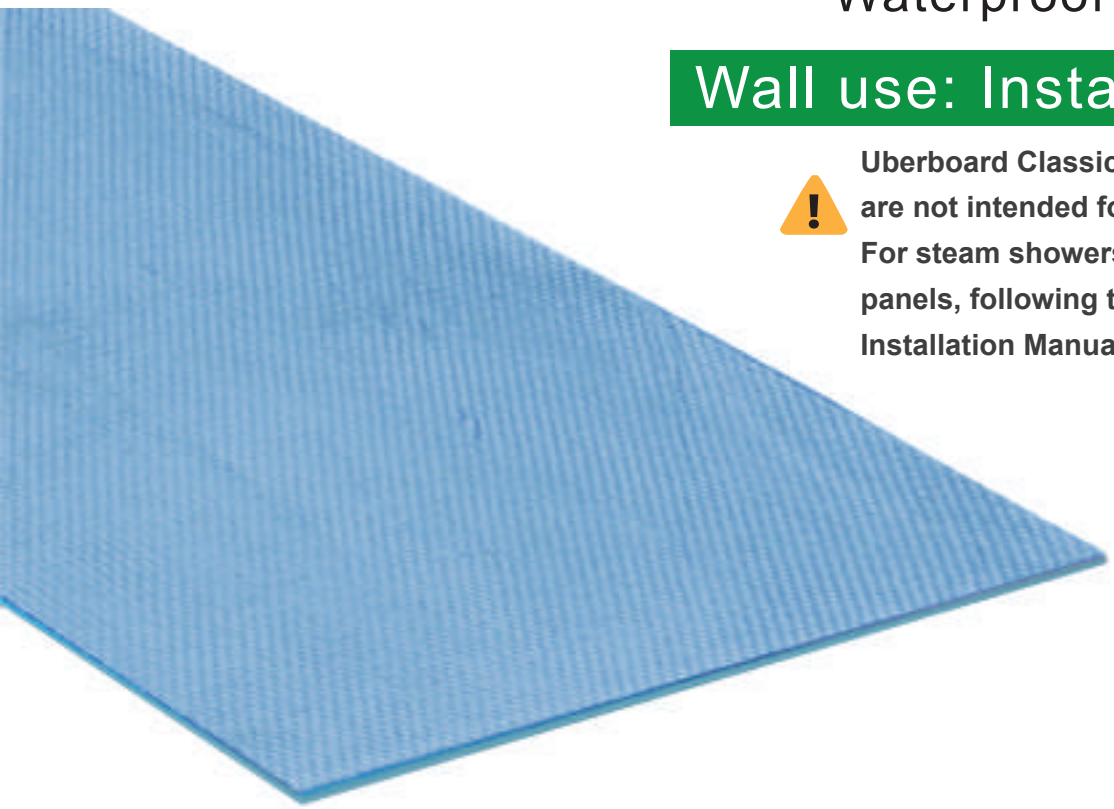
YouTube
@ubertile

ÜBERTILE®
Technology for Tiling

Ubertile® **UBERBOARD™** Waterproof Panels for Tiling

Wall use: Installation Manual



Uberboard Classic and Uberboard Tech panels are not intended for steam shower use. For steam showers, use Uberboard Vapor panels, following the Uberboard Vapor Panel Installation Manual.

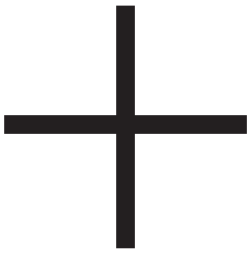
Pour voir le manuel en français
To view most current manual

Technical Questions?
1-877-759-5755 (M-F 9am-5pm, MST)
tech@ubertile.com

rev 01-01-2026

The information within this guide is for reference only and does not supersede requirements from other product manufacturers or building codes. Consult and follow manufacturers specific installation and safety instructions. Rudiger Group Inc bears no responsibility or liability for damage(s) resulting from the product installation. All tasks performed by the product user are at the own risk and liability of the user. Information may change without notice. Visit www.ubertile.com for most current revision of document. For Emergency SDS information, contact CHEMTREC: Canada 1-800-424-9300

