



CLADCO FIBRE CEMENT BACKER BOARD

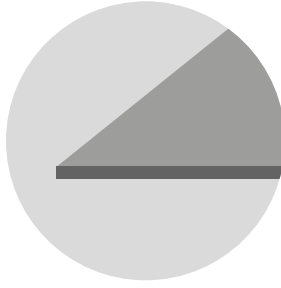
Installation Guide
and FAQs

CLADCO
PROFILES



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PRODUCT OVERVIEW

Applications for Fibre Cement Backers Boards include:

6mm Backer Boards: Overboarding plasterboard or plaster, or timber floor overlay, ceilings.

9mm Backer Boards: Stud walls.

12m Backer Boards: Stud walls, exterior use and fire surrounds.

18mm Backer Boards: Flooring and installations with underfloor heating systems.

SPECIFICATIONS

Board Length	1.2m or 2.4m
Board Width	0.8m or 1.2m
Board Thickness	6mm, 9mm, 12mm and 18mm
Colour	Plain
Weight per 1.2m Board	10kg (6mm), 14.80kg (9mm), 18.94kg (12mm), 28.40kg (18mm)
Weight per 2.4m Board	35.95kg (6mm), 41.20kg (9mm), 59.73kg (12mm), 109.20kg (18mm)



Our Fibre Cement Backer Boards are versatile, durable, and water-resistant, making them suitable for use on floors, walls, ceilings, and around fireplaces. These A1 fire-rated, non-combustible Boards provide a reliable foundation for tiling, underfloor heating, and cladding, both indoors and outdoors.



CUTTING BOARDS

6mm and 9mm Boards can be cut using a straight edge and a scoring knife/blade.

12mm and 18mm Boards will need to be cut using a circular saw that has an extractor and filter, on a stable bench.

Check the surface in which the Boards will be installed on for any debris, clean the area and ensure it is dry and even.



STORAGE AND CARE

When handling Fibre Cement Backer Boards, we advise safety gloves are worn at all times. It is important to store your Fibre Cement Backer Boards indoors and on a flat, level ground until ready for installation. We recommend that at least two physically capable persons assist with carrying and moving Fibre Cement Backer Boards.



HEALTH & SAFETY

It is essential to exercise caution when cutting and working with Fibre Cement Backer Boards. This includes wearing appropriate safety gear such as goggles, dusk mask and safety gloves. Follow local building regulations and safety protocols when handling Fibre Cement materials.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT



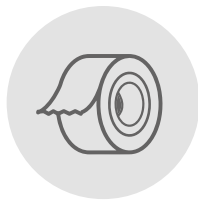
Countersunk Screws

Used to preserve the flat surface of Fibre Cement Boards.



Rapid Set Flexible Adhesive

A rapid-set adhesive will be needed for any tiling applications, both internally and externally.



Backer Tape

Backer tape will be required for installation if you are going to be tiling over the Fibre Cement Boards.



Tool Set

A standard tool set will be required to install Fibre Cement Backer Boards, this will include a tape measure, pencil, and spirit level.



Scoring Knife

A scoring knife can be used to cut 6mm and 9mm Fibre Cement Backer Boards.



Circular Saw with PCD Blade

For cutting Fibre Cement Backer Boards, use a circular saw with a PCD Blade (polycrystalline diamond tipped).



