



TECHNICAL INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR KARMA ACOUSTIC BLANKET ON PRE-COMPLETION TESTING AND OTHER TIMBER JOIST SEPARATING FLOORS

- The basis of the construction uses conventional dry, stress graded timber joists. These should be sized and set out as for a traditional floor construction, nominally 400, 450 or 600mm centres. The joists will still require blocking where necessary.
- The first stage is to work from below the floor construction.
- Secondary joists, sized to suit the span, should be fitted using joist hangers secured to the wall so that the top of the secondary joists are a minimum of 55mm below the bottom of the floor bearing joists.
- Karma Acoustic Blanket should be inserted over the secondary joists as shown. Care should be taken to ensure that the insulation is fitted neatly without gaps at abutments or between different rolls or at the perimeter. This process is repeated until the whole area is completed. Where downlighters are incorporated into the ceiling it is recommended that only fire protected and acoustic rated products are fitted. Always fit as per the manufacturer's instructions, but in addition where Karma AcousticBlanket (or any other mineral fibre product) is fitted in the ceiling system to ensure there is sufficient airflow around the downlighters. This is achieved by cutting away a hole in the Acoustic Blanket of 60mm greater than the downlighter diameter.
- In order to accurately locate the hole use the secondary joists and walls as reference points to measure co-ordinates for each hole. There should be a minimum clearance between the downlighter and the quilt in all directions. When using proper acoustic rated downlighters there will be no reduction in the acoustic performance of the system. However, downlighters do create an obvious flanking path if not correctly fitted with adequate care.
- A layer of Acoustic Plasterboard is then offered up to the secondary joists. The boards should be located at 90° to the direction of the joist ensuring that each end of the board bears onto a joist. The boards should be fully screwed with 25mm Drywall Screws at 200mm centres. After fixing the first layer, ensure that any joints and gaps in the ceiling lining are filled with Acoustic Intumescent Sealant. It is not required to finish the joints. A second layer of Acoustic Plasterboard is then offered up, fully overlapping the first board (by 600mm) so that all the board joints are covered. Screw-fix with 42mm Drywall Screws at 200mm centres. Again, ensure at this stage that any gaps in the ceiling lining are filled with acoustic sealant prior to any surface finishing system. The next stage is to work from above the floor construction.
- Ideally the floor decking, which should be tongued and grooved, should be fully glued into place. All gaps in the decking, especially around the perimeter should be sealed with Acoustic Intumescent Sealant.

- Depending on the selected floor build remember to allow for adjustment to door, skirting and socket heights. For refurbishment projects existing decorative finishes must be removed and the floor surface smooth, dry and free from debris. Fix any loose floorboards, repair damage to screed and fill any cracks and gaps with Acoustic Intumescent Sealant. Gaps around pipes, conduits and ducts should be filled with Acoustic Intumescent Sealant. Remove any doors that open into the room being treated. Remove any skirting boards if required.
- Roll out ensuring that the brick membrane is face down. Where it butts a wall allow approx 75-100mm overlap at each edge and cut using a sharp knife or scissors. Where it butts push tightly together and tape along the edge using a suitable carpet tape.



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