

Ridging in Gypsum Wallboard

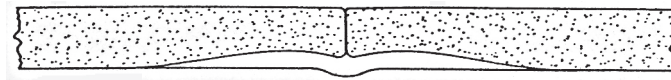
Ridging can also be called beading. This condition is a fine uniform thin deformation line at gypsum board joints. All materials expand and contract to varying degrees and at different rates. Ridging usually occurs after final decoration of the gypsum board and is caused by alternating cycles of high and low humidity during or shortly after the finishing and final decoration of the gypsum board. It is advisable to wait through a complete heating cycle before repairing. The best time to repair ridging is during warm, dry weather.

Repair Procedure:

Lightly sand the ridge down taking care not to damage the embedded joint reinforcing tape. Fill the surface over the joint with joint (taping) compound as wide as necessary to feather the edges and remove trowel marks. Examine the joint with strong side lighting. If the ridge is not concealed, additional feathering coats of joint compound may be required. The repaired joint should receive a coat of primer paint before any final decoration finish is applied.

Prevention:

The best prevention of joint ridging is to have proper environmental conditions. This will greatly minimize the likelihood of joint ridging and other problems associated with the finishing of gypsum wallboard. Keep temperature and relative humidity levels within the Best Drying Envelope section of the NWCB Technical Document 300-103 Gypsum Wallboard and Winter Weather, during and after finishing gypsum wallboard.



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