1. Choosing a grout



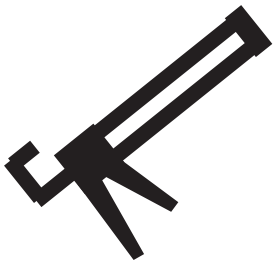
Cement based grouts absorb water.
Epoxy grouts, when compared to standard cement based grouts, absorb less water and are thus more suitable for shower use and don't require sealing.

Example:
•The average cement grout has a water absorption rate of 4 - 10%
•The average epoxy grout has a water absorption rate of 0.5% or less

For this reason we suggest using an epoxy grout.

2. Movement Joints?

The need for proper movement joints (silicone caulk) in the finished tile installation are mandatory, however often overlooked or forgotten altogether.



The reason movement joints are so important is that they help minimize stresses from movements within the structure, including expansion & contraction, all while maintaining a watertight seal.
Movement joints are required by industry standard in Canada defined by the TTMAC detail 301MJ-2019-2021.

At minimum silicone must be applied as a movement joint at these locations:
• Where the shower wall meets the shower floor
• Where the shower wall meets the shower ceiling
• Where a wall meets another wall (ie inside 90° corners)
• Where the shower curb (threshold) meets the shower floor
• Where a bench / seat meets the shower floor or shower wall
• On the inside intersections of a shower niche

Check with the silicone manufacturer for proper installation technique, the use of foam backing rods, etc.

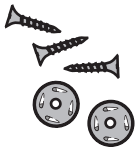
Required Products, Tools, Materials & Safety Gear



Uberboard Classic
1/2” thick panel



Uberseal



XPS screws/washers
(for wooden studs)

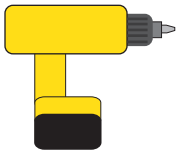


Modified
Thinset
ANSI A118.4
or A118.15

Required tools:



Tape Measure



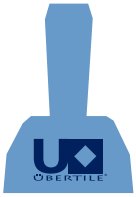
Power Drill



Marker / Pencil



Utility Knife
or HandSaw



überseal™
spreading tool



Caulking Gun

Required Safety :







Construction Requirements

General Construction Requirements

• Construction of the structure where the shower will be installed must abide by current local building codes. Verify with local building codes to ensure the compliance of products being used.

• Constructed units that are moved after waterproofing (ie modular home or RV's) may damage the waterproofing.

• Steam showers have very specific construction and installation requirements! Refer to Uberboard™ Vapor Manual for more information available at www.ubertile.com.

• The Ubertile products referenced in this manual have only been tested for indoor use, thus are not suitable for exterior use.

