



## QuietRock 525 and 527 Installation Instructions

Read all instructions before installation. Remember: Safety first!

Using QuietRock is similar to using standard drywall. The panels have been used in thousands of successful projects, large and small, and require almost no additional labour or training versus standard drywall. The blue tape that covers the product edges tells the installer to start by removing the tape.

- Hang QuietRock like standard drywall
- Score and snap (following instructions below), or cut with saw
- QuietRock 525 and 527 panels weigh a little more than standard 15.9 mm (5/8") drywall
- No special labour is required to use QuietRock 525/527
- No special training is required to use QuietRock 525/527
- No resilient channels, or clips are required with QuietRock, and their use will NOT improve performance
- Finish the same as standard drywall (mud, tape, texture and paint are all the same)
- When used properly, QuietRock may provide 15 to 20 dB more isolation compared to standard drywall. See our complete Acoustics and Fire Assemblies document (separate document) for details.

**NOTE: As with all drywall products, hang QuietRock immediately or store in a dry location. Protect the QuietRock materials from exposure to moisture during the construction or remodelling process, from product storage to project completion. Moisture or water can cause problems with any drywall product, including QuietRock. Do not cover with plastic for extended periods, as that may allow condensation.**

The QuietRock line of engineered products is a sound isolation panel designed to replace standard drywall in any wall or ceiling construction, including wood and metal studs. QuietRock 525 and QuietRock 527 are multilayer gypsum/cement board products which include highly engineered internal damping layers for dramatically increased transmission loss. QuietRock can be used with a variety of standard framing techniques including single, staggered and double stud construction. You may use QuietRock panels similarly to other gypsum wall product. The panels can be snapped (per below), or sawn, drilled, cut and attached just like drywall. Please completely read the instructions below before beginning installation and always be sure to follow all OSHA safety guidelines when installing any Serious Materials product.



## Using QuietRock

### Cutting the Panel:

You can score and snap or saw QuietRock 525 and QuietRock 527 panels. For best results if you score and snap:

- 1) Use a utility blade. We recommend the Irwin Blue Blade (available at most building supply dealers).
- 2) Double-score the backside. The backside is the cement or paperless side. Then place the front side (with paper) against a straight edge (optionally score that side too) and snap clean. If you don't score the front side, you can now use the utility knife to slice clean the front side paper from behind, as is typical with drywall.

Note that this type of score and snap requires somewhat more care and pressure than a score and snap of a regular gypsum board. Large projects may find it simpler and quicker to use an electric drywall saw (e.g. a worm drive Skilsaw) with a vacuum attachment and a Rotozip with carbide blades for cutouts and corners.

### Hang as Usual:

- 3) Secure QuietRock to the studs using appropriate #6 or #7 Bugle Head 41 mm to 51 mm (1-5/8" to 2") drywall screws every 305 mm to 406 mm (12" to 16") or as required by code. Use coarse thread for wood studs and fine thread for metal studs. Nails may also be used. You may also place QuietRock 525 or 527 over existing drywall in retrofit applications. Be sure to use screws or nails, and not glue, in hanging QuietRock.\*
- 4) Finish securing the QuietRock to the studs with drywall screws. The screw head should go just below the surface of the paper. Be careful to drive the screws only enough to dimple the surface; it's easy to over tighten and cause the screw head to go all the way through the paper surface. If you accidentally break through the surface, drive another screw nearby. We recommend using a high torque screw gun.
- 5) Optionally, before putting up the next sheet, apply 3mm – 10 mm (1/8" - 3/8") bead of QuietSeal around panel perimeter (on the edges of the panel). Then install the adjacent sheet of QuietRock, "squeezing" the QuietSeal in between them. Be sure to remove excess QuietSeal with a rag (any paint thinner easily removes QuietSeal) or putty knife as needed. **DO NOT LEAVE QUIETSEAL ON THE SURFACE, AS IT CAN INTERFERE WITH TAPE AND MUD.** QuietSeal will remain soft forever, so it is necessary to tape and texture over the joints. Always use QuietSeal around electrical boxes and at the wall perimeter to seal all air gaps completely. See QuietSeal instructions for more detailed information and apply QuietSeal in accordance with applicable requirements of ASTM C919. You may also use QuietPutty behind outlet boxes for best acoustic isolation.



### Finish as Usual:

- 6) After the QuietRock is in place, apply drywall mesh tape along the joints between the two pieces of drywall. The mesh tape helps hold drywall compound in the gap.
- 7) Use a wide drywall knife to spread joint compound over the mesh tape. Don't try to fill the entire gap all at once; apply a little at a time, and allow it to dry before applying a second coat.
- 8) Cover the screw heads with drywall compound.
- 9) Allow the joint compound to dry, and then sand it smooth. Wear breathing protection during this step because the process generates a lot of dust.
- 10) Apply a second coat of drywall compound, allow it to dry, and sand it smooth. Repeat the process as necessary until the wall is perfectly smooth, then finish the walls as desired. **BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE COMPOUND MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS.**

Note: When pulling insulated electrical wires through a QuietRock panel without a conduit or junction box, a bushing may be used to prevent possible wear or cuts in the insulation. Serious Materials recommends Bridgeport Fittings bushings catalog IDs: 9880 or 9882 for round holes 26.2 mm (1-11/32") diameter.

### General Notes

Use normal care and precaution when working with Serious Materials products:

- When cutting or scoring drywall, follow OSHA regulations concerning exposure to gypsum dust, including wearing appropriate protective masks if required.
- Lift the panels using OSHA guidelines, e.g. do not bend over and lift using back muscles; instead use the leg muscles.
- QuietRock contains no materials more hazardous than standard drywall. Dispose of excess QuietRock in the same responsible manner as you would any building material.
- See MSDS for further information