

## FIXING GUIDE



**HardieBacker™** cement board is a unique, cement based, water resistant tile backerboard that can be used on walls, floors and worktops. It will keep your tiles just where you want them. **HardieBacker™** cement board with **MOULDBLOCK™** Technology provides superior moisture and mould resistance. Tried and tested in millions of homes worldwide, **HardieBacker™** cement board has a 10 year limited guarantee. This document will show you step-by-step how to install **HardieBacker™** 250 cement board on floors. For information relating to construction requirements refer to local building codes and standards.

### TIPS BEFORE YOU BEGIN

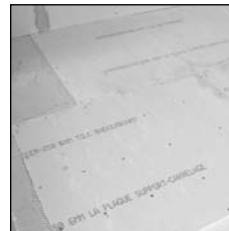
#### Accessories required

Ensure that you have all the right equipment before starting your project. i.e. **HardieBacker™** score-and-snap-knife or **HardieBlade™**, good-quality mastic, bucket, ruler, spatula, Fibatape, tile adhesive, 6mm notched trowel, James Hardie® backer-on screws and screwdriver / 30mm galvanised roof nails and hammer, sponge, pencil, H&SE approved respirator, PPE.



#### Laying the sheets out

Prior to installation take time to plan your sheet layout. Sheets should be laid in a brickwork pattern (EZ-grid face up) and sheet joints of **HardieBacker™** cement board should not coincide with joints of sub-floor material, where joints coincide this may be a point where the tiles crack.



#### Foundation

Ensure floor satisfies requirements of local building regulations and does not deflect more than (Length of floor/360). Excessive flex may cause the tiled floor to crack.



#### Cutting the sheets – score and snap

Sheets are easily cut using **HardieBacker™** score-and-snap knife. The sheets are scored 3 times to create a groove of 1.5-2 mm; the board is then pressed upwards snapping the board at the score and snap line.

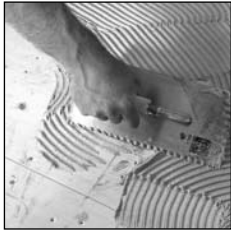


#### Preparing the substrate

Check that floor is suitable for use by removing any loose, warped or damaged parts of the sub-floor. Clean off the floor with a brush to remove any site dust to promote adhesion of the tile adhesive bed.



## INSTALLATION STEPS



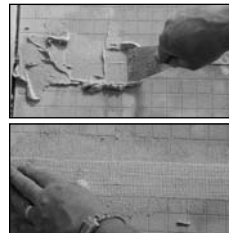
**Step 1.**  
**Preparing the bed for HardieBacker™ cement board**  
 HardieBacker™ 250 cement board is bedded into a tile adhesive compound. The tile adhesive levels out any minor deviations to allow for a well supported tile backer substrate. Spread the tile adhesive across the floor with a 6 mm notched trowel. Make sure that only enough tile adhesive is spread out for a sheet at a time. Too much adhesive may result in the adhesive drying out too fast.



**Step 5.**  
**Preparing to joint sheets**  
 Wipe down boards with a damp sponge to remove site dust.



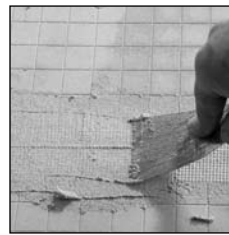
**Step 2.**  
**Installing the first sheet**  
 Sheets must be laid with a 3 mm gap from all walls, vanities, baths etc. This gap should be filled with good quality mastic. Sheets are then pressed into the bed of tile adhesive in moderate contact.



**Step 6.**  
**Sheet jointing and taping**  
 The joints are then jointed and reinforced to provide a more consistent substrate. Apply tile adhesive to joints of HardieBacker™ cement board with a spatula then embed 50 mm James Hardie® alkaline resistant FibaTape into tile adhesive.



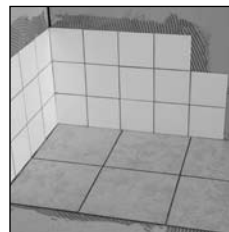
**Step 3.**  
**Fixing sheets**  
 Sheets are nailed through the body of the board and around the perimeter at 200 mm centres. Fixings are approximately 15 mm from edges and 50 mm from corners of sheets. Fixings can be either James Hardie® backer-on screws or 30 mm galvanised roof nails.



**Step 7.**  
**Finishing joint**  
 Apply a final layer of tile adhesive feathering joint out.



**Step 4.**  
**Subsequent sheets**  
 Subsequent sheets are fixed in the same method.



**Step 8.**  
**Ready for tiling**  
 Install tiles as per good building practice, local building regulations and national standards.

### James Hardie Recommended Cutting Practices

#### Outdoors

- Position cutting station so that wind will blow dust away from user or others in working area
- Use one of the following methods based on the required cutting rate:
  - Best
    - Score and snap
    - Shears (Pneumatic or Handheld)
  - Better
    - Dust reducing circular saw equipped with HardieBlade™ and HEPA vacuum extraction
  - Good
    - Dust reducing circular saw with HardieBlade™

#### Indoors

- Cut only using score and snap, or shears (manual, electric or pneumatic).
- Position cutting station in well-ventilated area.
- NEVER use a power saw indoors
- NEVER use a circular saw blade that does not carry the HardieBlade™ logo
- NEVER dry sweep – Use wet suppression or HEPA vacuum HardieBlade™ or HEPA vacuum

**Important Note: For maximum protection (lowest respirable dust production), James Hardie recommends always using "Best"-level cutting methods where feasible**

NIOSH-approved respirators can be used in conjunction with above cutting practices to further reduce dust exposures. Additional exposure information is available at [www.jameshardie.co.uk](http://www.jameshardie.co.uk) to help you determine the most appropriate cutting method for your job requirements. If concern still exists about exposure levels or you do not comply with the above practices, you should always consult a qualified industrial hygienist or contact James Hardie for further information.

#### WARNING AVOID BREATHING SILICA DUST

James Hardie® products contain respirable crystalline silica, which is considered by IARC to be a cause of cancer from some occupational sources. Breathing excessive amounts of respirable silica dust can also cause a disabling and potentially fatal lung disease called silicosis, and has been linked with other diseases. Some studies suggest smoking may increase these risks. During installation, use a fibre cement shear for cutting or, use score and snap technique. During clean-up, use HEPA vacuums or wet cleanup methods - never dry sweep. For further information, refer to our installation instructions and Material Safety Data Sheet available at [www.jameshardie.co.uk](http://www.jameshardie.co.uk) or by e-mailing to [info.europe@jameshardie.com](mailto:info.europe@jameshardie.com). FAILURE TO ADHERE TO OUR WARNINGS, MSDS, AND INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS MAY LEAD TO SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH. James Hardie Europe B.V. Atrium Building, 8th floor, Strawinskylaan 3077, 1077 ZX Amsterdam, the Netherlands



For further information on HardieBacker™ cement board please visit our website: [www.jameshardie.co.uk](http://www.jameshardie.co.uk)