

# Installation — Lead Lined Drywall

A&L Shielding's lead lined drywall is to be installed as described below to ensure satisfactory performance over its service life.

## Lead Lined Drywall - procedures to follow

### **STAGING AT THE JOB SITE:**

Lead lined drywall is heavy and difficult to move without cracking the gypsum wallboard backing. It is recommended that several people handle each sheet and that they lift from near each end and the middle of each piece as it is moved. Loading and unloading from forklifts and drywall carts should always be by hand and done with care. Store lead lined drywall flat, in quantities of 10 to 15 pieces per stack, using 3" minimum spacers under each stack to isolate the material from moisture, etc. Use plastic sheet between concrete and the first stack. Always store inside in temperature and humidity controlled conditions.

### **MANUFACTURING DETAILS:**

Lead on drywall with thicknesses up to 1/16" (1.59mm) is supplied in widths of 4'1" and then mounted with special glue on 4'0" wide gypsum wallboard. This provides an overlap of 1" to one side of each piece. The drywall is mounted with each new piece butted to the next one and installed on top of the 1" lead protrusion to give shielding overlap.

Where partial width pieces are used, the installer must cut the drywall 1" wider than needed and then trim or peel away 1" of the board, leaving a 1" wide lead strip for overlap. As an alternative, 2" batten strips can be purchased to shield at the overlap.

Lead with thicknesses exceeding 1/16" (1.59mm) is supplied in widths of 4'0" mounted on 4'0" wide gypsum wallboard. The necessary overlap of lead shielding for these pieces is obtained by use of 2" wide lead batten strips that are the same length as the lead height on the drywall.

### **INSTALLATION ON WALLS:**

Batten strips are installed before the drywall is installed. They are fastened to each stud where a joint will occur. It is suggested that one screw be installed at the top to align the batten to the stud. Then install the wallboard as usual. Use thin fireproof shims on studs without battens to ensure a smooth surface. Extra battens are supplied for joints made with partial pieces or they can be made by cutting pieces of miscellaneous sheet lead that ship with the order. Always install with sheets oriented

vertically. Space each piece off the finished floor by approximately 1/4". Install per local standards and code regulations which may vary by site location.

Upon request, A&L Shielding will supply drawings which include general procedures to follow during installation. Partial pieces should be used when possible because of the material's value. Quantities of drywall to be supplied should be based on use of these partial pieces.

Shielding of walls over door frames is required only if the top of a door opening is below the lead height required in the adjacent walls (i.e. 6'8" door frame in a 7'0" shielded wall). When installing lead lined drywall around metal door frames and metal window frames, always allow the lead to extend into the frame far enough to provide at least 1" of overlap of lead on the drywall to lead in the frame.

A&L recommends the use of drywall screws with either metal or wood studs to minimize fastener "pop". When inserting the screws, run the screw head in to sufficient depth to allow the lead tab to be put over the screw head. Use construction adhesive to glue a lead tab of the proper thickness directly over the screw head. Hold in place until the glue cures. Apply drywall joint compound, sand, and smooth to the final finish desired.

### **PENETRATIONS:**

It is necessary to apply lead sheet of the proper thickness behind each wall penetration such as wall outlets, medical gas lines, etc. Allow sufficient overlap of lead to cutout to eliminate leakage.

**WASTE** – Disposal of all scrap lead must be handled in an environmentally responsible manner.



268 Old Lindale Road  
Rome, Georgia 30161

Phone Toll Free: 800-329-5323  
Fax Toll Free: 800-329-5320  
e-mail: [alshield@alshielding.com](mailto:alshield@alshielding.com)  
Internet: [www.alshielding.com](http://www.alshielding.com)