

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b> Housing - Federal Housing Commissioner</p> <p><b>TO: DIRECTORS, SINGLE FAMILY HOCs</b> <b>DIRECTORS, MULTIFAMILY HUBs</b></p>	<p><b>Series and Series Number:</b> <b>MATERIALS RELEASE NO:</b> 1268g (Supersedes issue dated August 16, 2018)</p>
	<p><b>ISSUE DATE</b></p> <p>July 22, 2022</p>
	<p><b>REVIEW DATE</b></p> <p>July 22, 2025</p>
<p><b>SUBJECT:</b> 1. <b>Product</b> Hardibacker<sup>®</sup> Nonstructural Floor Underlayment and Hardibacker 500<sup>®</sup>, and HardieFloor<sup>™</sup></p> <p>2. <b>Name and address of Manufacturer</b> James Hardie Building Products, Inc. 10901 Elm Avenue Fontana, CA 92337</p>	

Data on the nonstandard product described herein have been reviewed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and determination has been made that it is considered suitable from a technical standpoint for the use indicated herein. This Release does not purport to establish a comparative quality or value rating for this product as compared to standard products normally used in the same manner.

This Materials Release cannot be used as an indication of endorsement or approval by HUD of the described product, and any statement or representation, however made, indicating such approval or endorsement by HUD is unauthorized. See Code 18, U.S.C. 709.

Any reproduction of this Release must be in its entirety.

USE:

Hardibacker<sup>®</sup> Underlayment is a nonstructural interior floor underlayment, Hardibacker 500<sup>®</sup> may be used as wall backer boards for tile in bathtub and shower locations as well as in limited exterior wall applications for tile, brick and stone veneers that weigh less than 15 psf and only in HardieZone 10 (HZ10) per the manufacture's product data sheets and installation instructions. HardieFloor<sup>™</sup> may be used as structural subflooring or nonstructural underlayment on the interior of a building.

DESCRIPTION:

Hardibacker<sup>®</sup> Underlayment, Hardibacker 500<sup>®</sup>, and HardieFloor<sup>™</sup> Structural Subflooring consist of cellulose fiber reinforced (non-asbestos) cement flat sheet. The structural subflooring is compressed and the floor underlayment are not compressed. Hardibacker<sup>®</sup> Underlayment and Hardibacker 500<sup>®</sup> are available in 1/4"x3'x5' and 1/4"x4'x8' sheets. HardieFloor<sup>™</sup> is available in 23/32"x2'x8' tongue and groove sheets.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Hardibacker® and Hardibacker 500® Nonstructural Floor Underlayment, shall be in compliance with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) C1288 (Standard Specification for Discrete Non-Asbestos Fiber-Cement Interior Substrate Sheets) Grade I, and HardieFloor™ shall be in compliance with ASTM C1288 Grade II. Installation must be in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and per local building codes. HardieFloor™ Structural Subflooring is rated to transfer gravity loads only. See Table 1 for the allowable uniform gravity loading.

**TABLE 1  
ALLOWABLE UNIFORM GRAVITY LOADS FOR HARDIEFLOOR™ STRUCTURAL  
PANELS**

DEFLECTION LIMIT	ALLOWABLE UNIFORM TOTAL LOAD <sup>1</sup>	UNIFORM LIVE LOAD
	MAXIMUM JOIST SPACING	
	16, 19.2, and 24 INCHES	16, 19.2, and 24 INCHES
L/360	60 PSF	40 PSF

1. These loads represent the load-carrying capacity of the panels spanning between the floor joists. A minimum of two spans is required. This table does not consider the influence of joist deflection.
2. Panels must be designed and installed per the manufacturer's published installation instructions and requirements

**CERTIFICATION AND IDENTIFICATION:**

James Hardie Building Products, Inc., shall certify that the Hardibacker® and Hardibacker 500® Nonstructural Floor Underlayment, and HardieFloor™ Structural Subflooring are produced in conformance to the requirements of this MR. Intertek Testing Services shall validate the manufacturer's certification that the Hardibacker® and Hardibacker 500® Nonstructural Floor Underlayment, and HardieFloor™ Structural Subflooring meet the requirements of this MR. Each certified James Hardie Building Products, Inc., product named in this MR shall be marked with the following label:

### 3' x 5' x .42" CEMENT BOARD with MoldBlock® Technology

Scan to get the  
install guide.



