

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

In accordance with the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) criteria, BGC Plasterboard gypsum plaster products are not classified as hazardous materials.

Identification:-

Product Name:	BGC Plasterboard, BGC Ceilingboard, BGC Cove Cornice BGC Water-Resistant Plasterboard, BGC Fire-Resistant Plasterboard
Other Names:	NA
Manufacturer's Product Code:	Not applicable
UN Number:	None allocated
Dangerous Goods Class & Subsidiary Risk:	None allocated
Hazchem Code:	None allocated
Poisons Schedule Number:	None scheduled
Uses:	Interior wall and ceiling linings, generally fixed to lightweight steel and timber framing and sub-structures, for general purposes, wet-areas and fire-resistance, as appropriate. Consult your nearest BGC Plasterboard office in you state, for further information, applications and installation.

Physical Description/Properties:-

Appearance:	A rigid sheet of plasterboard consisting of a gypsum core encased in paper facing
Boiling Point: (°C)	Not applicable
Melting Point: (°C)	1450 (calcium sulphate dihydrate)
Vapour Pressure:	Not applicable
Specific Gravity (H₂O = 1)	2.3 (approximately)
Flashpoint:	Not applicable
Flammability Limits:	Not flammable
Solubility in water:	Not soluble
Reactivity (e.g. with air or water):	Not reactive
Auto-ignition temperature (°C):	-
Odour Threshold:	Slight plaster odour
Lower Explosion Limit:	-
Upper Explosion Limit:	-
Self Accelerating Decomposition:	-

Ingredients

Chemical Name:	CAS Number:	Proportion:	Exposure Limits
Calcium sulphate dihydrate	10101-41-4	> 95%	-
Paper facing (cellulose)	9004-34-6	4-6%	10 mg/m ³ measured as inspirable dust
Paraffin wax	8002-74-2	0-3%	-
Clay	-	0-8%	-
Vermiculite (mica)	12001-26-2	0-4%	2.5 mg/m ³ measured as inspirable dust
Starch	9005-25-8	< 1%	10 mg/m ³ measured as inspirable dust
Paper pulp (cellulose)	9004-34-6	< 1%	10 mg/m ³ measured as inspirable dust
Continuous filament glass fibre	65997-17-3	0-0.4%	-
Boric Acid	10043-35-3	< 0.2%	-

Note: The silica quartz content of BGC Plasterboard is less than 0.1%.

HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

The potential health hazards are related to dust generated from these materials during the use of power tools and sanding. Inhaling dust liberated from BGC Plasterboard may aggravate pre-existing respiratory conditions. The intact BGC Plasterboard does not give off dust or fume during installation or when installed. However, cutting, breaking, drilling or sawing the boards may generate dust.

Health Effects

Acute:

Swallowed:

Unlikely to occur, however swallowing plaster dust and or debris may result in symptoms of acute indigestion.

Eye:

Excessive dust may cause eye irritation.

Skin:

The dust, particularly in association with heat and sweat, can cause irritation, but it is not absorbed through the skin.

Inhaled:

Inhaled dust may cause nasal, throat and lung irritation, symptomatic through excess mucus and coughing.

Chronic:

Inhaled:

Repeated exposure to the dust may result in increased nasal and respiratory secretions and coughing.

First Aid

Swallowed:

Give copious amounts of water to drink.

Eye:

Flush thoroughly with flowing water for at least ten minutes. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention.

Skin:

Wash thoroughly with soap and water.

Inhaled:

Remove to fresh air.

Advice to Doctor: Treat symptomatically.

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

BGC Plasterboard has adopted the following maximum exposure limits, corresponding to the limits set out by the CoA, NOHSC; Exposure Standards for Atmospheric Contaminants in the Occupational Environment:-

Exposure Standards:

- Calcium sulphate: 10 mg/m³ time-weighted average (TWA) as inspirable dust
- Cellulose (as paper fibre); 10 mg/ m³ TWA as inspirable dust
- Mica (vermiculite): 2.5 mg/ m³ TWA as inspirable dust

BGC Plasterboard recommends keeping exposures to dust as low as practicable and work in a well-ventilated space.