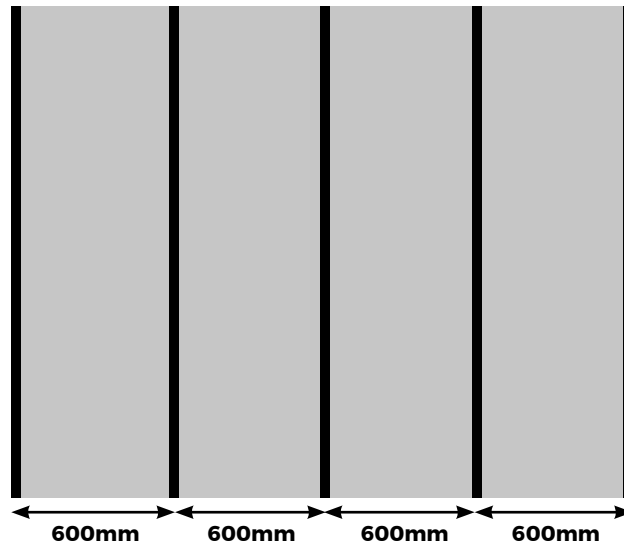
Protective Gear

Before handling Fibre Cement Backer Board, ensure you have safety gloves, a dust mask and safety goggles.

FRAMEWORK

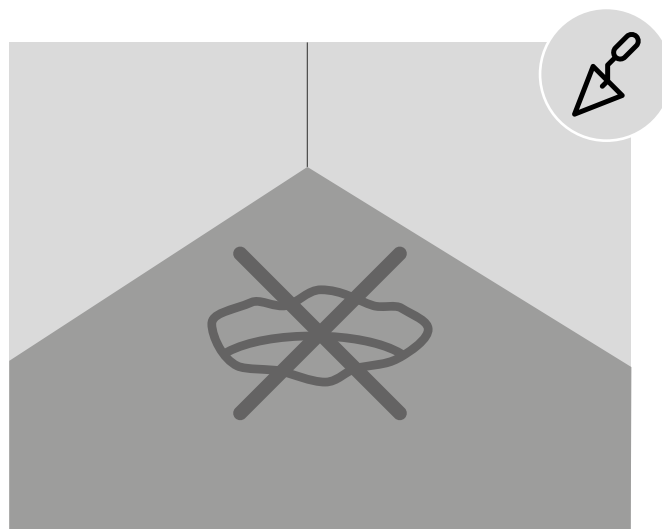
STUD WALL

Suitable battens should be spaced at a maximum of 600mm centres, for both horizontal and vertical Fibre Cement Board applications.

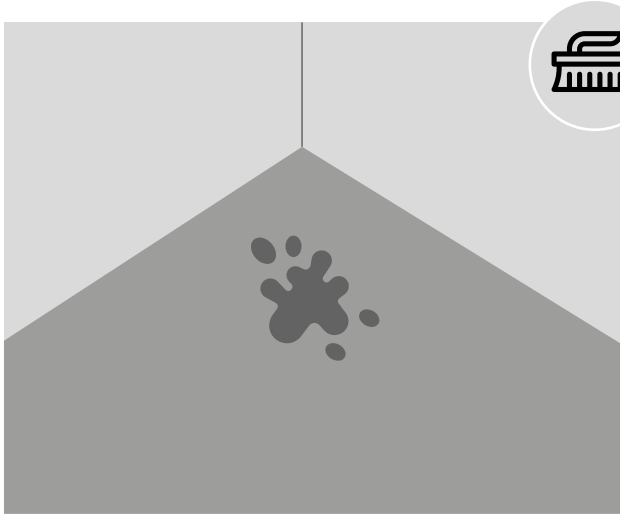


FLOOR OVERLAY

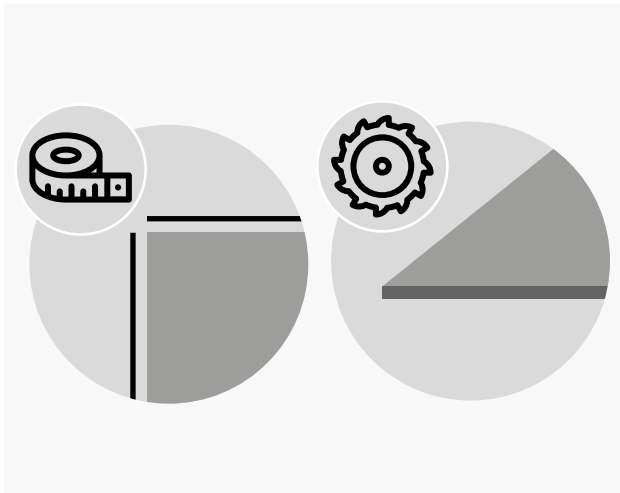
Check that the subfloor is stable and undamaged, remove and replace any uneven parts prior to installing your Fibre Cement Backer Boards.



