

Standard Backer Rod

Closed Cell Polyethylene Foam

**TECHNICAL
DATA FORM
101**

Basic Use

Standard Backer Rod is an ideal non-absorbent compressible backup material. It is inserted into a joint to control sealant depth to create a backstop to:

- Allow proper sealant tooling
- Allow proper wetting of the joint surfaces
- And yield a proper bond breaker between the Backer Rod and sealant

It can also be used as a temporary joint seal.

Specific Uses

Commonly used in glazing installations, window and door applications, expansion joints, curtain wall joints, partitions, log construction, pavement joints, repairs, pre-cast units and copings.

Compatibility

Standard Backer Rod is compatible with butyl, polysulfide, acrylic polyurethane, silicone and most other cold applied sealants

Composition and Materials

Standard Backer Rod is an extruded round, closed cell, low density polyethylene foam material with a skin-like outer texture. It is highly flexible and compressible for easy installation. Available in stock grey and several other colors on a custom basis. Available in a wide variety of diameters (See Table 1) Type C - closed cell backer rod

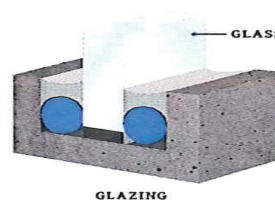
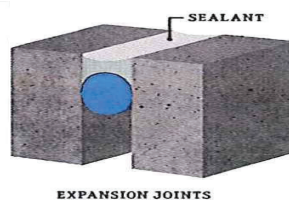
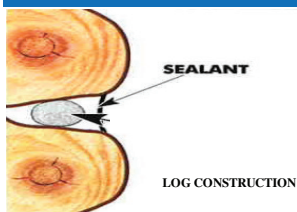
Table 1: Stock Sizes Available

Diameter	Shipping Format	Feet per Carton	Metric Diameter	Meters per Carton
*1/4"	2 Spools	4000	6 mm	1219
*3/8"	1 Spool	2100	9 mm	640
1/2"	2 Spools	2500	12 mm	762
5/8"	2 Spools	1550	15 mm	472
3/4"	1 Spool	1100	19 mm	335
7/8"	1 Spool	850	22 mm	259
1"	1 Spool	600	25 mm	182
1-1/4"	1 Spool	400	31 mm	121
1-1/2"	6' Lengths	396	38 mm	121
2"	6' Lengths	228	50 mm	70
2-1/2"	6' Lengths	144	63 mm	44
3"	6' Lengths	102	76 mm	31
4"	6' Lengths	48	101 mm	15
5"	6' Lengths	90	127 mm	27
6"	6' Lengths	60	152 mm	18

* Baby Backer Rod Carton - Minimum 2 carton purchase

- Sizes 2-1/2" to 6" are available in white only
- Rectangular cartons with convenient hand holes for carrying, are ideal for warehousing and handling
- UPS and most other express services will accept all cartons except 5" & 6"
- Truckload quantities furnished on pallets and may be warehoused 2 pallets high to maximize space

STANDARD BACKER ROD APPLICATIONS



Technical Data

Standard Backer Rod is chemically inert and will resist oil, gasoline and most other solvents. This material will not stain nor adhere to sealant materials and is non-exuding. (Refer to Table 2 for typical physical properties)

Standard Backer Rod meets or exceeds the requirements of **ASTM**

C 1330 Type C.

Installation

Joint or opening must be clean, dry and free of obstructions. Using Table 3 select the proper rod diameter and cut to length or use directly from spool. With a blunt instrument or roller, uniformly

install rod at the level recommended by the sealant manufacturer, specifier or architect involved. Generally, the depth of the joint after the backer rod is installed is one half the width. Very large and very small joints vary in terms of this depth to width ratio. **DO NOT PUNCTURE, STRETCH OR OVERLY COMPRESS**

Table 2: Physical Property Analysis

Property	Value	Test Method
Density (nominal)	2 lbs/cu.ft	ASTM D1622
Tensile Strength	50 PSI minimum	ASTM D1623
Compression Deflection @ 50%	5 PSI maximum	ASTM D1621
Water Absorption	0.05 gm/cc	² ASTM C1016
Compression Recovery @ 50%	95% minimum	ITP
Temperature Range	-90°F to 210°F	-
Classification	Type 3	ASTM D5249

²"determination of water absorption by sealant (joint filler) materials" Prior to ASTM C509 standard applicable gasket and sealing. Material no longer appropriate in evaluating "sealant (joint filter) materials."

Table 4: Carton Sizes & Weights

Rod Diameter	Weight / Carton	Carton Measurement
1/4" - 3/8" 6mm to 9mm	6 lbs 2.7 kgs	18" x 18" x 15" 457mm x 457mm x 381mm
1/2" - 1 1/4" 12mm to 31mm	11 lbs 5 kgs	18" x 18" x 30" 457mm x 457mm x 762mm
1 1/2" - 4" 38mm to 101mm	14 lbs 6.4 kgs	17" x 10" x 74" 432mm x 254mm x 1880mm
5" - 6" 127mm to 152mm	35 lbs 15.9 kgs	17" x 23" x 74" 432mm x 584mm x 1880mm

Table 3: Standard Backer Rod Size to Joint Width

Joint Width	Diameter
1/8" - 3/16"	1/4"
3/16" - 1/4"	3/8"
1/4" - 3/8"	1/2"
3/8" - 1/2"	5/8"
1/2" - 5/8"	3/4"
5/8" - 3/4"	7/8"
3/4" - 7/8"	1"
7/8" - 1"	1 1/4"
1" - 1 1/4"	1 1/2"
1 1/4" - 1 1/2"	2"
1 1/2" - 2"	2 1/2"
2" - 2 1/2"	3"
2 1/2" - 3"	4"
3" - 4 3/4"	5"
4 3/4" - 5 3/4"	6"