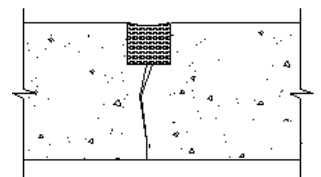


## GREENZONE® BACKER ROD TYPES & INSTALLATION

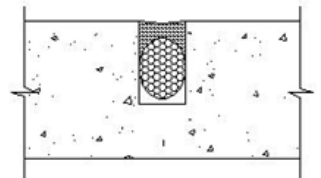
### WHAT IS A GREENZONE BACKER ROD?

Greenzone backer rods are an integral component of sealant joints and provide three main functions that allow the sealant joint to perform and stop the ingress of pests – in particular ants, cockroaches and termites.

1. The backer rod acts as a bond breaker, preventing what is commonly referred to as 'three sided adhesion'. This is when the sealant is adhered to the bottom and both sides of the joint. In this configuration the sealant cannot move nearly as well as when it is only bonded to the sides of the joint.
2. The backer rod supports tooling so after installation of material the sealant can be pushed to the bond line with a spatula, ensuring wet-out of the sealant to the substrate.
3. The backer rod promotes an hour glass shape. This maximizes the bond area but keeps the depth of sealant consistent in the middle allowing for movement.



3 sided adhesion



Sealing over a backer rod joint

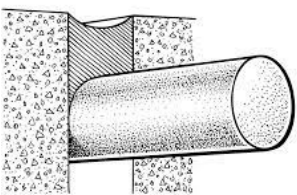
### WHERE CAN GREENZONE BACKER ROD BE USED

It is ideal as a vertical and horizontal joint filler in concrete, masonry substrates between precast concrete panels, interior walls, sealing skylights, shop fronts and curtain wall construction, it can also be used in areas such as, dust sealing, sealing electrical control boxes, truck and trailer construction.

The chemically treated Greenzone Backer Rod will stop the ingress of ants, cockroaches & termites into any structure where it is installed.



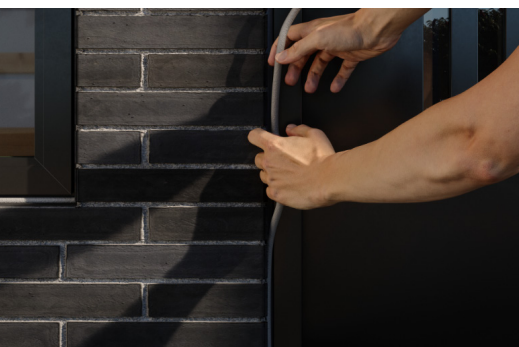
### CLOSED CELL BACKER ROD



The closed cell backer rod is best in horizontal or flat joints as its closed cell structure keeps moisture from wicking through it. It is much more robust which can make installation more challenging when compressing the backer rod into joints.

This backer rod should be installed carefully because if it is punctured and then sealant installed directly over top a void is created. That void, filled with air, will then expand as it is heated through typical day to day temperatures and sunlight causing unsightly bubbles. This is commonly referred to as outgassing.

Each backer rod type has its own niche that it excels in and this information should be considered when selecting a Greenzone backer rod for your next sealant project. Visit [www.greenzonebarrier.com](http://www.greenzonebarrier.com) for more information.



## HOW TO USE BACKER ROD CAULKING MATERIAL

A backer rod fills a wide gap between surfaces to allow you to more easily fill the gap with caulk.

Commonly, you use a backer rod to help bridge a gap that is 20 mm to 25mm or more wide. There are two standard types of backer rods that are available to use depending upon the installation site. The caulking material used to seal the bridged gap depends upon the surface material, and most types are easy to apply.

- STEP 1** Clean all surfaces that you want the caulking material to adhere. Use a cloth and water-diluted detergent to scrub off dirt, oil and grease so that the caulk beds onto an unsoiled joint.
- STEP 2** Remove old sealant with caulk remover. Apply it directly onto the sealant to loosen it. Use a putty knife to scrape away all traces of old caulk and wipe the area down with a damp cloth.
- STEP 3** Allow the cleaned areas to dry. Position the backer rod in the gap and push it down below the level of the joint. Use a close-cell backer rod for all outside joint filling and for gaps of less than a 20mm that require water resistance. Use an open-cell backer rod for gaps of more than 20mm wide .
- STEP 4** Fit the caulk tube into the caulking gun by releasing the plunger at the back. Pull on the trigger until the plunger holds the bottom of the caulk tube and is secure.
- STEP 5** Cut the point of the caulk tube nozzle at a 45-degree angle with a sharp utility knife so that the open edge is facing down. Position the caulking gun nozzle at the furthest end of the backer rod, and to one side of the rod where it meets the facing material.
- STEP 6** Pull the trigger to release the caulk. Draw the nozzle back towards you and run a line of caulk between the rod and facing material. Release the trigger just before you reach the end of the joint length and twist the gun to cut the caulk with the nozzle.
- STEP 7** Apply a second line of caulk adjacent to and touching the first. Continue to apply the caulk in lines until you join up to the other face of the joint. Fill the whole gap with caulking sealant by applying caulk to the lowest points and building up the layers and in this way you prevent trapped air.
- STEP 8** Overlap the top surface of each side of the joint with caulk so that the gap seals completely. Run a suitably sized spoon back or putty knife along the sealed joint so that it is a shallow concave shape. Allow the caulk to dry out and cure before applying Greenzone Termite Paint.