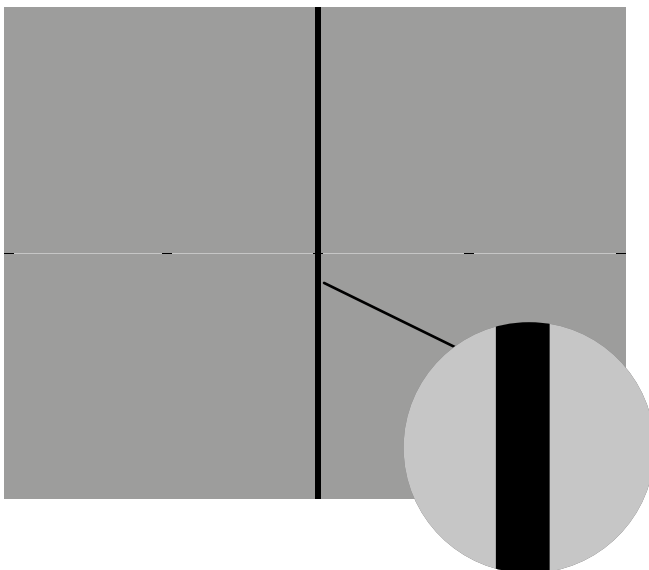
PREPARATION



1 Check the surface you will be fixing your Fibre Cement Boards onto, ensuring any loose materials or debris are removed and the area is left clean, dry and even to allow for a smooth installation.



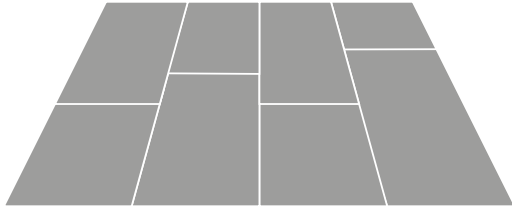
2 Accurately measure the area where you will be installing your Boards. Using a PCD blade, cut the Fibre Cement Boards to your area's required dimensions. To minimise dust emissions, avoid using a dry saw and use a dust extraction system whilst cutting.



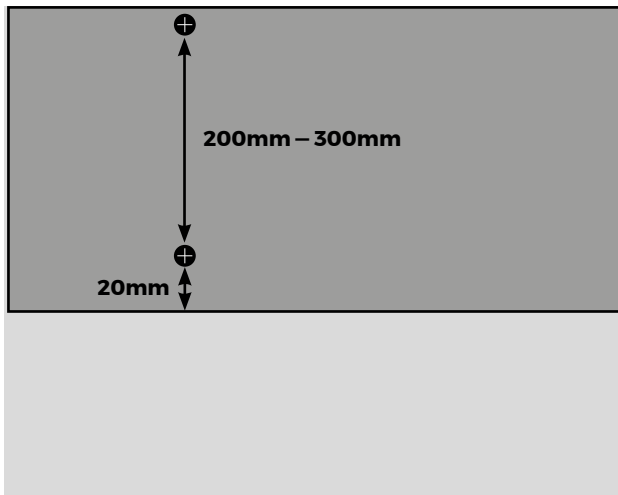
3 When overboarding existing plasterboard or plaster, be sure to find and mark the existing studs below. Ensure the existing surface and framing is structurally sound.

