

Pre-Monsoon Checks

It is that time of the year in India when humidity, moisture and water play an important role in buildings. If you are installing or have installed acoustical walls and ceilings then pre-monsoon checks help to enhance the living experience.

A top-down sequence from roof to basement is the way to go. Make sure water does not stagnate anywhere, whether it is roof or lintels, gutters or downpipes, because however well a building is waterproofed any stagnant water can cause seepage.

Fortunately most Anutone products are moisture-resistant (MR). The highest MR rating comes from Ekcel magnesia products and includes Strand, Mat, Tufbloc. The Soft softfibre and Synth polyfibre range is also MR grade. These products are safe in a damp environment provided they are allowed to air dry.

The only products that are moisture-sensitive are Salon wood (Slats, Spots, Sonator etc) and Snazz gypsum (Pixel Smery, Pixel Taper, Pixel Square etc). Any contact with moisture, dampness or water is not recommended. Products are likely to disintegrate or get infested.



Monsoon Alert
Use moisture resistant products for walls & ceilings and wash away your monsoon blues

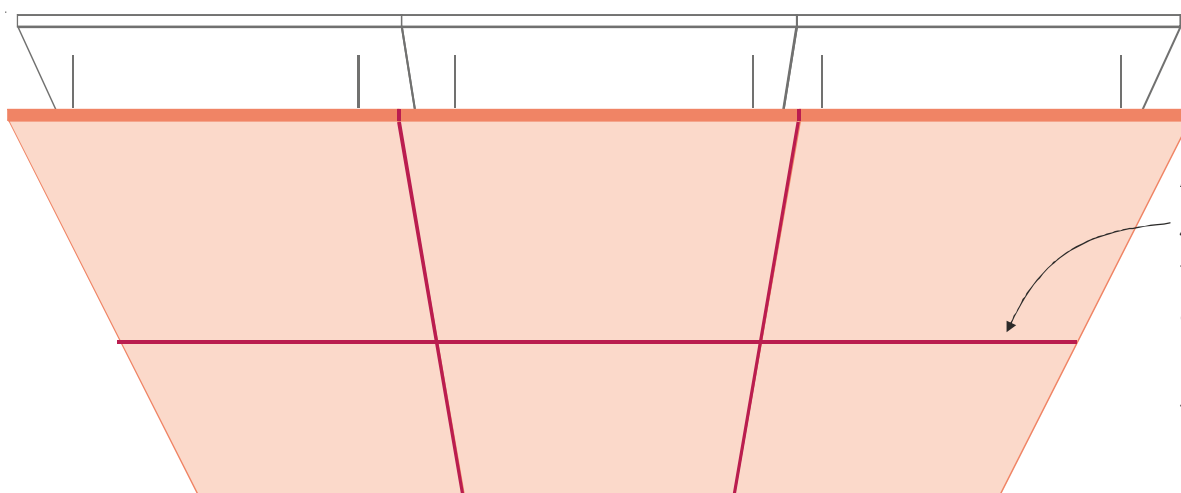
Sealing the Ceiling

How to ensure a soundproof and vibration-proof ceiling? Usually the focus for a soundproof room is only the walls. However sound travels in 3D spherical waves and impacts the floor and roof equally. Hence, if there is occupancy above and below, it becomes equally important to treat the floor and roof.

In suspending a soundproof ceiling from the true roof it is not only necessary to take precautions in terms of mass (high density ceiling boards like Tufbloc), damp (resilient products like Mat BSB), spring (anti-vibration mounts like Spring or Sway) but also ensure proper sealing of the ceiling boards.

Often time attention is paid to the major components and a lot of time and money spent but minor details like sealing the ceiling joints is ignored or neglected which leads to major grief. If the ceiling is multi-layered then make sure to follow the manufacturer's specifications towards sealing the joints. For example, Mat BSB as the first skin is butt-jointed and needs AJC whereas Tufbloc as the second skin needs 3mm gap joint and Seam Kit.

The joints must sport similar acoustic integrity as the board itself. If 12mm Tufbloc boasts STC35 then its joints too must return similar STC ratings at site to result in the complete ceiling being considered as STC35. Hence the importance of sealing the ceiling to ensure a soundproof room.



Sealing the Ceiling
Acoustically seal the joints well for an integral STC rating and hence a soundproof ceiling

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