

# Cross-Linked, Closed-Cell Backer Rod



**Product Name:**  
**HBR® XL**

*Round, flexible, continuous lengths of cross-linked, closed-cell polyethylene foam backer rod for use as a backing material for hot- and cold-applied sealants.*

## Features

- Easy to apply
- Chemically inert
- Waterproof
- Virtually dust-free
- Meets all of the requirements of the 1990 Clean Air Act
- Is a "Domestic End Product" as defined in the Buy American Act, Title 41 USC 10

Physical Property Requirements		
Property	Value	ASTM Test Methods
Density lb/ft <sup>3</sup> (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ), ave.	1.3-2.3 (20-37)	D 1622
Outgassing (No. of bubbles)	> 1	C 1253
Compression recovery, %, min	> 90	D 5249
Compression deflection psi (kgf/cm <sup>2</sup> )	15 (1.06)	D 5249
Tensile Strength psi (kgf/cm <sup>2</sup> ), min	16 (1.12)	D 1623
Water Absorption (g/cc)	< .03	C 1016 - Procedure B
Heat Resistance °F (°C)	410° ±5° (200° ±2.8°)	D 5249

## Description

TYPE: 1: - Round rods of various diameters intended for use with cold- and hot-applied sealants. FORM: Round Foam Rod. TEMPERATURE LIMITS: -45°F to +410°F.

## Benefits

Backer rod limits the depth of the sealant and prevents excessive sealant use. It also helps sealant assume optimum shape factor to prolong sealant service life and acts as a barrier to the flow of sealant through the joint.

## Applications

Common applications include, but are not limited to, expansion and contraction joints, curtain walls, construction partitions, parking decks and bridge construction where both cold- and hot-applied sealants are used.

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Packaging Specs								
Dimension		Unit	Length / Unit		Unit Weight		Unit Dimension	
3/8"	10 mm	Spool	3600'	1097 m	12 lbs.	5.4 kg.	18" x 18" x 31"	
1/2"	13 mm	Spool	2500'	762 m	12 lbs.	5.4 kg.	18" x 18" x 31"	
5/8"	16 mm	Spool	1550'	472 m	12 lbs.	5.4 kg.	18" x 18" x 31"	
7/8"	22 mm	Spool	850'	259 m	12 lbs.	5.4 kg.	18" x 18" x 31"	
1"	25 mm	Spool	550'	168 m	12 lbs.	5.4 kg.	18" x 18" x 31"	
1-1/4"	32 mm	Spool	400'	122 m	12 lbs.	5.4 kg.	18" x 18" x 31"	
1-1/2"	38 mm	Cut Length	550'	168 m	18 lbs.	8 kg.	23" x 13" x 75"	
2"	51 mm	Cut Length	360'	110 m	18 lbs.	8 kg.	23" x 13" x 75"	

## Joint Preparation and Installation

Just prior to placing the backer rod, clean all joints per the sealant manufacturer's recommendations. Thoroughly remove any concrete form-release agents, curing compound residue, laitance, or any foreign materials. To ensure a good sealant bond, joints must be clean and dry when the new sealant is installed. Air compressors used for this purpose must be equipped with traps for removal of oil and moisture. Install the backer rod at the depth recommended by the sealant manufacturer with a blunt tool.

**Size Selection** - Proper size selection is important as it controls the depth of the sealant bead. It must be oversized (25-50%) to fit tightly into the joint and function as a bond-breaker to prevent back-side adhesion of the sealant.

**Compatibility** - Closed-cell polyethylene foam is basically an inert material; and therefore, it is compatible, both physically and chemically, with virtually all known cold applied sealants including self-leveling types.

**Precautions** - Do not puncture, over compress or stretch backer rod during insertion. Tests for outgassing of cold applied sealants shall be made in accordance with ASTM Test Method C 1253. Sealant compatibility should be confirmed by the sealant manufacturer. Compatibility characteristics of sealants in contact with sealant backings can be determined by ASTM Test Method C 1087.



*Examples shown are for illustrative purposes only. Actual product may differ, slightly.*

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