



Gypsum Board Securement

Q: I am looking at a UL fire-resistance rated design and it indicates the gypsum board is to be secured by nails. Can screws be used instead of nails?

A: Subject to specific limitations, screws can be used in lieu of nails in UL fire-resistance rated designs.

This substitution is covered by the guide information for the product category Fire Resistance Ratings (BXUV) that appears in the front of the UL Fire Resistance Directory (Volume 1) and in the UL Online Certifications Directory.

The guide information indicates that nails used to attach gypsum board to wood framing should be cement-coated box nails or cement-coated cooler nails unless specified otherwise in the specific designs. Screws meeting ASTM C1002 or ASTM C954 may be substituted for nails, one for one, when the head diameter, length, and spacing equal or exceed the requirements for the specified nails.

