

For your support we have prepared this **Practical Guide** 033108 for the use of the noted QuietProducts™. If you need more information, please do not hesitate to contact us at your convenience at 877 816-5435.

Much of the comentary below is IMPORTANT information. Please read prior to cutting or installing QuietRock!

QuietRock is the only gypsum solution encompassing a “*system*” approach to sound BLOCKING and can deal specifically with different frequencies levels. The system includes the use of **QuietSeal** and **QuietPutty**.

- 1.) **LOW** Frequency: Music rooms, for example, have plenty of low frequencies [low booming base] which are the hardest to stop. The QR-545 is a 1 3/8” board if you need to address that concern, and is our most solid performer overall as it also takes care of high frequencies
- 2.) **HIGH** Frequency: For the most common every day, high frequency requirements [speech, ringing phones etc.], and of the 5/8” solutions, the QR-525 is least expensive. It, however, performs slightly less effectively than the QR-530 which is the best solution for a retro-fit [sheet on sheet] application. For a low-cost non fire rated board we suggest the 1/2” QR-510.

Refer to the [Various Wall Assemblies PDF](#) on this hyperlink for more detailed information.

Cutting Notes: The QR-510 is a true “score & snap;” the QR-525 is a “flat-surface” score [both sides] & snap product; while the QR-530 and QR-545 require a Skill saw with a carbide tipped blade to cut. We recommend a Dremmel or RotoZip tool, using metal bits, for cutouts. It is like cutting through fridge butter with a hot knife

- Apply a **1/8” bead of QuietSeal** on board edges, including on perimeter “through gaps.” One tube will do about 50 feet of edge [enough for about 2.5-4. sheets depending on usage]. **Important** : wipe away ALL excess QuietSeal with paint thinner BEFORE mud, tape and paint
- Use **QuietPutty** [7”x7” slabs] in behind the sheets around penetrations like plumbing; and on the back end of any media, phone, cable, electrical receptacles. For “gangs” of 3 or more, use QuietRock to box them.

SPECIAL NOTE: Remember to “box” pot lights, speakers etc. that are not surface mounted with matching product, since sound can travel through these and up the stud / beam cavities through to the next room / floor.

Recommended is that the "box" be: 1 piece fastened to the underside of the flooring above, bordered by 2 pieces flanking the beams and 2 perpendicular pieces; effectively creating a "fixed box" within which to install the insulated pot light. The best fasteners would be screws to ensure long-term stability, using QuietSeal, or QuietPutty [preferred due to less mess] smeared in the crevices inside the box. The seal is wet flammability rated at 125°F and the putty is 1 hour fire-rated.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You CANNOT mud, paint or skin over the QuietSeal as it never dries!• Miss the stud / beam with the screw? Leave it in the board and mud over it |
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For **additional acoustic and vibration noise reduction** for materials with low porosity [pipes, HVAC, compressors etc.] refer to the **QuietCoat** product line. This product is used to keep acoustic vibration noise from resonating through duct work or pipes. It is of a “cake-mix” consistency and is applied by paint brush, roller or sprayer.

As you read through the rest of the PDF’s etc., **please remember the ABC’s of sound:**

- **A** is for absorption [to make a more friendly acoustic space and reduce sound reflection]
- **B** is for Blocking [to keep sound from either getting into an area, or from escaping]
- **C** is for covering up [masking, such as “elevator music” to make an area seem quieter by introducing background noise]

Note: Recording studios and home theaters requires A and B; Office environments often require B and C and; Party walls in condos & semi’s require B.

- **QuietRock and QuietWood are acoustical **B**locking solutions**

Remember that “voice” noise is an airborne acoustical energy. Noise, such as “high heel” and running water are generally a Structural noise which vibrates through foundation floors and walls respectively, and is dealt with a very different manner. A Blocking solution has minimal impact on a structural noise.

- **QuietFoam and SonoGrip on floors are used to reduce structural vibration. See www.sounddivide for more details on these and other products!**

Confused? ... Don’t know which product to use ...or where? = Most popular]

As an **overview**, the information about to be given is a vast generalization. We always recommend you confer with a registered architect, engineer, designer or acoustician to get the “official” recommendation. But based on real world situations, and the manufacturer’s overview comments, here are ours as gleaned from visiting many sites:

QuietRock can be used as a retrofit product and put on top of anything that has a stud, minimum a furring channel, supporting it!

QR 510 This ½” non fire rated board is the least expensive of the QuietRock family and is used for “improvement” only; not to achieve a >50STC party wall code, as on its own it will achieve up to 49STC. It is great for 24” OC metal construction methods or for bedroom/bedroom, basement apartments etc., but is also good on wood. Often used in high rise commercial applications. **Do not use on a ceiling – it will sag. Install vertically on new construction to maximize seam support. Horizontal is fine when overlaying.** It is a true score & snap product. Good for everyday noises and high frequencies.