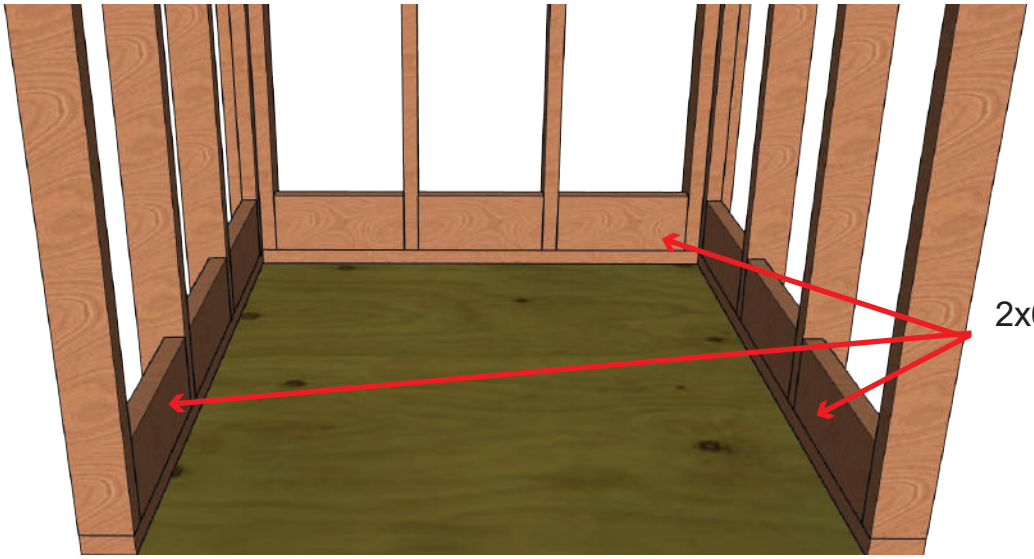
Wall & Ceiling Framing Requirements

• Wood studs or heavy gauge steel studs must be used for framing.

• Framing must be designed and constructed to accept the weight of the completed tile assembly.

• Stud spacing is a maximum 16" O.C. for wall or ceiling installation. It is permissable to have Studs spaced closer than 16" O.C. if you prefer, however this is not necessary.

• Framing must include 2x6 blocking installed at the wall perimeter where the Pre-sloped Shower Pan will be installed.



• On exterior walls, the walls must be prepared as required by local building code PRIOR to the installation of Uberboard™ panels.
Note: Uberboard™ panels will retard vapor, but are NOT a vapor barrier.

Example: If your local building code requires a vapor barrier (poly) on the inside of an exterior wall, then a vapor barrier (poly) is required to be installed PRIOR to the Uberboard™ panels being installed.

Example: Your local building code may recognize spray foam as a suitable vapor barrier on an exterior wall, thereby not requiring an additional vapor barrier (poly) to be applied prior to installing the Uberboard™ panels.

1.4L - Tile, Grout, Adhesive, Silicone Requirements

Tile Installation Requirements (General)

• Unless otherwise stated, TTMAC (Terrazzo Tile and Marble Assocation of Canada) and/or individual product manufacturer guidelines (example Thinset manufacturer) must be abided by.

• Uberboard Classic and Uberboard Tech panels are not intended for steam shower use.For steam showers, use Uberboard Vapor panels, following the Uberboard Vapor Installation Manual.

Tile Requirements

• Tiles must be rated for their intended use.

• Minimum tile thickness is 1/4" (6mm) .

• Maximum tile thickness is 5/8" (15mm)

• Minimum tile size (fascial dimension) is 2" x 2" (50mm x 50mm). Smaller tile must be grouted with epoxy grout.

• There is NO maximum tile size (fascial dimension) as long as the maximum weight listed below is not exceeded.

• Maximum allowable finished tile weight (including grout and setting materials) is 7lbs / sqft

Adhesive Requirements

• NEVER use mastics, premixed or solvent based adhesives.

• In regular showers (non-steam shower) use a Thinset rated at ANSI A118.4 or ANSI A118.15.

Grout Requirements

• Tiles smaller than 50mm x 50mm (2" x 2") (fascial dimension) require an ANSI A118.3 epoxy grout.

• Grout used on tiles larger than 50mm x 50mm (2" x 2") (fascial dimension) must meet or exceed ANSI A118.7.

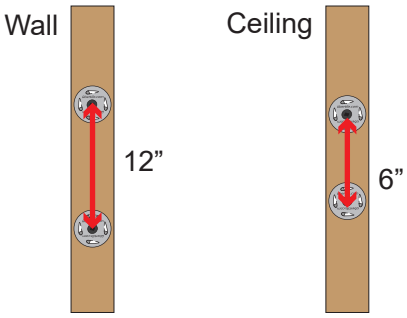
Silicone (Movement Joint) Requirements

• **There must be movement joints (silicone) in the finished tile installation per TTMAC detail 301MJ-2019-2021.**

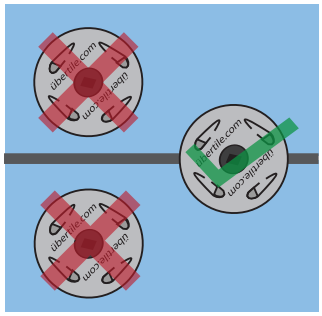
• Movement joints help accommodate stress from movement such as expansion & contraction. A silicone movement joint requires the use of a foam backer rod (Ubertile® item 205-41867-1) inserted into the joint before silicone is applied.

