



# INTERIOR ACOUSTICS

# **QUIETSPACE<sup>®</sup> PANEL**

## INSTALL INSTRUCTIONS

These installation instructions are of a general nature and are designed to assist suitably experienced tradespeople to install Quietspace Panels to a high standard in common applications. For installation support, please contact your local Autex account manager before you start.

### **MANUFACTURER'S DOCUMENTS**

Autex recommends that all persons engaged in the installation have full knowledge of the product and installation procedure as set out in the most recent edition of these manufacturer's install instructions and related documents.

Manufacturer's documents relating to work in this section are:

- Quietspace<sup>®</sup> Panel Brochure
- Quietspace<sup>®</sup> Panel Install Instructions
- Quietspace<sup>®</sup> Panel Manufacturer's Guarantee
- Autex Interior Acoustics Care & Maintenance Guide

Copies of the above documents are available from the Autex website [www.autexglobal.com](http://www.autexglobal.com)

### **OTHER TRADES**

Prior to installation, consultation with other trades such as HVAC, plumbing, and electrical should be made to establish an order of work that best suits the site.

### **TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE & HANDLING**

Quietspace Panels must be transported, stored, and handled with care. Avoid abrasion, delamination or distortion, and protect edges from being crushed. Always transport and store Quietspace Panels on a flat, clean, dry surface.

Do not accept damaged product. If product or packaging arrives damaged, note the condition on the freight documents and contact Autex immediately. Goods signed as received in 'good condition' will not be the responsibility of Autex.

Quietspace Panels are a semi-rigid product that can be damaged if not handled with care. Avoid bending the packs and Panels as this could cause creasing. Do not store or drop the panels on their corners or edges as this will cause damage. Boxes and Panels should be carried vertically upright by two people.

The work area should be clean and free of dust and other contaminants that could soil the Panels. Clean cloth gloves are ideal when handling Quietspace panel to ensure panels remain free of handmarks.

### **FORMAT AND FINISH**

Quietspace Panels are supplied as standard 2440mm (+/-10mm) x 1220mm (+5mm/-0mm) sheets to allow trimming to size at installation. Quietspace Panels are packed in boxes for ease of handling, and each box is individually labelled with thickness. Please speak to your Autex account manager to discuss custom length panels if required.

Quietspace Panels are manufactured using non-woven textile production techniques and finished using heat lamination. A tolerance of up to +/- 6% is typical on specified thicknesses.

Quietspace Panels are produced as a dual-density panel to enhance acoustic performance and increase durability. The high-density face should be the exposed surface once install is completed, with the softer side facing the wall or ceiling.

Quietspace Panels are typically supplied 'nude' but can also be supplied factory laminated with Vertiface<sup>®</sup> fabric. Vertiface fabric has a pile direction, and all panels must be installed with the pile running in the same direction to avoid the appearance of colour variation. The pile direction can be checked by lightly running your hand up, then down the fabric. One way will feel smooth and the other rough. Autex recommends that the installed pile runs down. If installing panels that have had Vertiface prelaminated onto the face, Autex does not recommend butt joining. Butt joined panels are better suited to the Vertiface Overlay installation method (detailed later in these instructions).

## **PROTECTIVE FABRIC FACING**

To help ensure 'Nude' Quietspace Panels are kept clean throughout the installation process, they are factory applied with a protective spun-bond fabric that is to be removed after the panels are installed. As each panel is installed, peel a corner of the spun-bond fabric and leave hanging until the job is complete to ensure panels are kept clean through the final finishing stages.

## **ADHESIVES**

Water-based spray application or solvent type contact adhesives are ideal for adhering Quietspace Panels to most common substrates. Contact type adhesives are also ideal for applying Vertiface as a fabric overlay.

Construction adhesive is ideal for a long-term secure bond to ceilings and for heavier weight panels. When using construction adhesives, we recommend the use of either temporary mechanical fixings or a contact adhesive over the entire area of the Quietspace Panel to adhere the panel to the substrate while the construction adhesive cures.

