

### Product Name Acoustiblok<sup>®</sup> Sound Isolation Material

Installation Type Wall Installation

#### **Installation Overview**

This installation overview provides suggestions for handling and installing Acoustiblok<sup>®</sup> Sound Isolation Material. Acoustiblok is a heavy, high density product (1lb/ft<sup>2</sup>), so when preparing for the installation always schedule at least two installer for efficiency and safety.

All tool (except common hand tools) and materials required for a professional Acoustiblok sound installation are available from Acoustiblok, Inc. Use the Acoustiblok RD350 Material Roll Dispenser or similar A-Frame type roller stand for safety and ease of handling.

When possible, Acoustiblok Sound Isolation Material should be installed on the noise side of the assembly. This will decrease the amount of acoustical energy that may be converted into mechanical noise.

It is essential that the treated room be sealed as airtight as possible using Acoustiblok Acoustical sound Sealant, Acoustigrip Tape and Acoustiputty sealant pads. The effectiveness of your Acoustiblok sound treatment will be jeopardized if these steps are not taken.

#### **Installation Suggestions**

You have two choices for fastening Acoustiblok onto wood framing. You can use nails or staples to secure the Acoustiblok. Either fastener requires a plastic or "tin cap" roofing washer to ensure that the material will not pull away from the fastener or tear the material. If you are using air tools to drive your nails or staples adjust the air pressure low enough so you don't shoot through the washer or material. (Ask your sales rep about the Bostitch cap & stapling system)

1. Metal frame installations require self tapping screws and metal caps or self tapping wafer head screws, which are available from Acoustiblok (Item # WHS).



- 2. Take a measurement from the starting corner to your first obstacle (window, door, or adjacent wall). If a single piece would be unmanageable due to the weight (1lb Ft2), cut the material into manageable sizes.
- 3. Unroll the first few feet of the roll and square the end of the material with your Tsquare and score with a utility knife and tear it off. Starting with a square edge provides for tighter seams and helps maintain a level installation. Roll back the cut piece in the opposite way it came off the roll to minimize curling of the material as you install it.
- 4. Install across (horizontal) the studs, not parallel (vertical) to them. This minimizes the number of seams that require sealing. You may want to run a chalk line across the studs for a visual reference for maintaining a level install. Acoustiblok recommends installing the lower piece first, becoming familiar with the installation process before attempting to install from the top down.
- 5. Start the installation in a corner, securing it with 5 fasteners. Install 4-5 fasteners per section starting with the top first and work down, keep fasteners and material flat against the stud. Unroll the material across a few studs and place the roll in one of the following stud cavities, for ease of handling by reducing the weight of the material you are handling during the installation. Use the studs for leverage to help pull the material into position. Do not pull the Acoustiblok too tight; leave it somewhat "relaxed" or "limp" between the studs. Maintain a small gap (1/8"-3/8") between all adjoining surfaces (floor, ceiling, walls). These gaps will be sealed later with Acoustigrip™ tape and Acoustiblok Acoustical Sound Sealant.
- 6. The attempt is to create an airtight assembly. If air can pass through so can sound, so sealing the seams is a critical step for a proper acoustical installation. Using Acoustigrip tape and Acoustiblok Acoustical Sound Sealant, begin to seal all perimeter edges, joints, electrical boxes, access points and the exposed edges at window and door openings. Use Acoustiputty<sup>™</sup> pads to seal the backs of any boxes and other large gap wall penetrations.
- 7. Do one final inspection of the entire job and verify that each stage of the installation is complete. Your installation is now ready for drywall. To prevent dimples in the drywall, keep material and fasteners as flush as possible and use 5/8" or thicker drywall.



### **Additional Notes for Wall Installation**

- You may choose to either butt or overlap the horizontal seams. If you overlap, be aware that there will be a 1/8" rise in the fastening surface for the drywall. Do not place any fasteners within the overlap area. Overlap at least 1" to assure adequate sealing and apply Acoustiblok Acoustical Sound Sealant within the overlap area. Either method requires that you to seal the seams with Acoustigrip tape and Acoustiblok Acoustical Sound Sealant.
- 2. Installing Acoustiblok on the interior side of an exterior wall requires attention to the vapor flow performance of the wall assembly. To provide adequate vapor flow the material seams should be overlapped. Use the Acoustiblok Acoustical Sound Sealant and spot apply it to the center of each wall cavity. Do not tape the seam or apply acoustical sealant along the bottom of the assembly. Do not put any fasteners within the overlapped area.
- 3. When drywall is installed make sure that its edges do not touch any adjacent surfaces. Leave 1/8"-3/8" gap around the entire perimeter of the wall and fill gap with Acoustiblok Acoustical Sound Sealant. This decouples the surfaces reducing the mechanical transmission of the sound. Tape & finish the drywall as normal.
- 4. If using resilient channel, attach the channels to the stud or joist 24" o.c. on top of the Acoustiblok. Use screws long enough to penetrate the drywall and channel only. Do not penetrate the Acoustiblok Sound Isolation Material.
- 5. If in-wall speakers are used you must create an exaggerated bend of the Acoustiblok into the wall or joist cavity, providing sufficient clearance behind the speaker as to not touch either the speaker or the opposite surface. You may want to section the Acoustiblok so that the speakers' cavity is treated separately. Use Acoustiblok Acoustical Sound Sealant and Acoustigrip tape to seal any seams.
- 6. Using higher density insulation may further enhance the sound reduction properties of an Acoustiblok treated wall assembly. We recommend using a mineral wool product such as Quiet-Fiber to increase the sound reduction properties of the assembly.



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