Engineering Controls:

No dust is generated, unless the plasterboard is cut.
 Keep exposures to dust as low as practicable, preferably below 5 mg/m³ TWA (time-weighted average) of inspirable dust, to prevent respiratory discomfort.
 Work in the open air or near external openings in the building, for adequate ventilation.
 Where dust is generated, in confined spaces, local mechanical ventilation should be used, to direct the dust away from the work areas.
 Personal protective equipment should be used in confined spaces and where dust levels exceed the maximum levels.
 Use safe work practices to minimize dust release and exposure.
 Clean work areas regularly by wet sweeping or vacuuming.

Ventilation:

Where safe work practices, adequate engineering and material handling controls are in place, ventilation is not normally required.
 Use local mechanical ventilation and or dust extraction in confined areas and where dust could escape into the working environment.

Tools and Equipment;-
Repair / Maintenance

Vacuum and or wipe down all tools and equipment prior to maintenance and repair work. Avoid compressed air cleaning where possible, and wear eye and respiratory protection, and clothing as listed below.

Personal Protection:

Use personal safety protection at all times.

Skin Protection:

Avoid direct skin contact with plaster products.
 Wear loose appropriate clothing, such as long sleeved shirts and long trousers, head protection and standard duty leather or equivalent gloves, which comply with Australian Standard AS 2161: Industrial Safety Gloves and Mittens.
 Wash work clothes regularly and do not shake out dust.

Eye Protection:

Wear dust resistant non-fogging safety goggles or glasses, which comply with Australian

and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1336: Recommended Practices for Eye Protection.

Where safe work practices, adequate engineering and material handling controls are in place and used none may be required.

Respiratory Protection: However, BGC Plasterboard suggests that P1 or P2 particulate respirator (dust mask), which comply with Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1715: Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices, and Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1716: Respiratory Protective Devices when Exposed to Dust), be used at all times.

Personal Hygiene: Do not smoke whilst handling and working with plasterboard.
Wash dust from skin with mild soap and water after working with plasterboard.

Flammability: The plasterboard, gypsum plaster core is non-flammable.
However, the paper facings will smoulder and burn in a fire.
Suppress and avoid dust and keep all storage and work areas well ventilated.

SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

Storage and Transport: Plasterboard should be stored flat and level in a covered dry area.
Lift, handle and carry plasterboard on edge.
All lifting should be done with a straight back and bent knees.
No other special transport requirements are necessary.

Spills and disposal: Use wet sweeping and/or vacuuming to clean up dust and waste.
Bagged waste should be placed in containers and disposed of with other construction waste in accordance with local authority guidelines.

Fire/explosion hazard: Plasterboard, gypsum plaster is not flammable; however, the paper facings may smoulder and burn in a fire.

Smoking and Other Dust: Smoking and inhalation of airborne particulates from other sources may increase the risk of lung disease.
Work areas and storage areas should be deemed smoke-free zones.

BGC Plasterboard, Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is issued in accordance with the CoA, NOHSC Guidelines and any information contained herein must not be altered, deleted or amended.

BGC Plasterboard reserves the right to amend, publish and issue a new MSDS for any changes in NOHSC Guidelines and Regulations, product materials and / or specifications.

BGC Plasterboard Pty Ltd accepts no responsibility, expressed or implied, for any changes made to this MSDS document, without written approval by any third party.

At the issue date, the information in the BGC Plasterboard MSDS sheet is deemed accurate and reliable.

However, BGC Plasterboard Pty Ltd accepts no responsibility expressed or implied, for any errors and or omissions.

The onus of determining the suitability of the information in the BGC Plasterboard MSDS documents, in relation any particular purpose and or any specific circumstance rests with the user.

BGC Plasterboard advises the user should seek guidance, if any uncertainty arises from the information, meaning and or interpretation of the BGC Plasterboard MSDS sheets.

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