FIXING THE BOARDS

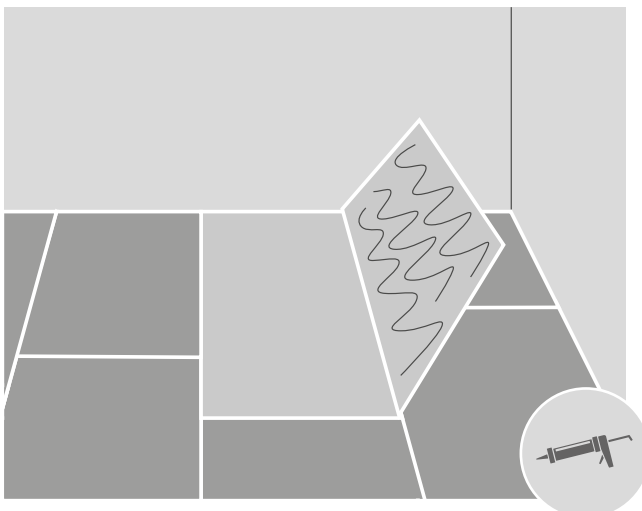
FLOOR INSTALLATION



1 Lay the Fibre Cement Backer Boards on the floor in the correct position, the Boards will need to be in a staggered pattern so that no corners meet at any point, similar to how bricks are laid.



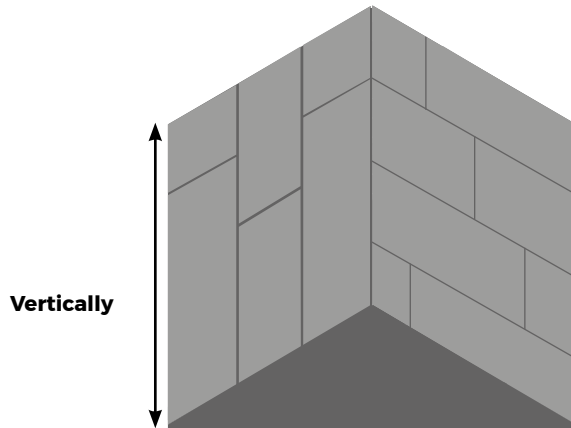
2 Secure each Board using countersunk screws, we advise leaving 200mm intervals between each fixing, and leaving a 20mm gap from the edge of the Board to the screw.



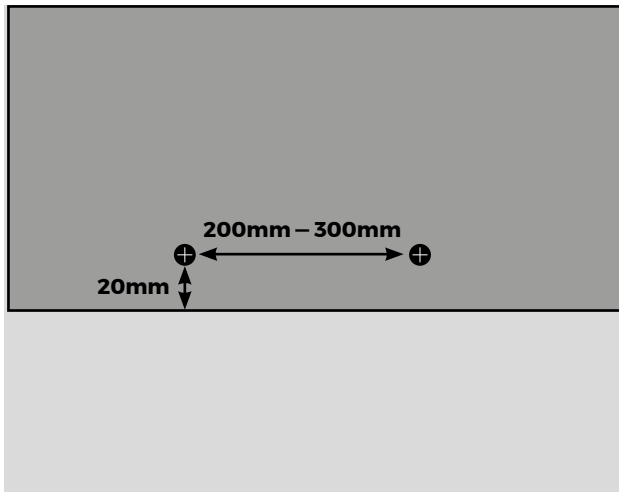
3 To achieve the best results, a layer of flexible adhesive can be applied underneath the Boards before they are screwed down.

FIXING THE BOARDS

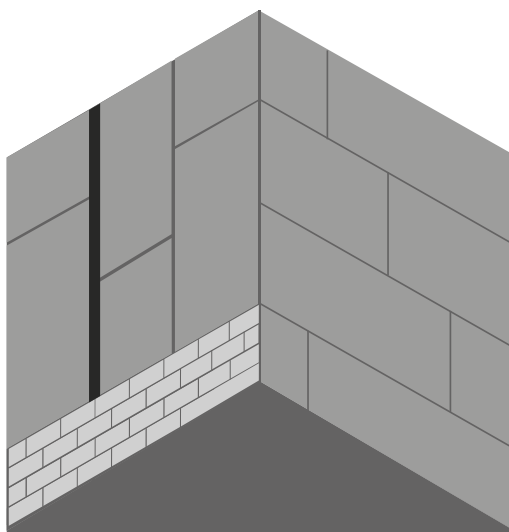
WALL INSTALLATION



1 Fibre Cement Backer Boards can be installed vertically or horizontally as overboarding or onto battens. Choose your thickness depending on the use, for example 6mm for overboarding or 12mm for tiling.