Or text BACKER  
to 78477

# HardieBacker® 500

Passes ASTM G21 and D3273 mold tests with best score.  
Contains no paper face or gypsum. Moisture and mold resistant.  
• FOR WALLS • EXCEPTIONAL DURABILITY

**MOLDOBLOCK®**  
PROTECTION



7 27396 20023 3

FOR DETAILED INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS  
ON HARDIEBACKER BOARD, VISIT  
[www.hardiebacker.com](http://www.hardiebacker.com)  
or call 1-888-J-HARDIE



**James Hardie**

Recognized for use as an interior substrate in: ICC-ES Legacy Report ESR-2280; HUD MR 1263 and 1268; and City of Los Angeles Report No. 24862. Quality Control Agency: Intertek Testing Services - IASI AA-647

IASI AA-690

#### PRODUCT SAFETY INFORMATION

**Risk Phrases:** Product contains respirable crystalline silica, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer and is considered by IARC and NIOSH to be a cause of cancer from some occupational sources. Breathing excessive amounts of respirable silica can cause a disabling and potentially fatal lung disease called silicosis, and has been linked with other diseases. Some studies suggest smoking may increase these risks. **FAILURE TO ADHERE TO OUR WARNING, MSDS, AND INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS MAY LEAD TO SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.** **Precautionary Statements:** During installation use fiber cement shears for cutting or use score & snap technique. During clean-up, use HEPA vacuums or wet clean-up methods—never dry sweep. **FIRST AID MEASURES:** **Inhalation:** Remove yourself to fresh air. **Eye Contact:** Flush eyes out with running water for at least 20 minutes. **Skin Contact:** Wash thoroughly with mild soap and water if skin is irritated. If any of the above measures are taken and still have irritations seek medical attention. See Material Safety Data Sheet.

#### INFORMACIÓN DE SEGURIDAD DEL PRODUCTO

**Frases sobre riesgos:** El producto contiene sílice cristalina respirable, la cual es conocida en el estado de California de causar cáncer y es considerada por IARC y NIOSH de ser una causa del cáncer de algunas fuentes de ocupación. El inhalar cantidades excesivas de sílice respirable puede causar una enfermedad de min invalidez y potencialmente fatal a los pulmones que se llama silicosis y ha sido conectada a otras enfermedades. Algunos estudios sugieren que el fumar puede aumentar estos riesgos. **LA FALTA DE SEGUIR NUESTRAS ADVERTENCIAS, HOJAS DE DATOS DE SEGURIDAD DE MATERIALES E INSTRUCCIONES DE INSTALACIÓN PUEDEN LLEVAR A SERIAS LESIONES PERSONALES O LA MUERTE.** **Declaraciones de precaución:** Durante la instalación use cortantes para el broceamiento para cortar o use la técnica de marcar y romper. Durante la limpieza, use aspiradoras HEPA o métodos de limpieza mojada—nunca bama a seco. **MEDIDAS DE PRIMEROS AUXILIOS:** **Inhalación:** Vaya al aire libre. **Contacto con los ojos:** Enjuáguese los ojos con agua corriente por lo menos 20 minutos. **Contacto con la piel:** Si la piel está irritada, lávese bien con agua y jabón suave. Si toma cualquiera de las medidas mencionadas y aún existe la irritación, obtenga atención médica. Vea la hoja de datos de seguridad de materiales.

US Patent 6,539,643. Additional Patents Pending.

James Hardie Building Products, 26300 La Alameda, Suite 400, Mission Viejo, CA 92691  
©2012 James Hardie Building Products. All Rights Reserved.  
TM, SM, and ® denote trademarks or registered trademarks of James Hardie Technology Limited.

