

imperfections. Light striking the surface obliquely, at a very slight angle, greatly exaggerates surface irregularities. If critical lighting cannot be avoided, the effects can be minimized by skim coating the gypsum board surface, by decorating the surface with medium to heavy textures, or by the use of draperies and blinds which soften shadows. In general: gloss, semi-gloss, and enamel finishes highlight surface defects; textures hide minor imperfections.

Manufacturer Recommendations. The recommendations of individual manufacturers of gypsum board, joint tapes and compounds, accessories, drywall primers, wallcoverings, adhesives, texture materials, and paints may vary from what is recommended herein and as such are not a part of this recommended specification.

Drywall Primer. Applied as a first coat to the entire prepared gypsum board surface with brush, roller, or spray prior to decoration. Where final appearance is critical, the application of high quality high solids, drywall primer will minimize most decorating problems.

For finish paints:

A good quality, white, latex drywall primer formulated with higher binder solids, applied undiluted, is typically specified for new gypsum board surfaces prior to the application of texture materials and gloss, semi-gloss, and flat latex wall paints.

An alkali and moisture-resistant primer and a tinted enamel undercoat may be required under enamel paints. Consult with the finish paint manufacturer for specific recommendations.

For wallcoverings:

White, self-sizing, water base, "universal" (all purpose) wallcovering primers have recently been introduced into the marketplace for use on new gypsum board surfaces. These products are claimed to minimize damage if wallcoverings are subsequently removed, bind poor latex paint, allow hanging over glossy surfaces and existing vinyls, hide wall colors, and to be water washable.

Texturing. Texture material is applied by brush, roller, spray, or trowel, or a combination of these tools, depending on the desired result. Textured wall surfaces are normally overpainted with the desired finish; overpainting of textured ceiling surfaces may not be deemed necessary where an adequate amount of material is applied to provide sufficient hiding properties. A drywall primer may not be required under certain proprietary texture materials; consult with the manufacturer of the texture materials for specific recommendations.

Tool Marks and Ridges. A smooth surface may be achieved by lightly sanding or wiping joint compound with a dampened sponge. Care shall be exercised to ensure that the nap of the gypsum board facing paper is not raised during sanding operations. For additional information on the finishing of gypsum board surfaces consult ASTM Standard C 840.

V. Resources:

Designers and specifiers are encouraged to consult the following reference documents:

ASTM C 840, Standard Specification for Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board. American Society for Testing and Materials, West Conshohocken, PA.

GA-216, Specifications for the Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board, 1996. Gypsum Association, Washington, D.C.

GA-505, Gypsum Board Terminology, 1991. Gypsum Association, Washington, D.C.

Master Painters Glossary, Painting and Decorating Contractors of America, Fairfax, VA.

Contact one of the following associations for additional assistance or copies of this recommended specification:

Association of the Wall and Ceiling Industries—International

307 East Annandale Road, Suite 200
Falls Church, Virginia 22042-2433
Telephone: (703) 534-8300

Ceilings & Interior Systems Construction Association

1500 Lincoln Highway, Suite 202
St. Charles, Illinois 60174
Telephone: (630) 584-1919

Gypsum Association

810 First Street NE, #510
Washington, DC 20002
Telephone: (202) 289-5440

Painting and Decorating Contractors of America

3913 Old Lee Highway, Suite 33B
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
Telephone: (703) 359-0826
[HTTP://WWW.pdca.com](http://WWW.pdca.com)

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