



GoBoard® PRO: A Tile Installer's Best Friend

Saving time and money? Yes and yes! Tile installer Pavlo Strykov checks both boxes with Johns Manville GoBoard PRO.

For busy tile installers like Pavlo Strykov, time is everything.

Strykov is the owner of Star Tile & Stone, LLC, in South Carolina. As an in-demand installer, he constantly has custom projects lined up. Keeping things moving and on schedule as much as possible is important, and it's one of the reasons that Strykov uses Johns Manville GoBoard® PRO.

"One of GoBoard's great benefits is the eliminated step of using washers when attaching the panels with GoBoard Fasteners. This significantly saves installation time," Strykov said.

"In my opinion, the biggest benefits of the GoBoard products are their availability – every Lowe's in my area stocks them – their versatility and affordable price range. This really makes them so popular among tile installers nationwide."

GoBoard is a lightweight, waterproof tile backer board that is easy to handle and simple to install. It weighs up to 80% less than traditional cement boards and allows for same-day tiling, making it popular among contractors and DIYers.

GoBoard PRO was developed specifically for professional contractors and was born from feedback received from customers. Using proprietary technology, PRO's outer facing was improved to minimize wicking and increase overall board strength, meaning less fasteners are required. It is approved for steam shower applications without needing an additional membrane and also has reduced itch.

PRODUCT

GoBoard® PRO

LOCATION

South Carolina

INSTALLER

Star Tile & Stone, LLC





Adopting GoBoard Products

Strykov first learned about GoBoard from a colleague, Jason McDaniel of Stoneman Construction in Portland, Oregon, when the two collaborated on a detailed project. McDaniel used GoBoard to build a shower, and Strykov was intrigued.

Later that year, he had a large three-bathroom high-end job, and using GoBoard in it helped significantly reduce the expense of setting materials, while maintaining quality and warranty for the customer. His customer had to pay out-of-pocket to redo all the showers in his home which had been improperly prepared and waterproofed by the original installer, making Strykov's use of GoBoard extra important.

"Since then, GoBoard products (the boards, sealant, screws and washers) have become some of my favorites to use in wet areas," he said.

Then along came PRO, which Strykov used on several projects in 2021 shortly after it was introduced to the market and now it is his product of choice, due to quality and price.

Project Comes to Life with GoBoard PRO

Strykov recently completed a striking bathroom remodel in Hendersonville, North Carolina, using 0.8 cm Dekton Awake large-format tile panels and Crossville porcelain tile. He used GoBoard PRO on the walls in conjunction with the Revolutionary Shower Systems (RSS) Tile-Ready shower pan, recessed niche and Ebbe America medium Kerb profile that allowed him to build a low-profile waterproof assembly, then completed with the Dekton panels and Crossville tile.

"It's important to note that we only use foam backers to install large-format tile panels (except for fireplace surrounds with high heat exposure) because they virtually are not prone to expansion and contraction due to temperature fluctuations, which eliminates unnecessary shear stress of the finished product and improves its long-term performance," Strykov said.

"GoBoard PRO's low absorbent yet highly dense facing makes it a perfect bondable surface when installing Dekton and

gauged porcelain thin slabs, where the open time of the mortar is critically important for a successful installation of such super-format tiling materials. Our customers appreciate that we handle their projects with such attention to detail."

Strykov used a total of nine GoBoard PRO panels, seven tubes of PRO sealant, plus GoBoard Fasteners on the project. The shower was 113.5 square feet in size, and his work in the total bathroom remodel included the shower and bathroom floor.

"With GoBoard PRO there's no need to tape seams with mesh or to use washers with the GoBoard Fasteners, which saves us time and effort while providing a premium backer board material for our artisan work," Strykov said.

About the Contractor

Not only is Strykov an accomplished installer, but he's well-known in the tile industry and community. He is part of the National Tile Contractors Association and became a CTEF Certified Tile Installer, a Stone Forensics Certified Stone & Tile Inspector and an ACT Certified Installer of Gauged Porcelain Tile Panels and Slabs.

With all his knowledge, and with an active social media presence, he often serves as a teacher for others thanks to his wealth of technical knowledge. As an early adopter of PRO, Strykov's work serves as great examples of the product's ability and success.

Strykov's journey in the tile industry began in 2009 after he moved from Ukraine, where he was a professional soccer player, to the United States. He worked hard as an entry-level tile setter and strived to learn both the industry and the language. Experience on fast-paced projects and an ever-growing knowledge base eventually led him to start [Star Tile & Stone, LLC](#), in Portland. He later moved his business to Greenville, South Carolina.

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