1000272 06/13

MANUFACTURING LOCATIONS:

The products covered under this Materials Release (MR) will be produced at the following plants:

James Hardie Building Products, Inc.  
809 Woodrow Wilson Road  
Plant City, FL 33566  
Phone: 813-495-7311  
Contact Person: Michael Gombert

James Hardie Building Products, Inc.  
3000 Waltham Way  
Sparks, NV 89434  
Phone: 775-351-3096  
Contact Person: Ever Villa Leal

James Hardie Building Products, Inc.  
17 Unytite Drive  
Peru, IL 61354  
Phone: 214-399-7078  
Contact Person: Lucas Agins

James Hardie Building Products, Inc.  
1000 James Hardie Way  
Pulaski, VA 24301  
Phone: 540-505-9268  
Contact Person: Sean Cleary

James Hardie Building Products, Inc.  
820 Sparks Drive  
Cleburne, TX 76031  
Phone: 817-726-6042  
Contact Person: Brittany Johnson

James Hardie Building Products, Inc.  
18200 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue East  
Tacoma, WA 98446  
Phone: 253-847-8700  
Contact Person: Carlos Pereyra

James Hardie Building Products, Inc.  
2425 Highway 77N  
Waxahachie, TX 75165  
Phone: 972-923-5300  
Contact Person: Justin Jones

James Hardie Building Products, Inc.  
10901 Elm Avenue  
Fontana, CA 92337  
Phone: 909-349-2973  
Contact Person: Alireza Mohebbi

WARRANTY:

James Hardie Building Products, Inc., warrants Hardibacker<sup>®</sup> and Hardibacker 500<sup>®</sup> Nonstructural Floor Underlayment, and HardieFloor<sup>™</sup> Structural Subflooring against faulty performance resulting from faulty materials or workmanship in the manufacturing process for a period of 20 years from the date of installation.

The manufacturer's warranty does not, in any way, relieve the builder of responsibility under the terms of the Builder's Warranty required by the National Housing Act or under any provisions applicable to any other housing program. A copy of the manufacturer's warranty shall be furnished by the builder to the owner upon completion of the property.

MANUFACTURER'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

Issuance of this MR commits the manufacturer to fulfill, as a minimum, the following:

1. Produce, label and certify the material, product or system in strict accordance with the terms of this MR.
2. Provide necessary corrective action in a timely manner for all cases of justified complaint, poor performance or failure reported by HUD.
3. When requested, provide the Office of Manufactured Housing Programs, HUD Headquarters, with a representative list of properties in which the material, product or system has been used, including complete addresses or descriptions of locations and dates of installation.
4. Inform HUD, in advance, of changes in production facilities, methods, design of the product, company name, ownership or mailing address.

EVALUATION:

This MR shall be valid for a period of three years from the date of initial issuance or most recent renewal or revision, whichever is later. The holder of this MR shall apply for renewal or revision 90 days prior to the Review Date printed on this MR. Submittals for renewal or revision shall be sent to:

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Manufactured Housing Programs  
451 Seventh Street, SW, Room 9170  
Washington, DC 20410-8000

Appropriate User Fee(s) for the TSP program can be submitted through the Pay.gov website at <https://pay.gov/public/form/start/73881741>

The holder of this MR may apply for revision at any time prior to the Review Date. Minor revisions may be in the form of a supplement to this MR.

If the Department determines that a proposed renewal or supplement constitutes a revision, the appropriate User Fee for a revision will need to be submitted in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations 24 CFR 200.934, "User Fee System for the Technical Suitability of Products Program," and current User Fee Schedule.

CANCELLATION:

Failure to apply for a renewal or revision shall constitute a basis for cancellation of the MR. HUD will notify the manufacturer that the MR may be canceled when:

1. conditions under which the document was issued have changed so as to affect production of, or to compromise the integrity of the accepted material, product, or system;
2. the manufacturer has changed its organizational form without notifying HUD; or,
3. manufacturer has not complied with responsibilities it assumed as a condition of HUD's acceptance.

However, before cancellation, HUD will give the manufacturer a written notice, of the specific reasons for cancellation, and the opportunity to present views on why the MR should not be canceled. No refund of fees will be made on a canceled document.

\*\*\*\*\*  
This Materials Release is issued solely for the captioned firm and is not transferable to any person or successor entity.  
\*\*\*\*\*