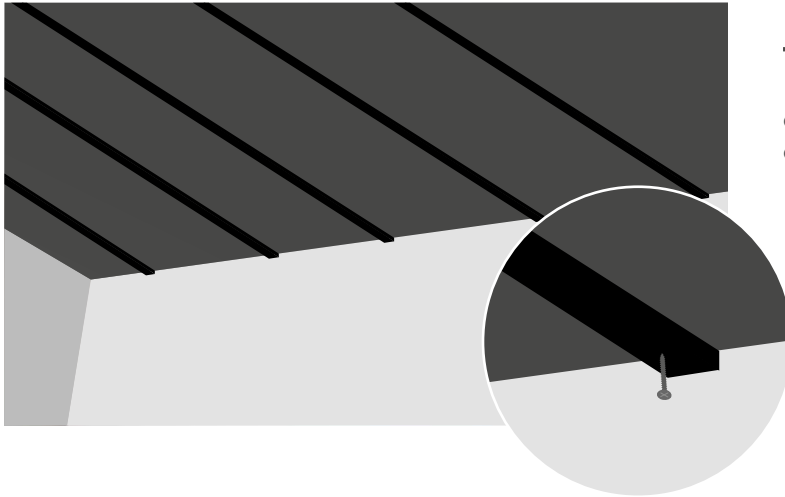
2 Secure the Boards with countersunk screws, leaving 200 to 300mm intervals between each fixing. We recommend leaving a 20mm gap from the edge of the Board to the screw.



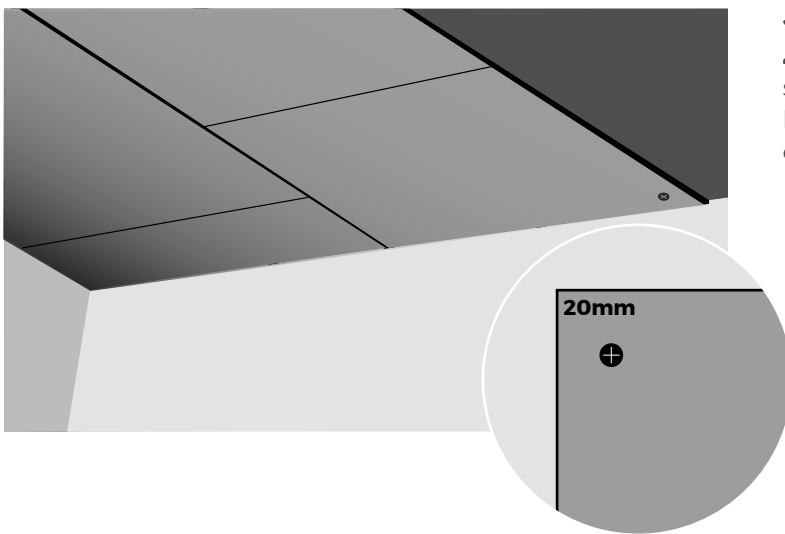
3 If you are tiling your wall, use a suitable, resistant tape over joining Boards before installing tiles.

FIXING THE BOARDS

CEILING INSTALLATION



1 Install Fibre Cement Boards to your ceiling by fixing countersunk screws to your ceiling joists.



2 Intervals of 300mm between screws are required for a secure fixing. We recommend leaving a 20mm gap from the edge of the Board to the screw.



