



Architectural Services

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Kirk Grodske Carpentry Services  
Address deleted

Dear Kirk,

**Re: Wet Gypsum Panels**

This is to confirm our recent phone conversation relative to wet gypsum board.

Generally, SHEETROCK Brand Gypsum Panels can withstand some amount of wetting without damage to the gypsum core. Once the panel is returned to its dry condition, all fire, sound and structural properties are retained. It is a common practice to wet the surface of gypsum panels for bending or reshaping butt joints into a tapered edge. This practice introduces only small amounts of water or moisture for a short duration and if properly conducted will have no adverse effects of the panel. It is with prolonged exposure, that the gypsum core will degrade.

The symptom that points to core degradation is face paper delamination. Gypsum panels exposed to moisture for a long enough period of time will experience face paper delamination. Once the panel is dry a visual inspection can determine the suitability of the product.

An even larger issue with wet board is the possibility of contamination and mold/mildew. Mold is part of one of five living kingdoms, fungi, on earth. It makes up the largest life kingdom and mainly spreads by airborne spores found everywhere. Mold requires a food source and water to propagate. If one of these elements is removed, such as water, the spore can go dormant for an indefinite period of time. Mold can be treated only on the exposed surface of the gypsum panel, without any guarantee against the mold returning when the correct conditions are met. Consideration should also be given to contamination of the gypsum core or back paper. This will occur from exposure to polluted water or its residue. If there is any question on either of these concerns, the board should be replaced. For additional information on mold and its remove, please visit [www.epa.org](http://www.epa.org)

I trust you'll find this beneficial. Let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

**Sincerely,**

Lisa Friedman, LEED AP  
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