

# SoftSound

## Guidelines for Installation

The SoftSound product range comprises SoftSound Liner panels, FibreLine High Impact panels and SoftSound and FibreLine Designer panels

### Tools and Equipment for all Products

- \* Suitable fixing screws and rawlplugs to secure SoftSound Liner panel channels
- \* Spray adhesive
- \* Pistol drills for drilling channels
- \* Jigsaw to cut channels to length
- \* Craft knife to trim Liner panels if necessary
- \* Screwdrivers
- \* Transformer to operate power tools if necessary
- \* Task lighting if required
- \* Scaffold towers, ladders, Youngman boards or rigid scaffolding as appropriate

### Personnel Protection

Ensure personnel are suitably equipped with appropriate safety clothing i.e.

- \* Hard hat
- \* High visibility jacket
- \* Safety footwear
- \* Safety goggles
- \* Ear defenders
- \* Gloves to prevent soiling the panels

### Installation of SoftSound Liner Panels

#### 1. Delivery and Off-Loading

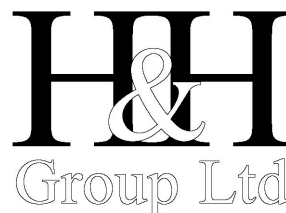
The component parts for the Liner panel system will be delivered on non returnable wooden pallets. The pallets should be off-loaded using a fork lift truck and stored in a dry well-ventilated area. Do not stack the pallets as this will cause damage to the components.

Check the pallets for the following items:

- \* SoftSound Liner Panels with the specified fabric and colour
- \* Vertical End Channels
- \* Shallow “U” Channel to fit along the bottom of the wall
- \* Deep “U” Channel to fit along the top of the wall
- \* Intermediate “T” sections to conceal joints between Liner panels
- \* Internal and External corner trim section as required

#### 2. Preparation and Planning

Ensure the floor area around the place of installation is clean, dry and clear of equipment to keep the panels clean and prevent damage.



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Crown Business Park  
Old Dalby  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire  
LE14 3NQ  
**Tel: 01664 821820**  
**Fax: 01664 821820**

**E-mail:**  
**info@hodgsongroup.co.uk**

**Web Site:**  
**www.acoustic.co.uk**



Check the walls to be treated are dry, structurally sound, flat and free from any protrusions.

Plan the fixing of SoftSound Liner panels to optimise material usage and minimise joints.

Pack out light switches, plugs and other penetrations with timber to form pattresses. Ensure they are designed to allow any electrical cables to pass behind and through them keeping the front face smooth. Each pattress should be of a depth to ensure it finishes flush with the surface of the SoftSound panels.

### **3. Installation of SoftSound Liner Panels**

Cut the top, bottom, end channels and “T” sections to the required lengths.

Position and fix the deep top channel horizontally along the top of the wall with appropriate screw fixings.

To keep the butt joint between channels neat and tidy, mark the required length on the back surface of the channel. Cut the fabric 15mm longer than the required length of channel and peel the fabric away from the metal work by about 30mm. Cut the channels to the required length taking care not to damage the loose fabric. Spray adhesive onto the loose fabric and smooth it around the cut end of the channel.

Position and fix the shallow base channel horizontally along the bottom of the wall with the appropriate screw fixings taking care to ensure the distance between the top and bottom channels is 20mm greater than the size of the panel being installed.

If SoftSound Liner panels are being fitted to just one wall, fix the vertical end channel to fit over the face of the top and base channels.

Guide the top edge of the SoftSound Liner panel into the top channel, push it against the wall and slowly slide the panel into the base channel.

Fit the remaining panels between the top and bottom channels leaving a nominal 5mm gap between. Once the panels are in position and the layout checked fit the “T” trim sections between the joints.

If there is a requirement to trim the last SoftSound Liner Panel to width, fit a shallow base channel vertically along the edge before positioning the last “T” section. Cut the Liner panel to size and slide into the end section. Fix the remaining “T” section to cover the last joint.

If any of the Liner panels need fitting around pattresses for light switches, power sockets etc. trim the fibre of the base board to size and peel away from the fabric. Position the panels and staple the excess fabric to the pattress. Cut a small hole in the fabric to bring any cables through and fix the cover plates over the fabric to provide a neat finish.

If the adjoining wall is to be covered, fix an internal corner trim and continue following the procedure detailed above.

For any external corners or directional angle changes fix the appropriate trim sections.

To cover walls in excess of 2700mm high, install additional panels above the first row by fixing a shallow base channel on top of the original top channel and install as detailed above until the required height is achieved.