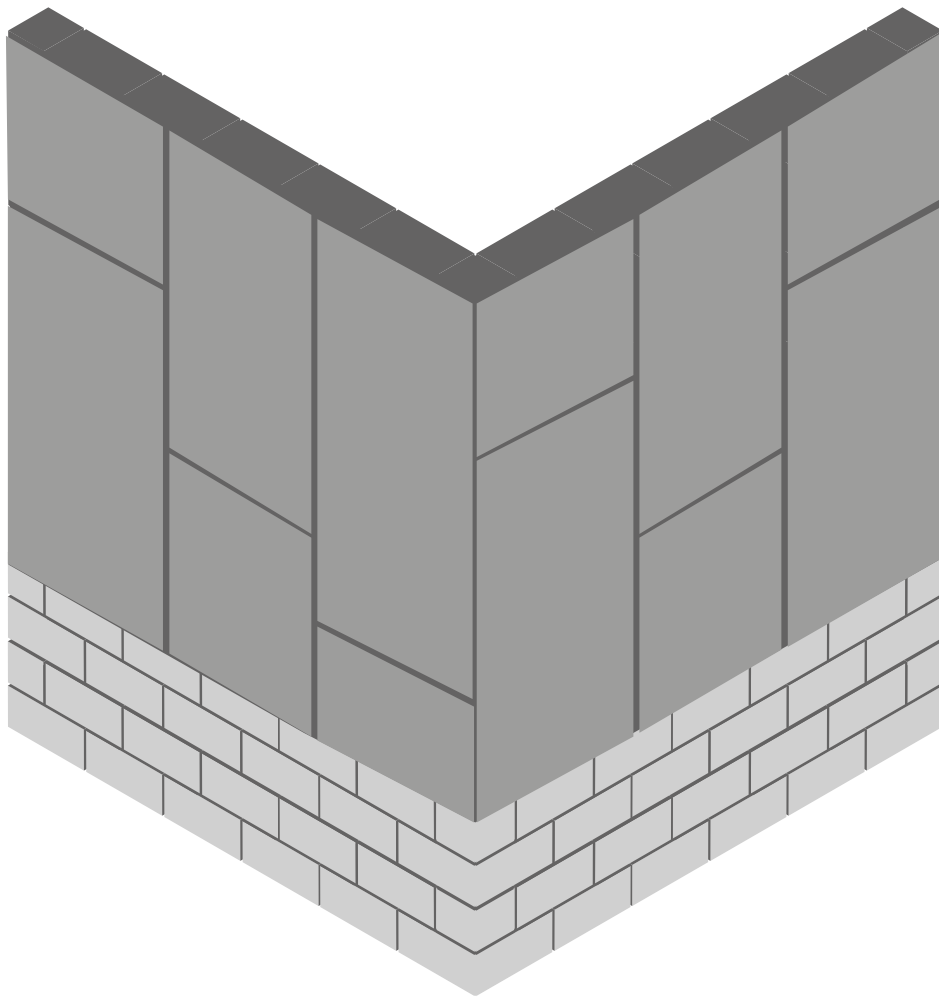
TIP

Fibre Cement Backer Boards are highly resistant to water and mould, however, it is best to avoid prolonged exposure to water prior to installation.

EXTERNAL USE

FOR EXTERIOR USE/CLADDING

After the installation of your Boards to exterior walls, a suitable render or tiling system can be applied to the walls. If the wall will be exposed to the elements regularly, we recommend using a weatherproof coating.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Are Fibre Cement Backer Boards fireproof?

Fibre Cement Backer Boards are produced from a hybrid of cement mix and cellulose fibres, making them an A1 fire-resistant, non-combustible material that is ideal for usage around fireplaces.

How can Fibre Cement Backer Boards be cut?

Before cutting Fibre Cement Boards, it is important to remember to use safety gloves when handling, moving and cutting the Boards. For 6mm and 9mm Boards, these slimmer Boards can be cut with a straight edge and a scoring blade or knife. For 12mm and 18mm Boards, these can be cut with a circular saw with a PCD blade, a built-in extractor and a suitable filter on a sturdy bench. This will provide a straight, clean line and reduce dust entering the surrounding air.

Please note: Due to the nature of the materials, it is recommended that a suitable dust mask is worn when cutting the Boards. Wipe away any dusty residue with a damp cloth to avoid particles from becoming airborne.

