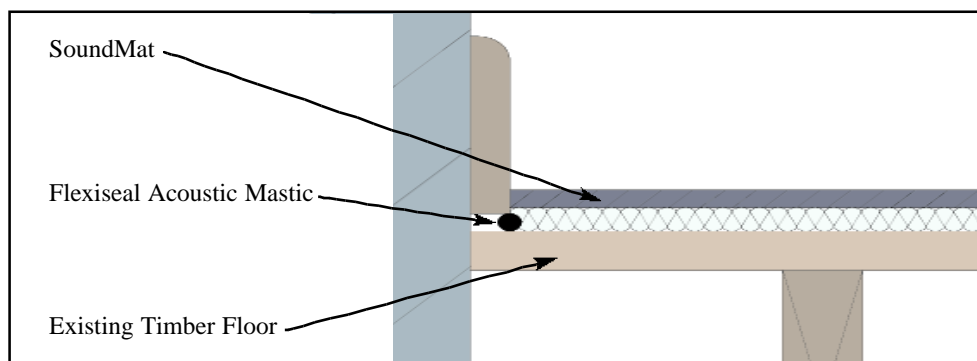


# SoundMat

## Description

SoundMat is an extremely effective, easy to fit, acoustic underlay manufactured from a high density polymeric barrier, bonded to a resilient layer of acoustic felt. It is designed to reduce airborne sound and impact noise transmission through new and existing floors and will act as a compensating layer of sound insulation when replacing carpets with hard floor finishes such as laminates, hardwood or ceramic tiles. SoundMat is 12mm thick and can be laid directly onto existing timber and concrete floors.



## Application

SoundMat is designed for use in domestic and commercial applications to reduce airborne and impact noise passing through intermediate floors into the rooms below and to minimise the sound of footsteps on stairs. It is suitable for use in building extensions and loft conversions where there is a requirement to improve sound insulation within a property without necessarily needing to comply with Building Regulation requirements.

## Operating Temperature

SoundMat is suitable for use at normal building temperatures.

## Dimensions and Weight

SoundMat	Thickness mm	Dimensions mm	No. of Mats per Pallet	Weight	
				Per m <sup>2</sup>	Per Mat
SoundMat	12	1200 x 1000	50	15.5 kg	18.6 kg
Perimeter Strips	12	25 x 1200	n/a	n/a	n/a

## Acoustic Performance

Highly qualified and experienced building and acoustic consultants are available to discuss the anticipated improvement in acoustic performance for specific floor constructions. Further details are available on request. However for reference:

Laying SoundMat onto an existing timber floor comprising 18mm chipboard, on 50mm x 225mm joists at 400mm centres, with two layers of plasterboard on the underside to form the ceiling below, can reduce impact noise by more than 17dB.

Laying SoundMat onto a 365kg/m<sup>2</sup> concrete floor with a plaster skim ceiling below can reduce impact noise by more than 29dB.

Laying SoundMat onto a 'typical' timber or concrete floor can reduce airborne noise passing through the floor by up to 6dB depending upon the floor construction.

## Compression and Dynamic Loading

SoundMat has been tested and comfortably exceeds the requirements of BSEN ISO 13934-1:1999 (tensile strength), BS 4939:1987 (static loading), BS 4052:1988 (compression after dynamic loading) and BS 5808 (resistance to breaking or cracking).

## Packaging and Handling

SoundMat is packed on non-returnable wooden pallets and should be stored inside and under cover in a dry, well-ventilated area. Mats should be laid flat and kept off the ground. Extreme care should be taken when handling to avoid damage.

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## Availability

SoundMat is available through a national network of stockists. Further details available on request.

## Application and Fixing

Ensure the floor to be covered is structurally sound, does not creak and is dry, clean and dust free. Remove any existing loose laid floor coverings, protruding nails, carpet tacks, gripper rods etc and repair any damage to the floor to ensure it is flat and level.

Plan the laying of the total floor area to optimise the use of SoundMat and avoid wastage. Use a sharp bladed knife and a straight edge to cut SoundMat and lay white-felt side down in a brick pattern with staggered joints.

### Method 1

#### When laying a floated tongue and grooved or interlocking laminate/hardwood flooring over SoundMat

- a Apply a bead of Flexiseal Acoustic Mastic to fill the gap between the sub-floor and the skirting board. Commence laying SoundMat starting at the opposite corner from the door opening. Lay the first SoundMat white-felt face down, tight up against the skirting boards of the two adjoining walls. Butt joint the second SoundMat tightly against the first and repeat along the length of the wall, cutting the last mat to fit. Use any off-cut from the first row to start the second row, or cut a new mat in half to stagger the joints and lay in a brick pattern. Ensure all SoundMats are tightly butt jointed together on this and successive rows until the floor is totally covered.

It may be necessary to cover SoundMat with plywood or hardboard to stabilise the floor before laying the final floor finish. Use adhesives recommended by the manufacturer of the floor finish.

- b Secret Nailed or Clip System Wood Floors:

It will be necessary to overlay SoundMat with either a floated or fully bonded layer of tongue and grooved plywood. The plywood should not touch the skirting/wall. Ideally, butt the plywood up to Hodgson & Hodgson's self-adhesive Acoustic Isolation Tape. The thickness of the plywood will be determined by the stability required. Contact your flooring contractor or material supplier for their recommendations.

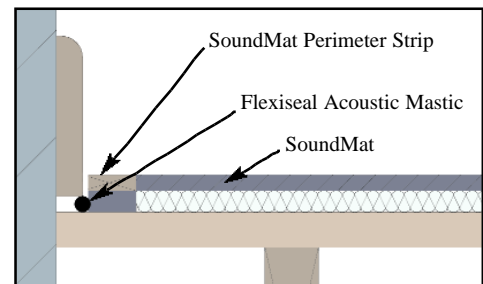
- c Vinyl, linoleum or rubber flooring etc

Overlay as detailed in methods 1a and 1b above.

### Method 2

#### When laying carpet with gripper rods over SoundMat.

Fix SoundMat Perimeter Strips black-barrier face down approximately 8mm (to allow for carpet recess) from the skirting board edge around the perimeter of the floor. Lay SoundMat tight up to the perimeter strips. Continue laying as detailed in Method 1a above.



### Method 3

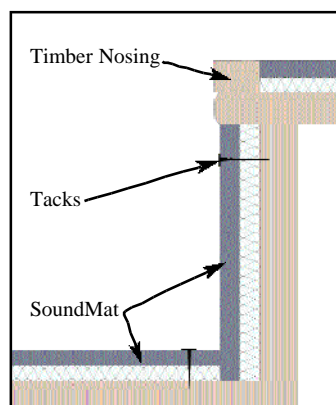
#### When laying a ceramic or stone floor over SoundMat.

Bond/overlay SoundMat as detailed in methods 1a and 1b above.

Additionally, tiles should be laid on a flexible, stress relieving membrane together with a flexible adhesive and grout to neutralise any differential movement between the tongue and grooved plywood and the tiles.

### Method 4

#### When laying SoundMat on stairs.



Screw fix a suitable square edge batten along the length of each stair nosing.

Determine if SoundMat is to be fitted to both the tread and riser - this is important with carpet fitting as an allowance will have to be made for the gripper perimeter strips.

#### Carpet fitting

- a Tack or bond SoundMat to the stair risers.
- b Butt and securely fix SoundMat Perimeter Strips on to the tread at the base of the stair riser to fix carpet gripper rods
- c Tack or bond SoundMat to the stair tread. Cut the strips of SoundMat to the appropriate size.

## For Further Information

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