It is the installer's responsibility to ensure that any adhesives used are fit for the intended purpose. It also is the installer's responsibility to ensure that the substrate is fit for the application of adhesives and Quietspace Panel.

If using adhesives to install Quietspace Panel, we recommend you consult with your specialist adhesive supplier before you begin. All adhesives should be used in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's instructions.

## **SUBSTRATE**

Before work commences, all joins, gaps, and cracks in the substrate must be taped with propriety sealing tapes to eliminate the ingress of dust and foreign particles travelling from the construction cavity into the installed product over time. Ensure that the substrates, backgrounds, and adjoining surfaces will allow work to reach the required standard. We recommend that surfaces are prepared to a minimum Level 3 finish.

Very porous surfaces may need to be sealed prior to applying the adhesive. Gloss and semi-gloss finishes should be lightly sanded and dusted clean prior to application of the adhesive.

All surfaces must be clean, dust-free, and dry as dust and moisture will adversely affect the adhesive and may result in lack of adhesion.

## **CUTTING QUIETSPACE PANELS**

Cutting and machining techniques should be trialled on an off-cut prior to cutting panels to ensure the highest quality finish.

Mechanical cutters such as a straight knife cutting machine are ideal for cutting and trimming Quietspace Panels. Caution should be taken to avoid overheating during cutting as this may cause the Panel fibre to melt or fuse slightly on the heated contact points.

Bring the blade to full speed before starting the cut. Secure the Quietspace Panel during cutting to minimise vibration. Follow manufacturers operating and safety instructions, and ensure the use of all appropriate safety equipment and practices when using machine cutters.

Serrated Swibo type knives, insulation saws, and heavy-duty snap-off blade knives can also be used to trim panels to size, and cut holes for services. All cutting tools must be sharp to help ensure an easy, tidy cut.

Caution should be taken with all cutting tools and equipment. Follow manufacturers use and safety instructions, as well as site and individual safe working practices and requirements.

## **INSPECTION**

Before starting the installation of Quietspace Panels check again that the materials have been supplied as ordered and are free from damage or faults. Check colours and product labels to ensure the product has been supplied correctly.

Any variations or faults must be reported to Autex prior to commencing the installation. No claims will be accepted where the job continues with obvious faults, and no consultation with Autex has taken place. If you cut or install the product, you have accepted the quality.

Where more than one box of Quietspace Panel is required, ensure they are from the same batch as indicated on the product label on each box. Due to batch to batch variations, we do not recommend joining the



different batch lots as this could result in colour variation. Batch numbers should be recorded for future reference.

Variation in thickness and colour fibre blend are inherent features of this type of product. Some variation from panel to panel can occur, and each panel should be checked prior to installation. To accommodate these variations installation may require on-site adjustment by the installer to achieve a flush and professional finish.

## **INSTALL QUIETSPACE PANELS - GENERAL**

Quietspace Panels should be installed in accordance with these Installation Instructions and as per the specification detail and customer requirements. If there is conflicting information, you must seek clarification from all appropriate parties before proceeding with the work. It is imperative that the installation is planned before cutting and installing any product.

Measure the installation area and check against plans and details. Consider the placement of smaller panel(s); either at one end or two equal smaller panels at each end to mirror either side. Most walls are not perfectly level or straight, and this will need to be managed as part of the install.

Quietspace Panels are supplied to allow trimming to size. We recommend that all panels are measured and squared-up prior to beginning the installation.

Quietspace Panels should be installed vertically (portrait) on walls unless project specifications and requirements state and require otherwise.

Adhesives should be applied strictly in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's instructions.

Refer to the product label or the technical data sheet for spread rates, tack-off times, climatic requirements, application methods, and equipment required. Adhesive spills or surface contamination should be cleaned immediately following Autex Care and Maintenance instructions.

The job should be progressively checked for appearance, installation quality, and adequate adhesion.

Any variations in colour or appearance must be notified and discussed with your Autex

account manager. No claims will be accepted where the job continues with obvious faults and no consultation with Autex has taken place.

