Acoustic fabric solutions.

When fabrics should be seen and not heard.

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camira
style with substance

Acoustic fabric solutions

We make fabrics which appeal to both eyes and ears. Fabrics which look good and which play a crucial role in the acoustic performance of buildings and workspaces. Because we all know that noise doesn't just annoy, it can wear us down and affect our comfort and productivity. So this little booklet offers you sound advice in understanding the importance of why fabrics should be seen but not heard.

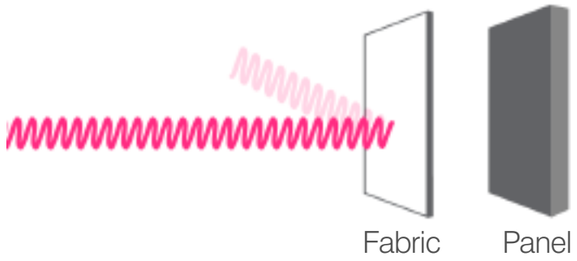
Wall panels

Suspended panels

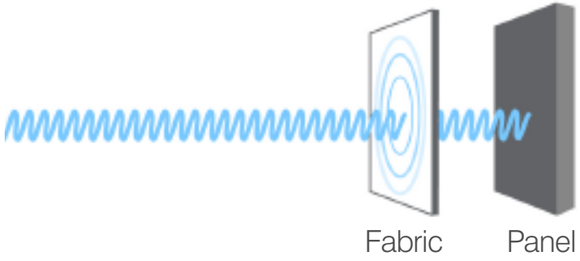
What makes a good acoustic fabric...

Fabrics specified for their acoustic properties become a key component of a desk-mounted or free-standing screen, a wall covering, or a suspended ceiling panel. The job of the fabric is to allow the sound to pass through cleanly, or provide a degree of absorbency, thereby allowing the specialist acoustic system behind to do what it needs to do. What's important is that the fabric doesn't reflect sound back into the room, as that just adds to noise and disturbance.

Bad = Sound Reflection
Causes echo and noise



Good = Acoustic Transparency
Or a degree of absorbency, allowing sound to dissipate or pass through to sound absorbing substrates.

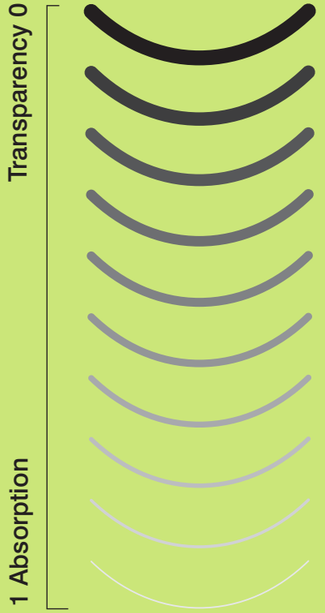


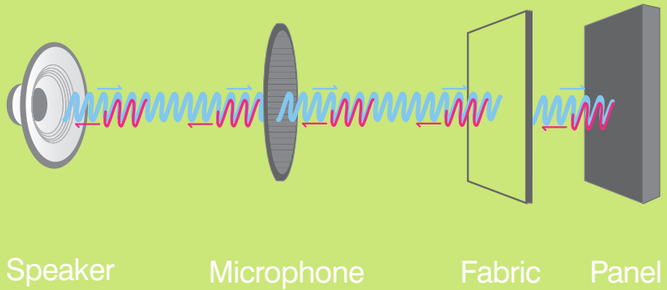
Play it by ear

Often we can tell straightaway whether noise is reflected or damped down in a room. Just think of the difference between a noisy swimming pool and a quiet acoustic pod designed for maximum privacy.

To establish a scientific measure of a fabric's acoustic performance we use the Noise Reduction Coefficient (NRC). This is a laboratory rating which ranges from 0 - 1, with 0 being highly transparent and 1 highly absorbent.

The acoustic test itself uses Impedance Tube Testing in strict laboratory conditions, in which a microphone measures sound first passing through a fabric, then reflected back. The result - expressed graphically - indicates a fabric's sound absorbency at various frequency levels.

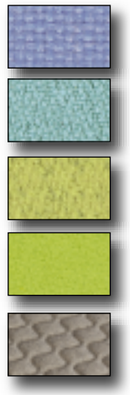




sound test

Sound fabrics

We have a wide choice of fabrics across different compositions, colourways and price points, which can be used to stunning visual effect across a range of applications. While they are all largely transparent and give minimal reflection, they do offer degrees of absorbancy, especially Blazer Quilt, at higher frequences.



Cara - classic, plain weave dobby fabric

Lucia - recycled polyester crepe weave fabric

Blazer Lite - lighter weight wool felt in fabric

Blazer - traceable wool felt in fabric

Blazer Quilt - quilted wool felt with additional foam and wadding