• The movement joints must be applied at these locations:
    - Where the shower wall meets the shower floor
    - Where the shower wall meets the shower ceiling
    - Where a wall meets another wall (ie inside 90° corners)
    - Where the shower curb (threshold) meets the shower floor
    - Where a bench / seat meets the shower floor or shower wall
    - On the inside intersections of a shower niche
    - Where the tile meets another permenant object (ie window casing)

Fastening Uberboard Wall Panels



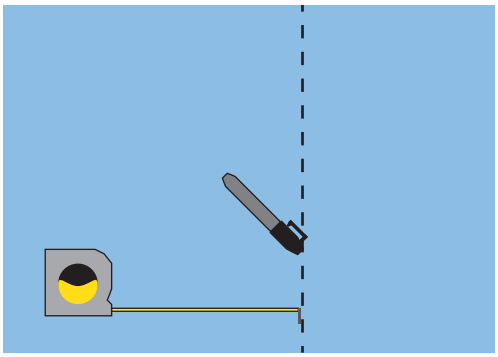
To fasten the **Uberboard Panels** to studs, use only **XPS screws/washers** installed at: Walls 12” O.C, Ceilings 6” O.C.



At panel seams, apply one **XPS fastener** directly at the panel seam, with the **XPS washer** positioned so 2 teeth are in contact with each sheet.

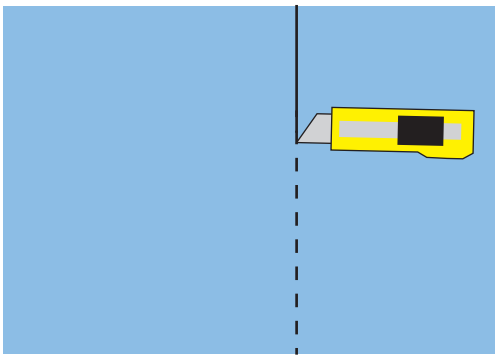
Cutting Uberboard Wall Panels

a.



Measure and mark sheet.

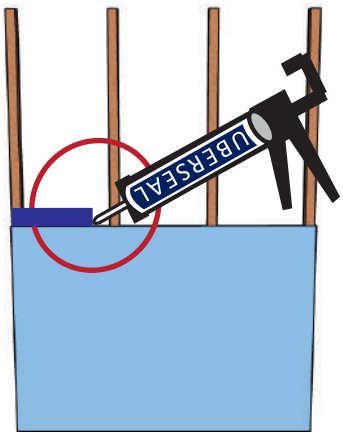
b.



Cut with a utility knife or hand saw.

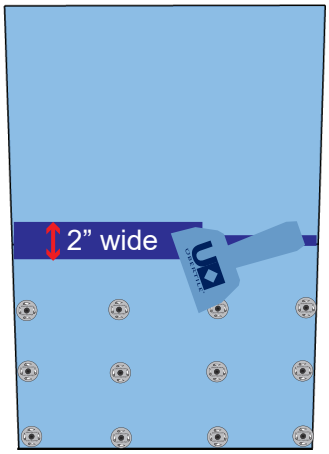
Sealing Uberboard Wall Panels

a.



Panel seams are sealed using **Uberseal**.

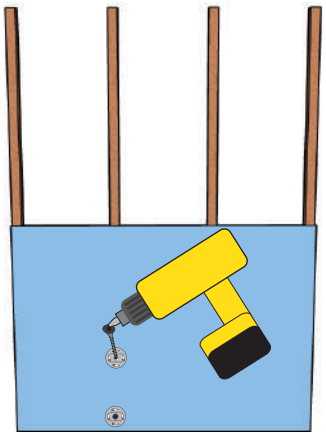
b.