QR 516 This is also a ½” non fire rated board and is has been tuned for 16” OC wood construction methods, typically like those found in single family homes, but is also good for use on conventional steel. It is not intended to achieve a >50STC party wall code, as on its own it will achieve up to 46STC. It is great for bedroom/bedroom, basement apartments etc. This is a true score & snap product. Good for everyday noises and high frequencies. **See QR-510 for ceiling use installation practices.**

QR 525 This is a fire rated board and is the least expensive 5/8" offering of the QuietRock family. It has a layer of formed silicate [like ceramic] on the back. It is used by developers to achieve 51STC on new single stud wall construction using conventional metal studs. However in a "retrofit" application on top of other drywall, this board results in only 49STC, which is less than the 50STC needed for many party wall codes. This board is a score & snap, but you must score both sides to get a clean break. For ease of use, we recommend the use of a circular saw or jig saw. Use a RotoZip or Dremmel tool for cut outs. Great for "media rooms" and is good for everyday noises and high frequencies as well as lower volume low frequencies.

QR 527 This 5/8" fire rated board is more expensive than QR525 but has been specifically tuned to deliver the best performance when used with Dietrich UltraSTEEL metal studs. A single layer on one side with regular gypsum on the other of a single stud wall will provide an astounding 55STC and outperforms resilient channel [which fails 90% of the time] by a margin of 3 to 1.

QR 528 This is a 5/8" fire rated board is the simplest, lowest-cost, most reliable way to combine top-notch noise reduction, mould resistance, abuse resistance and low indoor air emissions. It has fiberglass mat facings and a specially treated gypsum core. The front is tapered and the back is fiberglass-faced and flat and is suitable for tile. Good for inside exterior wall, bathrooms etc. It will achieve 50STC on new single stud wall construction.

QR 530 This is a 5/8" fire rated solution and is the favourite for builders who need to achieve a 50STC code on a single stud party wall. With its 5 layers, including a 35 gage galvanized metal; it is able to provide security, the strength of 5/8" plywood, soft body contact resistance for walls/hallways, and impact resistance for highly active areas and has a RF application for shielding hand-held communications devices [special order]. It provides the best "everyday noise" attenuation for retro fit applications as it achieves a 53STC on a single stud wall. This product requires a jig saw or a skill saw with a carbide tip to cut and rips in less than 7 seconds. The use a vacuum bag is recommended, but not necessary. Use a RotoZip or Dremmel tools for cut outs. One sheet on one side of a single wall construction effectively creates the sound blocking of TWO walls.

QR 545 The most robust of them all. This 13/8" product does what all three above combined will do [as it incorporates all three into one sheet] PLUS it gets rid of up to 40dB of low frequencies. This is the one to choose if there is any low frequency involved in the application you are trying to solution. This is typically used for home theatres, recording studios but has a huge application on bedroom walls between neighbours. Even though it is thick, in those circumstances, there are no casements, windows etc. and the solution is unmistakable. That is why this is a Lucas Studios THX Certified product. When used on one side of a single stud wall, this sheet is often equated to building out a double to triple wall when factoring in its low frequency attenuation.

QuietWood These three offerings are easier to determine. All are used for floors only, and ONLY to stop verbal noise, not structural vibration [the QuietFoam helps with that]. The **QW-630** [5/8's] and the **QW-631** [1 1/8's] are booth stock products used for retro fit and structural applications respectively. The **QW-640**, which includes a layer of mass-loaded vinyl, is a custom ordered product, used by home theatre and recording studios enthusiasts.

Notice: Often people unfairly presume that our attenuation products will rid them of their sound problems 100%. While that may be your effective result, it may hold true that you have residual sound after the installers leave. Remember, this will be true with regular drywall as well, so while we advise on how this might happen, we remind you that hanging 1 sheet of QuietRock is like hanging minimum 8 sheets of regular drywall, so it will always still deliver a much better final result:

SPECIAL NOTE: The factors that lead to residual sound after installation of QuietRock may include:

- Living in an older home built when codes did not require separation between party walls allowing for common beams and/or stud walls
- Sound flanking [traveling] in between ceiling beams and running down the wall studs; and vice versa allowing sound to “escape”
- Newer homes with poor baffles [blockages between floor/ ceiling joints] that allow sound to “flank” where it was designed not to
- Floor/ ceiling assemblies that are too thin or have no insulation in between
- Too much leakage [i.e. windows, doors and/ or vents] which may allow sound in or out
- And of course poor insulation which is why we recommend to look at the job before mud and tape to see if there are areas for improvement

Please Remember: Dealers generally stock 8' boards. If you need larger ones [like 9, 10 or 12's] they are available, but may take 4-8 weeks to deliver in lift quantities only. Truck loads can be delivered within about 2-3 weeks to main Canadian cities. Some delivery charges may apply.

It must be noted that in general terms, our products don't “fail” to perform.

Its site conditions that fail in allowing our products to achieve their maximum benefit.

IN CLOSING:

The information above has been posted to raise awareness. We only need think back to our days in school when we used to talk to a friend though tin cups attached merely by a string to realize that sound is magic, and is as much friend and it is foe. We encourage you to read the attached articles on Sound & Noise and Home Theatres to provide you with more information with which to make an educated decision. Do not hesitate to contact our noted dealers or our staff, as we are all resources.

We are always interested in your stories and your solutions using our family of products. Please send these by email or snail mail and we will enter you into our ongoing contest to win gift certificates.

We are also very motivated by your input on our staff, dealers and applicators, so please send us your comments to show us where we are doing things right, and where we have room for improvement.

Though continued education, we are committed to 100% customer satisfaction!

Sincerely,

Your SounDivide Team

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