

## **Specification Sheet: Soft Type Backer Rod**

### **Manufacturer.:**

Alcot Plastics Ltd.  
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### **Product Description:**

Alcot Plastics Soft Type Backer Rod is a soft, non-gassing, pliable, bi-cellular backup material for construction joints and applications that require sealants. It performs as a depth control for most known cold applied sealants and also helps sealant to assume the optimum hour-glass shape. Sealants will not adhere to it; no bond breaker is required.

### **Composition and Materials:**

Alcot Plastics Backer Rod is a round, black, extruded bi-cellular polyethylene backer rod with a water resistant outer skin. It is compatible with most known cold applied sealants such as urethane, silicone, acrylic, butyl, polysulfides, latex, and chinking sealants.

### **Specific Uses:**

Especially suited for applications with irregular and varying joint widths where standard closed cell backer rods are not appropriate and where bubbling concerns are critical. May also be used in place of standard closed-cell backer rod in most applications.

Common applications include expansion and contraction joints, window glazing, curtain wall construction partitions, parking decks, bridge and highway construction pavement maintenance, and log home chinking.

### **Installation:**

Joint or opening must be free of all contaminants (including curing compounds and form-release agents), loose materials, dry and free of frost. Install between 25% - 50% compression. With a blunt instrument or roller, seat the Backer Rod to depth recommended by sealant manufacturer.

### **Limitations:**

Do not use with hot-applied sealants. Sealant compatibility should be confirmed by the sealant manufacturer. Backer Rod should be installed with a roller or blunt, flat-sided tool. Avoid puncturing, stretching and over compression.

Temperature Limits: -90°F to 190°F

**Packaging:**

Alcot Plastics Backer Rod is available in a wide variety of diameters and comes in 3 carton sizes. Please see the following chart for details on packaging.

Diameter	Carton Size	Details	Recommended Joint Width
3/8" (10mm)	18.5" x 18.5" x 15"	2,100'/Carton, 2 spools/Carton	3/16" – 1/4"
5/8" (16mm)	19" x 19" x 30"	1,550'/Carton, 2 spools/Carton	3/8" – 1/2"
7/8" (22 mm)	19" x 19" x 30"	850'/Carton, 1 spool/Carton	1/2" – 3/4"
1 1/8" (29mm)	19" x 19" x 30"	400'/Carton, 1 spool/Carton	3/8" – 7/8"
1 1/2" (38mm)	13.5" x 13.5" x 73"	396'/Carton. 6' pieces	7/8" – 1 1/4"
2" (51 mm)	13.5" x 13.5" x 73"	228'/Carton 6' pieces	1 1/4" – 1 1/2"
2 1/2" (63mm)	13.5" x 13.5" x 73"	144'/Carton 6' pieces	1 1/2" – 2"
3" (76mm)	13.5" x 13.5" x 73"	102'/Carton 6' pieces	2" – 2 1/2"
4" (102mm)	13.5" x 13.5" x 73"	54'/Carton 6' pieces	2 1/2" – 3"

**Technical Data:**

Alcot Backer Rod is chemically inert and will resist gasoline, oil, and most solvents. Product will not stain or adhere to sealants.

Physical Properties		
Property	Value	ASTM Test Method
Density	1.6-2.0 lbs/ft <sup>3</sup>	D 1622
Outgassing (Number of bubbles)	0	C 1253
Compression Recovery	>97%	D 5249
Water Absorption	< .03 grams/cc	C 1016 – Procedure B
Tensile Strength	25-50 psi	D 1623

Meets or exceeds requirements of ASTM C1330 type B

**Warranty:**

Product is sold without warranty. In no case will Alcot Plastics be liable for incidental or consequential damages on the product.

Buyer must make their own determination as to the suitability of the product and application.