When installing Quietspace panels at lower levels, especially in a school environment, the overlay method should be used. In addition panel edges should be covered by appropriate trims to protect them from potential pulling. It is important that all Quietspace Panels covered with Vertiface fabric are fitted with the pile running in the same direction, as this will avoid the appearance of colour variation. You must consider this before you cut panels to the required size. The pile direction can be checked by lightly running your hand up, then down the fabric. One way will feel smooth and the other rough. Autex recommends that the pile runs down.

Colour variation can occur panel to panel. To minimise colour variation panels should be laid out and checked for variation prior to cutting and fitting. Failure to follow this instruction could result in an unsatisfactory finish.

## **FIX TO WALL OR CEILING SUBSTRATE**

Quietspace Panels should be installed to a clean, flat, or gently curved wall or ceiling substrate that has been prepared in accordance with the recommendations listed above.

We recommend that each Quietspace Panel is installed individually. We recommend full coverage of contact adhesive in conjunction with construction adhesive every 200mm. The purpose of the contact adhesive is to ensure the Quietspace Panel remains in place while the construction adhesive cures. Contact adhesive alone may not be sufficient for a strong, long term bond for ceiling applications.

Apply the adhesive to Quietspace Panel, and the substrate as measured for the Quietspace Panel, ensuring the adhesive manufacturer's instructions are followed.

Care should be taken not to apply excessive adhesive along joins as this can leak at the edges when pressure is applied. Ensure the adhesive has tacked-off correctly, then fit the Quietspace Panel to the wall/ceiling. In some situations extra support may be needed while adhesive cures.



Roll the Quietspace Panel from the centre of the panel towards the edges and joins, then roll the entire Quietspace Panel to ensure adequate adhesive transfer and a strong bond. Small wallpaper and vinyl rollers should not be used. A wide roller approximately 200-300mm is ideal.

Continue installation of all Quietspace Panels until the job is complete. Certain situations such as installing to battens may require mechanical fixing. Please contact an Autex account manager to discuss.

### **INSTALL QUIETSPACE PANELS - EDGING PROFILES**

Quietspace Panels can be installed using edging profiles.

Plan the installation before beginning by marking out the position of all edge profiles and panel joins, following project plans and specifications. Fit all edging profiles to the wall square and true using adhesive and screws as required. Allow any adhesive to properly cure before installing panels. Measure and cut Quietspace Panels to fit.

Apply adhesives and fit the Quietspace Panel to one edge then press firmly across the entire panel to fit inside all edging profiles. Roll the entire panel to ensure good adhesion and strong bond.

Fit the panels individually and continue until complete.

### **INSTALL QUIETSPACE PANELS - BUTT JOINING**

While it is not recommended in most situations, Quietspace Panels can be butt-joined. Quietspace Panel thicknesses can vary by up to 6% of declared thickness, so we recommend that the thicknesses of all panels are checked prior to cutting and installing. We recommend trialling the fit of each panel before the application of adhesive. If thickness variances are found, some panels may need packing to achieve a flush finish. Use builder's paper strips on the back of the panel to pack it out as required. Take care to avoid adhesive leakage at the joins when pressure is applied.

Measure and cut Quietspace Panels to fit. Apply adhesives and fit the Quietspace Panel to one edge then press firmly across the entire panel. Roll the panel from the centre out to the

joins, and then roll the entire panel to ensure good adhesion and strong bond. Fit panels individually and continue until complete. It is difficult to completely hide joins when butt joining Quietspace Panels so we recommend having a small area installed and approved by the client before proceeding.

### **INSTALL QUIETSPACE PANELS - NEGATIVE DETAIL**

Quietspace Panels are ideally installed with a negative detail between adjoining panels. Design and installation using a sufficient negative detail will significantly reduce the appearance of any panel thickness variations and speed up the install. Rule of thumb is that the negative detail should be equal to the panel thickness.

