

Re: BlockAid® Installation Guide

The following are guidelines given in good faith to help avoid common errors. They are not intended to be a step-by-step list of instructions or a checklist, and it is assumed the installer has general construction knowledge and skills. Acoustics First bears no responsibility for any installation actions taken or not taken, and is not responsible for installer selection.

Part 1 - Treating a Wall - BlockAid[®] and SoundChannels[®]

Cover a wall with <u>*BlockAid® vinyl sound barrier</u> to block unwanted sound, then "finish" the wall with an absorptive layer of <u>Sound Channels® wall covering</u>.</u>*

1. Measure the wall for the first panel length. Mark the panel width on the wall.



3. Use a straightedge and a razor to cut the BlockAid[®].



2. Measure and mark the length of the wall on the BlockAid $\ensuremath{^{\ensuremath{\$}}}$



4. Using a notched trowel, apply vinyl tread adhesive to the wall (i.e. Johnsonite 965), covering the whole area where the first panel is going.





5. Hang the panel starting at the top; install a few screws to hold it in place while the adhesive sets.
(You will probably need a friend to help, as BlockAid[®] is a pound per square foot!)



7. Repeat the steps for the next strip. Measure, Mark, Cut, Trowel, Hang...

6. Using your hands and a putty knife, smooth out all the air bubbles from behind the BlockAid[®] so that you get a good bond when the adhesive cures



8. Make sure you line up those seams! Push them right up against each other. Smooth out the air bubbles, cut out any outlets, trim extra & let dry!







Installing Sound Channels® Wall Covering

1. Remove the screws from the BlockAid[®] – if you didn't already. Then, like the BlockAid, measure the wall, mark it, measure and cut a piece of Sound Channels[®] and start troweling on the Chapco 305



3. Starting at the top, hang the Sound Channels[®] overlapping the seam of the BlockAid[®] under it. Smooth out the air bubbles with your hands. Make sure it lines up well. No screws needed!



2. Finish troweling out the adhesive to cover where the panel is going. (You are going to overlap the seams.)



4. Measure and cut the next strip, carefully following a rib in the fabric. Prep the next section with adhesive.





5. Best practice is to run the fabric in the same direction every time. Not just with the ribs, but in the same direction it comes off the roll. So find the top.

6. After you find the top, start hanging from the top, lining up the seams and smoothing out the bubbles as you go.



7. Keep those seams tight as you go. Keep smoothing... almost done!



8. Trim up the extra and repeat as many times as needed. Remember to trim around outlets.







Part 2 – Adding BlockAid[®] to Existing Wall

The following diagram shows a basic sound wall in which BlockAid[®] Sound Barrier is installed over an existing insulated wood-stud wall with $\frac{1}{2}$ " gypsum board.



****Note** - BlockAid can be more effective if installed directly on stud work or ceiling joists in as slightly limp state before the sheet goods are installed. See Part 4 for more BlockAid Installation Tips.



Part 3 – Ceiling Treatment with BlockAid®

The following diagram shows BlockAid Sound Barrier[®] being installed over an existing drywall ceiling. BlockAid Sound Barrier adds weight to the ceiling, reducing airbourne sound transmission. Floor Underlayment, Resilient Channel and/or Resilient clips will do more to control structure bourne impact noise (vibrational sound) like footsteps and moving furniture.





Part 4 – BlockAid Installation Tips

- 1. BlockAid[®] can be more effective if installed directly on stud work or ceiling joists in as slightly limp state before the sheet goods are installed.
- 2. For optimum performance, run a bead of non-hardening acoustical caulk around the perimeter and at the seams. Caulking should be applied around electrical boxes etc. Seams may be overlapped and should be sealed with calk, adhesive or a tape like aluminum duct tape.
- 3. "Tin Cap" (or plastic) roofing washers are an option when installing on stud work or ceiling joists. Metal framing requires the use of self-tapping screws with tin roof caps or large head screws to hold BlockAid[®] temporarily before drywall or other sheet goods are installed.
- 4. Use vinyl floor and tread adhesive such as Johnsonite VJ965 when covering existing walls. Use 1/16" notched trowel for applying adhesive.
- 5. When you cover existing walls do not allow gaps between the pieces. It should butt edge to edge. You can also seal seams with a tape like regular or aluminum duct tape.
- 6. Seams should not align with the drywall seams, except at wall end. This is usually easy since the vinyl is 54" wide and the drywall is 48 inches wide.
- 7. On walls use a wide head nail, such as a roofing nail along the top edges to prevent the vinyl from rolling down the wall under its own weight while the adhesive dries. If the nail heads are flush there may be no reason to remove them.
- 8. Pipes or ductwork should go through oversized holes that are sealed with closed cell foam material and non-hardening caulk.
- 9. In rooms with an acoustic tile ceiling that have walls that go up to the drop ceiling and not the structural ceiling (deck), sound will simply travel through the tiles and flank over the wall. Consider replacing the existing ceiling tiles in the adjacent classrooms with our barrier-backed Cloudscape Ceiling Tiles. The barrier backed tiles add weight to the ceiling, which blocks sound. A less expensive alternative would be to add a layer of BlockAid[®] sound barrier to the backs of the existing tiles. Be sure to insulate the cavity above the barrier/ceiling tiles to prevent resonances.

Contact Acoustics First if you have any questions or would like more information on additional applications for BlockAid Sound Barrier