

Sheetrock: your walls are actually full of water

[...]Gypsum contains large amounts of water bound in crystalline form; 10 square feet (1.0 sq m) of gypsum board contains over 2 quarts (2 1) of water. When exposed to fire, the water in the gypsum board vaporizes; the temperature of the panel remains at 212°F (100°C) until all of the water is released, protecting the underlying wood framework[...]

[...]Each molecule of gypsum (or dihydrous calcium sulfate) is composed of two molecules of water (H₂O) and one of calcium sulfate (CaSO₄). By weight the compound is 21% water, but by volume it is nearly 50% water[...]

posted by Purple Avenger