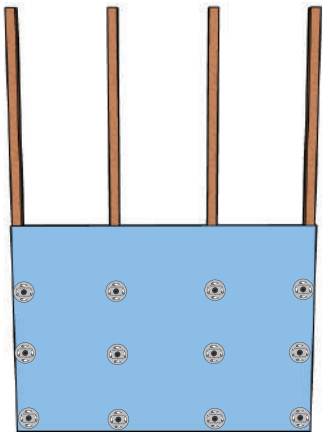
Uberseal when tooled flat must cover a minimum 1” onto each surface (2” total width).

Basic Installation of Uberboard Wall Panels

a.

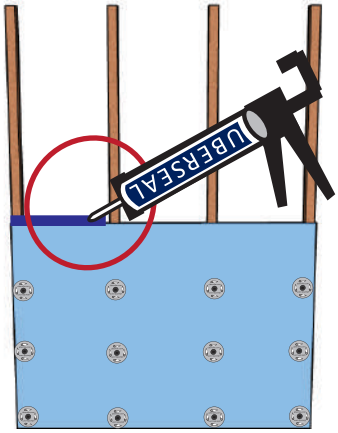


b.



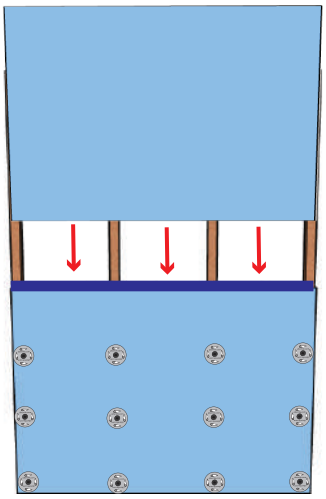
Fasten the panel to the studwork using the **XPS screws/washers**.

c.

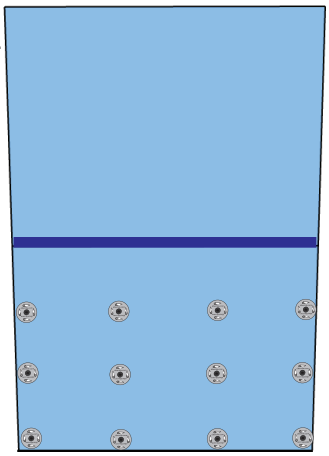


When butting together adjoining panels, first apply a liberal bead of **Uberseal** to the top 1/2" thick portion of the panel.

d.

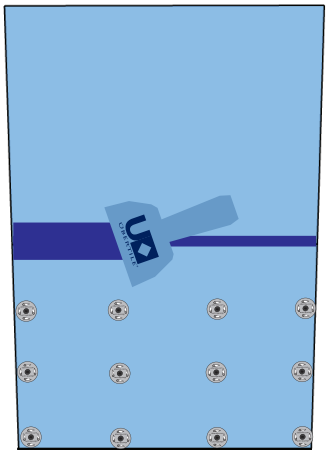


e.

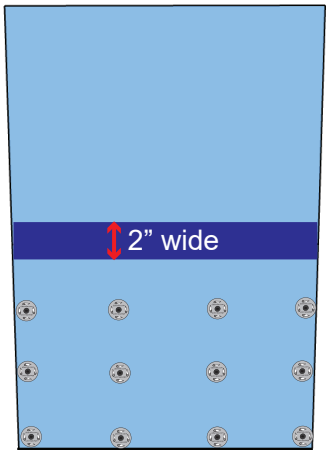


Insert the adjoining panel into the still fresh **Uberseal.**

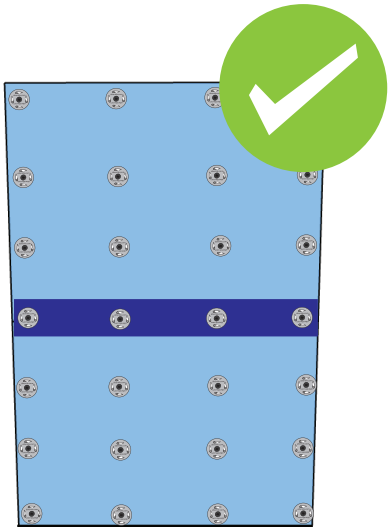
f.



g.



h.