What can Fibre Cement Boards be used for?

As a multi-use product, Fibre Cement Backer Boards can be fitted under tiling, onto walls, as replacement floorboards, fitted directly onto cement floors, as ceiling boards, or as a fire surround for fireplaces.

Where can I Install Fibre Cement Backer Boards?

As a multi-use product, Fibre Cement Backer Boards can be fitted in various ways, thickness depending. Boards of all thicknesses and sizes need to be fitted with a staggered/brick pattern during installation if being used for flooring, to ensure corners do not all meet at any single point.

6mm backer boards are regularly installed for concrete flooring projects because the thinner nature of the Board won't lift floor levels, whilst producing a creak-free finish. 6mm Boards can be fixed to flooring with a thin-set, polymer-enriched mortar or flexible adhesive applied directly onto the below concrete, then placed Boards on top. Allow a set time for a minimum

24hrs, before fastening into place with screws. To seal joints between Boards, add a layer of thin-set mortar over mesh tape with a putty knife.

9mm and 12mm Boards are generally designed for use on walls, with the Board's thickness varying according to the project needs. For walls in a busy area such as a corridor, or for stud walls, 12mm Boards are suggested because of their high-strength and extra soundproofing qualities.

Fix 12mm Boards to stud walls using washers and screws with a minimum 20mm gap from the Board's edges. We recommend 9mm Backer Boards are used for solid walls which can be secured using a quick set, flexible tile adhesive. Once fully set, washers and screws can mechanically fit the Fibre Cement Boards to walls.

18mm Boards are recommended for installation on floors with underfloor heating systems and new build floors, due to improved strength, heat and sound insulation from the thicker Board. Fibre Cement Backer Boards can be directly fitted onto joists to replace floorboards. Compared to plywood floorboards or other wood-based building materials, 18mm Backer boards have minimal risk of movement and are generally more robust.

What is the difference between Fibre Cement and plywood or plasterboard?

Fibre Cement Backer Board provide superior durability, stability and load bearing compared to other materials such as plywood or plasterboard. Fibre Cement gives your project increased resistance to water and damp, providing a longer and more reliable life.

Are Fibre Cement Backer Boards water resistant?

Cladco Fibre Cement Boards have excellent water-resistant properties, allowing a longer life than plywood or plasterboard. These Boards give a suitable surface for tiling and can be used to cover damp-prone or uneven areas.

What is efflorescence on Fibre Cement Boards?

Efflorescence is a natural process that occurs in cement-based materials when moisture

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

becomes trapped, is absorbed, and then evaporates, leaving salt deposits on the surface. This temporary issue does not affect the product's performance.

Fibre Cement Backer Boards are particularly prone to efflorescence if left untreated in wet outdoor conditions. The phenomenon, also known as lime bloom, can cause white marks or stains on the surface, especially if the boards are not stored correctly. The timeframe for this to appear varies depending on several factors.

To remove efflorescence, use a dry, non-metallic brush to gently scrub away the marks without damaging the boards. Alternatively, commercial efflorescence cleaners designed for cladding and masonry can be used.