## **Installation of FibreLine High Impact and Designer Panels**

### **1. Delivery and Off-Loading**

The component parts for the FibreLine High Impact and SoftSound and FibreLine Designer panel systems will be delivered on non returnable wooden pallets or in wooden crates. The packs should be off-loaded using a fork lift truck and stored in a dry well-ventilated area. Do not stack the packs as this will cause damage to the components.

Check the pallets or crates for the following items:

- \* FibreLine High Impact or SoftSound/FibreLine Designer panel with the specified fabric and colour
- \* Chosen fixings if ordered from Hodgson & Hodgson Group

### **2. Preparation and Planning**

Ensure the floor area around the place of installation is clean, dry and clear of equipment to keep the panels clean and prevent damage.

Check the walls to be treated are dry, structurally sound, flat and free from any protrusions.

Plan the fixing of the panels to optimise material usage and minimise joints.

Mark the position of the panels on each of the walls being treated.

If the panels are to be fitted over light switches, power sockets or other penetrations, pack out said penetrations with timber to form a pattress. Ensure each pattress is designed to allow any electrical cables to pass behind and through keeping the front face smooth. The pattresses should be of a depth to ensure they finish flush with the surface of the FibreLine High Impact or SoftSound/FibreLine Designer panels.

### **3. Installation of FibreLine High Impact and Designer Panels**

#### **Option 1: Fixing With Adhesive**

Ensure the surface of the wall is smooth, flat and free from dust or loose particles.

Check the adhesive being used is suitable for use with the chosen fabric and will adhere the glass fibre baseboard to the substrate that the panels are being fixed onto. Apply the adhesive and fix the panels in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

#### **Option 2 : Fixing with Self Adhesive Velcro Pads**

When fixing FibreLine High Impact or SoftSound/FibreLine Designer panels with Velcro clips, the panel will be supplied with one half of the Velcro clip already positioned on panels. The recommended number of fixings for different size panels is as follows:

Panel Size	No. of Vecro Pads	Position of Velcro Pads
up to 600mm x 600mm	4	One in each corner
up to 1200mm x 1200mm	8	Three spaced equally along each side
up to 1500mm x 1500mm	10	Four spaced equally along each long side and one in centre of each short side
up to 3000mm x 1200mm	12	Five spaced equally along each long side and one in centre of each short side



Position the panels on the wall and mark the corners of the panel with pencil or chalk. Measure the position of the Velcro clips on the back of the panel and mark the wall to correspond with the positioning of said clips. Mechanically fix the Velcro clip to the substrate using suitable fixings.

Carefully align the panels on the wall using the pencil marks as guides and press gently over the Velcro areas to secure into position.

Extreme care should be taken if the panels need re-aligning. Gently insert a thin-bladed knife between the faces of the Velcro clips and ease away from the wall. Pulling the panels off the wall will result in them being damaged.

If there is a requirement to trim the panels to size on site, carefully peel back the facing fabric from the base board. Cut the base board to size using a long bladed knife and straight edge, taking care not to damage the fabric.

Spray suitable adhesive onto the front and edge of the baseboard and smooth the fabric back over the fibre. DO NOT overspray with adhesive as excess adhesive could “bleed” through the fabric.

Trim off any excess fabric on the reverse of the panel.

### **Option 3: Fixing with Concealed Fixings**

When fixing FibreLine High Impact and Designer panels with concealed fixings, the panel will be supplied with a “Z” clip already attached in the relevant position on the FibreLine panel. A separate “top hat” section will be supplied for securing to the substrate. The recommended number of fixings for different size panels is as follows:

Panel Size	No. of Wall Clips	Position of Velcro Pads
up to 600mm x 600mm	4	One in each corner
up to 1200mm x 1200mm	8	Three spaced equally along each side
up to 1500mm x 1500mm	10	Four spaced equally along each long side and one in centre of each short side
up to 3000mm x 1200mm	12	Five spaced equally along each long side and one in centre of each short side

Position the panels on the wall and mark the corners of the panel with pencil or chalk. Measure the position of the “Z” clip fixings on the reverse of the panels and mark the wall to correspond with the positioning of the clips. Fix the “top hat” section to the wall in the appropriate position using two pan head screws.

Carefully align the panels on the wall using the pencil marks as guides and lift the panel over the wall fixing and then drop into place.

If there is a requirement to trim the panels to size on site, carefully peel back the facing fabric from the base board. Cut the base board to size using a long bladed knife and straight edge, taking care not to damage the fabric.

Spray suitable adhesive onto the front and edge of the baseboard and smooth the fabric back over the fibre. DO NOT overspray as excess adhesive could “bleed” through the fabric.

Trim off any excess fabric on the reverse of the panel.

**If In Any Doubt Contact:**  
**Hodgson & Hodgson Group Limited's**  
**Acoustic Helpline Telephone: 01664 821809**