Quietspace Panel thicknesses can vary by up to 6% of declared thickness, so we recommend that the thicknesses of all panels are checked prior to cutting and installing. We recommend trialling the fit of each panel before the application of adhesive. If thickness variances are found, some panels may need spacing to achieve a flush finish. Use builder's paper on the back of the panel to space it out as required. Take care to avoid adhesive leakage at the joins when pressure is applied.

Plan the installation before beginning by marking out the position of all panel joins, following project plans and specifications.

Measure and cut Quietspace Panels to fit. Apply adhesives and fit the Quietspace Panel to one edge then press firmly across the entire panel. Roll the panel from the centre out to the edges, and then roll the entire panel to ensure good adhesion and strong bond. Fit panels individually and continue until complete.

When installing Quietspace panels at lower levels, especially in a school environment, using a negative detail is not recommended. In these sort of environments the overlay method should be used. In addition panel edges should be covered by appropriate trims to protect the from potential pulling.

### **VERTIFACE/FELT (FABRIC) OVERLAY**

Nude Quietspace Panels can be overlaid with Vertiface Felt fabric. Ensure the protective spun-bond facing has been removed before overlaying fabric.



Install QuietSpace Panels with a 2-3mm negative detail to all panel joins, following the 'negative detail' installation recommendations above. This will help minimise visible lines telegraphing through the Vertiface fabric overlay. All panel joins should be bridged by a self-adhesive cloth tape. Tip: use a strip of the protective layer glued in place with the contact adhesive to tape the joins. Gaps greater than 3mm are not recommended, and the panel should be repositioned and or trimmed to ensure the gap width is correct. Cloth tape should be approx 100mm wide, be well secured, and suitable for the intended use.

Measure and cut QuietSpace Panels to fit. Apply adhesives and fit the QuietSpace Panel to one edge then press firmly across the entire panel. Roll the panel from the centre out to the edges, and then roll the entire panel to ensure good adhesion and strong bond. Fit panels individually and continue until complete. Tape all joins in preparation for fabric overlay. We recommend minimising horizontal joins by ordering custom length QuietSpace Panels. Please speak to your Autex account manager for advice.

Vertiface should be installed in vertical drops unless specified or otherwise required. Vertiface fabric has a pile direction, and all drops must be installed with the pile running in the same direction to avoid the appearance of colour variation. The pile direction can be checked by lightly running your hand up, then down the fabric. One way will feel smooth and the other rough. Autex recommends that the pile runs down.

Measure and plan the installation area and check against plans and details. Consider the placement of vertical joins, including smaller drops; either place at one end, or place two equal smaller drops at each end to mirror either side. Most walls are not perfectly level or straight, and this will need to be managed as part of the install.

Vertiface fabric can be installed using spray application contact type adhesive. Apply adhesive in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, and hang the first Vertiface drop from the top down, smoothing out from the centre. Roll the entire drop using light pressure to ensure a good bond.

Successive drops should be hung in sequence from the roll, slightly overlapping and double-cut by cutting through both layers of fabric using a sharp, heavy-duty wide snap-off blade knife and straight-edge. Use an alloy flat bar or similar behind the cut to protect the QuietSpace Panel.

Remove the trimmings and roll using light pressure to ensure a good bond. Immediately clean any excess adhesives from the join. Joins should be vertical, clean and flat with no gaps, bubbles, or visible compression marks. Continue with successive drops until complete.

#### **FIXTURES**

Remove cover plates, light fittings, and other fixtures as the work proceeds. Replace, plumb, square and true to line as the work is completed. Packers may be required behind certain fixtures. Further details of these can be obtained from your Autex account manager on request.

#### **REPLACE**

Replace damaged or marked elements.

#### **CLEAN UP**

Clean up as the work proceeds.

#### **LEAVE**

Leave work secure, smooth and free of air bubbles, wrinkles, gaps, stains, and blemishes and to the standard required by following all procedures. Clean adjoining surfaces of any adhesive.

#### **REMOVE**

Remove debris, unused materials, and waste from the site. For more information contact Autex or visit our website [www.autexglobal.com](http://www.autexglobal.com)

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