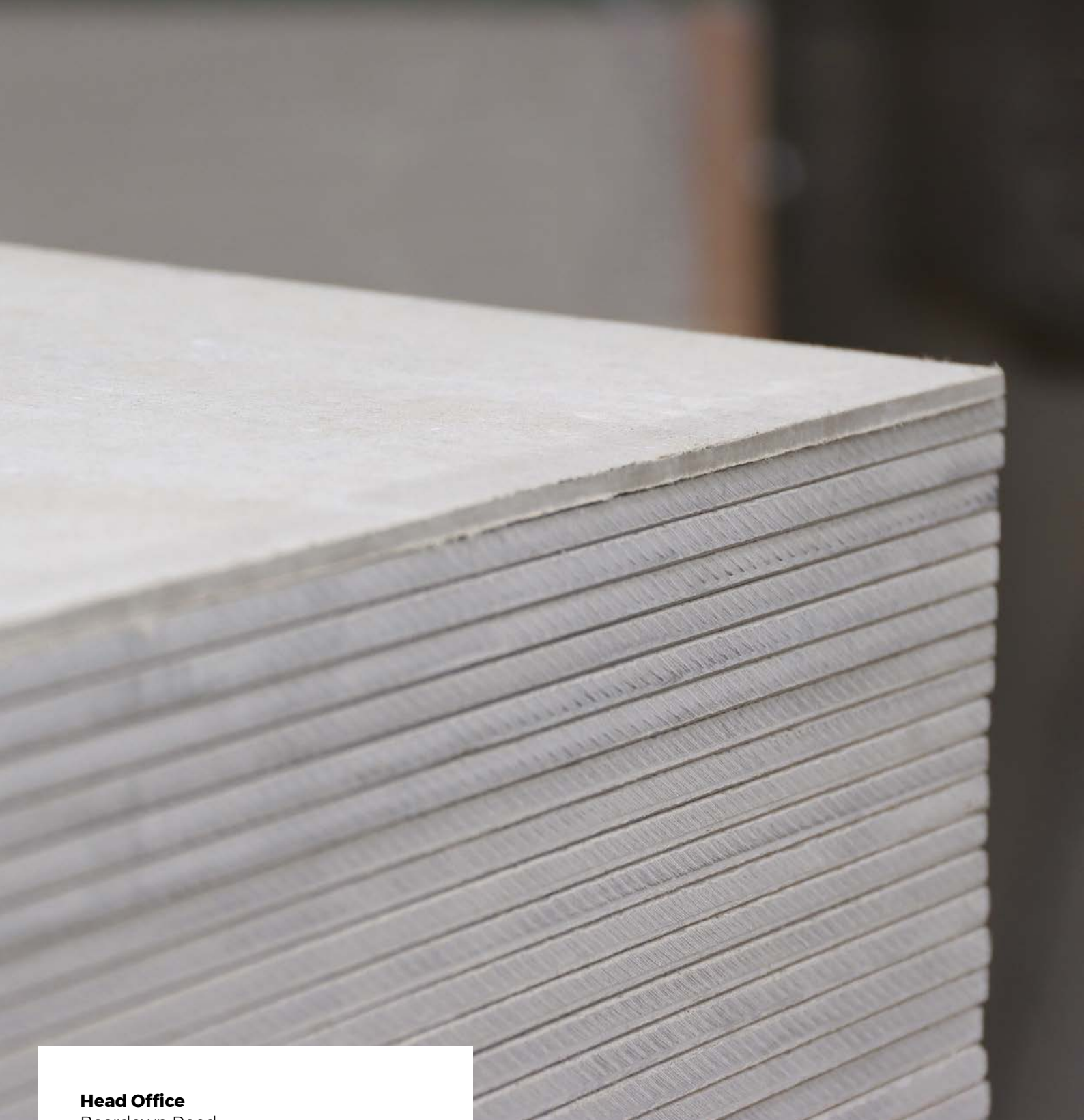
How Much Weight Can A Fibre Cement Backer Board Hold?

Cladco Fibre Cement Backer Boards are available in a range of thicknesses to suit your project. For loading bearing capabilities, please refer to the below table showing the thickness and sample size with the load achieved at point of failure in kN.

For more information on the loading test please visit:

https://www.cladco.co.uk/media/pdf/Cladco_Backers_Board_Load_Test_Certificate.pdf

Test Number	Sample Size (mm)	Load Achieved At Point Of Failure (kN)
1	1200 x 800 x 6	1.55
2	1200 x 800 x 9	1.68
3	1200 x 800 x 12	5.26
4	1200 x 800 x 18	6.07
5	2400 x 1200 x 6	1.55
6	2400 x 1200 x 9	2.69
7	2400 x 1200 x 12	4.22
8	2400 x 1200 x 18	6.71



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