



# Department of Development Services Building Division

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Letter to Industry

## GYPSUM APPLICATIONS - RESIDENTIAL

With the recent adoption of the 2000 IRC, there are a few code changes that affect gypsum product applications. This letter is designed to make industry aware of the following changes and effect a positive transition.

1. **Table R702.3.5 note d.** States in ceiling applications with framing at 24 inches o.c. with a water-based texture finish applied, gypsum board shall be 5/8 inch thick or 1/2 inch sag-resistant gypsum board.

The use of standard 1/2 inch drywall for ceilings with framing 24 inch on center is not in compliance.

2. **Table R702.3.5 note e (amendment).** States gypsum board for garage ceilings beneath habitable rooms shall be fastened at a maximum of 6 inches o.c. with a minimum 1 7/8 inch 6d nails or screws.

This note does not give a reduction in spacing requirement when using screws.

3. **Section 702.4.2** States that when water-resistant gypsum backer board is used as a backer for tile or other nonabsorbent finish material, all cut or exposed edges, including those at wall intersections, shall be sealed as recommended by the manufacturer.

The gypsum manufacturer needs to provide in writing an acceptable material for sealing of all cut edges, and how the sealant is to be applied to the cut edges prior to installation against the framing members.

If you have any questions concerning these items, please contact Wesley Walters, at 455-0557.