

# NobleBoard™

## Installation Instructions

www.noblecompany.com

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

NobleBoard is a lightweight, high-density tile backer board that is quick and easy to install. The 100% waterproof XPS (extruded polystyrene) core is resistant to vapor pressure and does not support mold growth. The XPS core is sandwiched between two layers of tightly woven mesh and cementitious coating. **NobleBoard is not intended for pools, fountains, or other submerged applications.**

### 2. MATERIALS

**2.1 TOOLS NEEDED:** Utility knife, drill, measuring tape, straight edge, fasteners (*Noble washers and screws*), and general tile installation tools.

#### NOTES:

- a) Cut NobleBoard to fit the shower using a utility knife.
- b) NobleBoard is intended for interior use only.
- c) Center backer board ends or edge joints on framing and stagger joints in adjacent rows.
- d) All vertical seams must end on a stud. Additional framing may be required.
- e) When used in a waterproof assembly, a flood test must be performed in accordance with industry guidelines.
- f) Do not install NobleBoard over protrusions from stud or joist plane, such as brackets and fastener heads. Make sure NobleBoard is tight against joist and studs. Shims or additional framing may be required to achieve this.
- g) All framing must conform to all industry standards and meet allowable deflection of L/360 (L/720 for stone) under all intended loads. A minimum of 2" x 4" wood studs or 20-gauge metal studs.

### 3. INSTALLATION OVER WALLS AND CEILING

**3.1. LAYOUT:** Starting with the back wall, measure, cut, and dry fit NobleBoard to ensure all joints are staggered.

**3.2. NOBLESEALANT 250:** Apply 1/2" continuous bead of NobleSealant 250 to bare foam edges of NobleBoard before placing the next panel tightly against the first. Remove all excess NobleSealant at joints.

**3.3. FASTENERS:** Apply fasteners every 12" to stud and place one fastener in the seam between panels to maintain a flush transition (studs must be spaced 16" on center).

**3.4. CEILING:** When installing NobleBoard (a minimum thickness of 1/2") on a ceiling, apply NobleSealant 250 or industry approved adhesive on all framing. Then place fasteners every 6" apart along ceiling joist or furring channel and in all seams between adjacent panels. (Maximum ceiling joist or furring channel spacing 16" on center. Additional framing may be required for larger format tiles.)

**3.5. CURBS / FLOODPLAIN:** Always stay 3" above your curb or floodplain with penetrations and fasteners.

**3.6. SEAM / JOINTS:** Apply AquaBlue™ liquid membrane with mesh tape or thin-set with AquaSeal™ Cap Strip at all seams and fasteners. At all changes of plane, mesh tape with AquaBlue or thin-set with AquaSeal Cap Strip must be used.

**3.7. TILE:** Set tile in accordance with TCNA guidelines and ANSI standards.

#### NOTES:

- a) Reference specific sections for complete details on waterproofing.
- b) NobleSealant 250 or industry approved construction adhesive is recommended to apply to all framing where fasteners cannot be used.

### 4. FASTENERS

Using fasteners, space every 12" apart up the stud wall, and if using NobleBoard on ceiling, space fasteners every 6" apart along ceiling joist or furring channel. Ceiling applications require NobleSealant 250 or an industry approved construction adhesive to be placed on all the framing. Place fasteners in all seams between all adjacent panels to maintain a flat and level surface. Then, cover each fastener using either AquaBlue with mesh tape or AquaSeal Cap Strip and modified thin-set.



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## 5. TWO METHODS OF SEAMING VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL SEAMS

**5.1 USING AQUABLU WITH AQUABLU FLASHING MESH TAPE:** Coat the seam with AquaBlue a minimum of 2" on both sides of joint. Immediately lay mesh tape into the first brushed-on coat, making sure to smooth out all wrinkles, lifted edges, and embedding mesh tape into first coat. Apply another coat over the top of the mesh tape ensuring 100% coverage. Refer to the AquaBlue installation instructions for cure time before adding the additional coats of AquaBlue to achieve proper mil thickness. Always follow the current written installation instructions when using AquaBlue.

