



## QuietRock 530 Installation Instructions

Read all instructions before installation. Remember: Safety first!

QuietRock 530 is very similar to use as 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. Serious Materials has done an excellent job labeling the blue tape (that surrounds the product edges) to notify installer that this tape must be removed.

- Hang QuietRock like standard drywall
- QuietRock530 panels weigh about the same as standard 15.9 mm (5/8") drywall
- No special labour is required to use QuietRock 530
- No special training is required to use QuietRock 530
- Finish the same as standard drywall (mud, tape, texture and paint are all the same)
- The only difference is that panels must be cut rather than scored.
- Allow an extra 2% to 4% drywall labour budget due to cutting 15% to 20% of panels.
- When used properly, QuietRock may provide up to a 20 point STC improvement over standard drywall. See tested assemblies and solutions (separate document) for specific details.

**NOTE: 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 is a 5-9 layer gypsum board product which includes highly engineered internal damping layers that provide enhanced transmission loss. QuietRock can be used with a variety of standard framing techniques, including staggered and double stud construction. You may use QuietRock panels just like any other gypsum wall product. The panels can be drilled, cut and attached just like drywall. The only difference in installation is that QuietRock panels must be cut with a saw. Please completely read these instructions below before beginning installation and always be sure to follow all OSHA safety guidelines when installing any Serious Materials product.



## Using QuietRock 530 in New Wall Construction

### Cut:

- 1) Choose your preferred construction method such as standard 406 mm (16") OC, 610 mm (24") OC, staggered, or double frame. QuietRock works with wood and metal framing.
- 2) QuietRock should not be scored/broken. Instead, cut QuietRock panels as needed, using a standard hand or power saw. You can use standard rotary cut-out tools around junction boxes. QuietRock 530 panels cut more quickly with a higher tooth-per-inch count on jigsaw blades (such as 16-25 tpi) as some layers contain light gauge metal, or you may use a circular saw. We recommend a blade similar to the Bosch "Progressor" (part number T345 XF3). It is also recommended to saw outside, or use a vacuum system on the saw to reduce dust if you will be cutting many panels. **SERIOUS MATERIALS HAS RECOMMENDED SAWS AND VACUUM SYSTEMS THAT WORK VERY WELL WITH QUIETROCK. CALL SERIOUS MATERIALS FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING THESE TOOLS.** QuietRock cuts quickly, so generally assume 10-15 seconds on average for a 122 cm (4') cut for labour budget purposes.

### 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 are not recommended for long term fastening.
- 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.
- 5) Optionally (and for best acoustic isolation), before putting up the next sheet, apply 3 mm – 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 viscoelastic, i.e. not dry, 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 airgaps completely. See QuietSeal instructions for more detailed information and apply QuietSeal in accordance with applicable requirements of ASTM C919.



### **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, 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.

### **Using QuietRock 530 in Existing Wall Construction (Retrofit)**

#### **Prep and cut:**

- 1) Remove any existing moulding/trim, wainscoting, and wallpaper from walls. Assure that surface is smooth, clean and free of obstructions, such as nails or tacks.
- 2) When using QuietRock with masonry or concrete construction it is first necessary to attach steel studs. We recommend that you use at least 51 mm (2") steel studs 610 mm (24") OC. This is not required when using QuietRock over existing gypsum wallboard.
- 3) QuietRock should not be scored/broken. Instead, cut QuietRock panels as needed, using a standard hand or power saw. You can use standard rotary cut-out tools around junction boxes. QuietRock 530 panels cut more quickly with a higher tooth-per-inch count on jigsaw blades (such as 16-25 tpi) as some layers contain light gauge metal, or you may use a circular saw. We recommend a blade similar to the Bosch "Progressor" (part number T345 XF3). It is also recommended to saw outside, or use a vacuum system on the saw to reduce dust if you will be cutting many panels. **SERIOUS MATERIALS HAS RECOMMENDED SAWS AND VACUUM SYSTEMS THAT WORK VERY WELL WITH QUIETROCK. CALL SERIOUS MATERIALS FOR SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING THESE TOOLS.** QuietRock cuts quickly, so generally assume 10-15 seconds on average for a 122 cm (4') cut for labour budget purposes.



### Hang as Usual:

- 4) Secure QuietRock to the studs using #8 or #10 Bugle Head 64 mm (2-1/2") drywall screws every 406 mm (16") minimum. Use coarse thread for wood studs and fine thread for metal studs. Hold the panel in place until four screws are set. Optional - You may get better results by "shifting" the panels by 51 mm (2") over the existing wall and avoiding any screws directly into the studs. Instead, place screws every 406 mm x 610 mm (16" x 24") into the layer of drywall below. Nails are not recommended for long term fastening.
- 5) Finish securing the QuietRock 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.
- 6) Optionally (and for best acoustic isolation), before putting up the next sheet, apply 3 mm – 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 viscoelastic, i.e. not dry, 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 airgaps completely. See QuietSeal instructions for more detailed information and apply QuietSeal in accordance with applicable requirements of ASTM C919.

### Finish as Usual:

- 7) 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.
- 8) 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.
- 9) Cover the screw heads with drywall compound.
- 10) Allow the joint compound to dry, then sand it smooth. Wear breathing protection during this step because the process generates a lot of dust.
- 11) 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.



## Using QuietRock 530 in Ceiling Construction

To use QuietRock in a ceiling application, simply follow the above instructions for walls. The only difference in installation will be the number of screws used to hold the panel in place. CONSULT LOCAL BUILDING CODES ON SCREW PLACEMENT. We recommend screws in rows 610 mm (24") apart, and in 305 mm (12") along the rows, or consulting with a professional to determine what is needed for your particular application. It is advised that you use a drywall hanger lift to install any drywall on ceilings properly.

## General Notes

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

- QuietRock panels may be heavy (some are no heavier than standard drywall, other models are heavier). Make sure that there are sufficient workers to handle the product, especially when applying to a ceiling. DO NOT HANDLE MORE LOAD THAN YOU ARE COMFORTABLE WITH, OR NO MORE THAN LOCAL REGULATIONS ALLOW.
- 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. For recycling purposes, note that some models contain metal and vinyl, so alert the recycler of those materials.

## QuietRock 530 Safety Notes

### Personal Protection:

- Must wear cut-resistant gloves (such as those containing polyamide cotton or Kevlar while handling or cutting QuietRock which contains metal, such as QR530).
- Approved eye protection is recommended for operations involving machines such as a saw.
- Use a dust mask when handling or cutting this or other gypsum product. Use NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator when necessary.
- Hang QuietRock like standard drywall

See MSDS for further information.