)

Holes in the DensElement® Sheathing that are larger than 1-inch in diameter affect the WRB-AB properties and the fire-resistant performance of the sheathing and wall assembly.

1. Using a utility knife or saw, square-off the hole and surrounding damaged area of the sheathing. It should be cut large enough to secure metal track to all four sides of the hole on the backside of the sheathing.



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2. Cut a square sheathing patch of the same size from a DensElement® Sheathing panel of the same thickness.
 3. The patch should be mechanically secured to maintain the integrity of the DensElement® Barrier System:
 - From the backside of the sheathing panel (inside the wall cavity), center a flat metal track on the edge of the cut square opening, leaving half of the metal track exposed to later secure the panel patch.
 - Secure the metal track to the original sheathing using standard sheathing fasteners.
 - Repeat on all four sides of the opening.
 - Fit the panel patch into the hole tightly.
 - Attach the panel patch to the metal track using standard sheathing fasteners.
 4. Seal the seams of the newly patched hole with a minimum of 1 inch of DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing on both sides of the seam at a minimum thickness of 16 wet mils.
 5. Seal fastener heads with DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing.

For additional reference for repairing small holes, refer to the Gypsum Association GA-225 *Repair of Fire-Rated Gypsum Panel Product Systems*.

Large Sized Holes (8-inches and greater)

Holes in the DensElement® Sheathing that are larger than 8-inches in diameter should be cut and removed to the closest wall studs on either side of the hole. Then:

1. Secure metal track to back of the remaining sheathing (inside the wall cavity) at the top and bottom edges of the opening.
2. Tightly secure the framing to the metal track using standard sheathing fasteners driven through the sheathing and into the metal track.
3. Attach the replacement DensElement® Sheathing to the exposed wall studs and the installed metal track with standard sheathing fasteners.
4. Seal the seams of the replacement DensElement® Sheathing with a minimum of 1 inch of DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing on both sides of the seam.
5. Seal fasteners heads with DensDefy™ Liquid Flashing.

If in doubt about the repair method or the physical condition of the sheathing, the sheathing should be replaced in the areas of concern and the joints treated as outlined in the DensElement® Barrier System Installation Overview on DensElement.com.

These repairs, when done properly, will maintain the water and air resistive properties of the DensElement® Barrier System, including Georgia-Pacific Gypsum's limited warranty for the DensElement® Barrier System.

Visit www.DensElement.com for complete warranty details.



DensElement.com