**5.2 USING AQUASEAL CAP STRIP WITH MODIFIED THIN-SET:** Using the trowel (e.g., 1/8"-1/4" v-notch), directionally trowel thin-set over vertical and horizontal seams, making sure you span the seam a minimum of 2" on both sides. Embed AquaSeal Cap Strip into thin-set with margin trowel or roller. Confirm 100% coverage and remove excess thin-set. Refer to the thin-set and bonding agent manufacture for curing time and workable time.

### NOTES:

*a) All gaps greater than an 1/8" require an industry approved filler material before applying AquaSeal Cap Strip with modified thin-set or AquaBlue with mesh tape. For gaps 1/32" – 1/8", NobleSealant 250 must be used in the gap prior to using AquaBlue with mesh tape or AquaSeal Cap Strip with modified thin-set. Gaps or joints smaller than 1/32" can be covered with AquaBlue or AquaSeal Cap Strip with modified thin-set. Changes of plane require mesh tape to be used with the AquaBlue regardless of gap or joint spacing.*

*b) Thin Line inside corners are required with AquaSeal Cap Strip when cap strip is cut at inside corners*

## 6. INSTALLING WITH PROBASE II SHOWER SYSTEM:

When using NobleBoard with ProBase® II system, it is recommended to apply a 1/2" bead of NobleSealant 250 on the ProBase II and tightly embed NobleBoard into the NobleSealant 250 on the base. If NobleBoard is installed prior to base, apply a 1/2" bead of sealant on edge of base and press firmly against board. AquaSeal Cap Strip with modified thin-set or AquaBlue with mesh tape must be used where the two meet. Refer to section 5 on vertical and horizontal seaming. Do not place fasteners lower than 3" above curb or floodplain.

## 7. INSTALLING WITH A FULL MORTAR BED (TCNA B426):

When using NobleBoard with a full mortar bed shower system, install board first and mud to it. Do not place fasteners lower than 3" above curb height or floodplain. Treat all vertical and horizontal joints using either of the methods listed in section 5 about vertical and horizontal seaming.

## 8. PENETRATIONS FOR PLUMBING:

Where penetrations are cut in board for plumbing, use pipe collars and valve collars to flash and waterproof penetrations (refer current written Thin-Line™ Valve and Pipe Collar installation instructions when installing).

## 9. FLOOR INSTALLATION:

**9.1 OVER PLYWOOD SUBSTRATE:** The plywood substrate must be flat, level, and free of debris, waxes, and bond breakers. Plywood substrates should meet all industry guidelines and structural requirements for deflection. Stagger seams of NobleBoard on the floor. Using trowel, directionally trowel thin-set onto the substrate and embed each piece of NobleBoard. Then, using fasteners every 12", or achieving a minimum of 12 screws per board, fasten NobleBoard to the substrate. At all seams in adjacent panels, place a fastener to maintain a flat surface between panels. For waterproof assemblies, refer to section 5 on vertical and horizontal seaming.

**9.2 OVER SLAB:** Make sure substrate is flat, level, and free of debris, waxes, sealers, and paints. Ensure concrete floors are fully cured. Make sure slab meets all industry guidelines and structural requirements for a tile installation. Stagger seams of each piece of NobleBoard on the floor. Using trowel, directionally trowel thin-set onto the substrate and embed each piece of NobleBoard by walking it in. Using equal weights, place in each corner and in the middle of the board to keep flat and in place. Repeat until NobleBoard is laid out. For waterproof assemblies, refer to section 5 on vertical and horizontal seaming.

### NOTES:

*a) Use 1/4" and 1/2" thick NobleBoard for floor installations.*

*b) When used in waterproof assembly, a flood test must be performed in accordance with industry guidelines.*

## 10. TILE INSTALLATION:

Install tile in accordance with TCNA and ANSI standards.