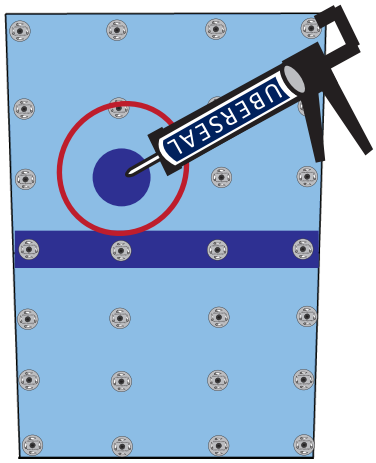


Spread / tool **Uberseal** flat / smooth to a minimum width of 1" onto each surface (2" total width).
If a 2" total width is not achieved, apply additional **Uberseal** spreading / tooling flat again until the 2" total width is achieved.

Continue fastening panels.

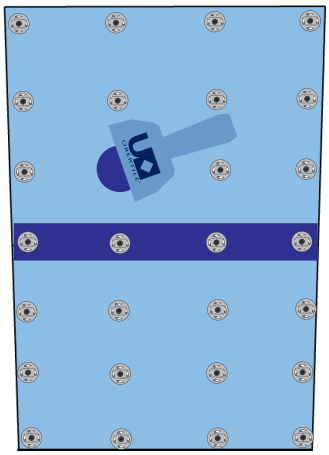
Basic Installation of Uberboard Wall Panels (continued)

a.



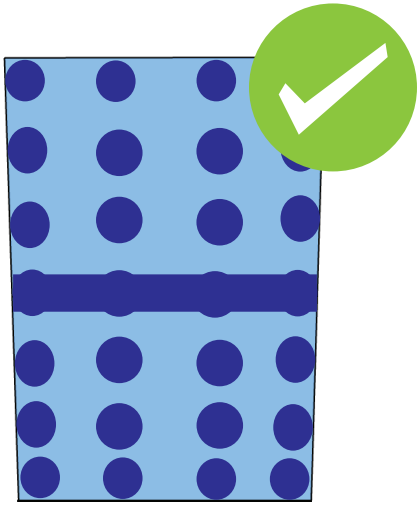
Apply **Uberseal** fully covering each **XPS washer/screw** surface.

b.



Spread / tool the still fresh **Uberseal** flat, so it completely covers the **XPS Screw / Washer** and covers a minimum 1” onto the **Panel** surface.

c.



Tiling

a.



If the assembly is not being flood tested, you can begin tiling within 2 hours of the **Uberseal** being applied.

Ideally (to allow thinset to cure), wait 24 hours to perform a flood test, following ASTM D5957 "Flood Testing Horizontal Waterproofing Installations".

ASTM D5957 specifies important details such as “using a brace / ballast” (ie. weight like a bag of **Thinset** or box of tiles) placed against the outside of the shower curb to ensure the weight of the water does not push outward and damage the assembly.

However if required you can flood test as soon as 2 hours after the entire shower assembly (walls, floor, curb and **Uberseal**) has been completed under the conditions below:

Flood testing sooner than 24 hours (minimum 2 hours) conditions:

- Do not “break the bond” of the fresh **Thinset**.
- Limiting the amount of water used for to reduce the weight during thinset and **Uberseal** curing.
- Fill the water ONLY partway up the **Uberseal** wall / floor / curb seam, as it is still curing, so is the thinset.

Certification Details

ICC ES C PMG

PMG-1682