

## 2021 Virginia Construction Code

### CHAPTER 25 GYPSUM BOARD, GYPSUM PANEL PRODUCTS AND PLASTER

#### SECTION 2509 SHOWERS AND WATER CLOSETS

##### 2509.1 Wet areas.

Showers and public toilet walls shall conform to [Section 1210.2](#).

##### 2509.2 Base for tile.

Materials used as a base for wall tile in tub and shower areas and wall and ceiling panels in shower areas shall be of materials listed in [Table 2509.2](#) and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Water-resistant gypsum backing board shall be used as a base for tile in water closet compartment walls when installed in accordance with [GA-216](#) or [ASTM C840](#) and the manufacturer's recommendations. Regular *gypsum wallboard* is permitted under tile or wall panels in other wall and ceiling areas when installed in accordance with [GA-216](#) or [ASTM C840](#).

**TABLE 2509.2  
BACKERBOARD MATERIALS**

MATERIAL	STANDARD
Glass mat gypsum backing panel	<a href="#">ASTM C1178</a>
Nonasbestos fiber-cement backer board	<a href="#">ASTM C1288</a> or <a href="#">ISO 8336</a> , Category C
Nonasbestos fiber-mat reinforced cementitious backer unit	<a href="#">ASTM C1325</a>

##### 2509.3 Limitations.

Water-resistant gypsum backing board shall not be used in the following locations:

1. Over a vapor retarder in shower or bathtub compartments.
2. Where there will be direct exposure to water or in areas subject to continuous high humidity.