# Acoustic Underlayment

**Product Installation**

- DeciBLOK acoustic floor underlay is versatile and designed for glued, nailed or floating floor installation. **(DeciBLOK MC floating floor installation only, DO NOT GLUE.)** Always follow wood flooring manufacturer installation instructions.*
- DeciBLOK acoustic underlayment must be installed on a clean, dry, level surface (e.g., a standard wood subfloor or concrete slab).
- Roll out DeciBLOK acoustic underlayment across the floor so the mat rests against the wall.
- Make sure there are no penetrations through the DeciBLOK acoustic underlayment or the DeciBLOK MC moisture barrier.
- DeciBLOK MC seams must be taped with a moisture-proof metallic duct tape (the type used for HVAC ductwork). The tape should be applied to DeciBLOK MC on the side with the MC barrier. Install underlay with foil side to the subfloor.
- Install finished floor.
- Trim away excess underlayment and install baseboard or other trim.

*Glue or double-glue installations: follow the flooring manufacturer recommendations for glued-in installations. SCI recommends urethane-based adhesives applied as provided by the flooring manufacturer. Call 800-435-4062 and ask for technical assistance if further information is required.
**DeciBLOK™**  
Acoustic Underlayment  
*available with HydroShield Moisture Control*

SBR rubber acoustic underlayment is designed to isolate sound vibrations and impact noise in laminate, engineered, and solid wood flooring applications.

**DeciBLOK™**  
noise control

Today’s living and working environments benefit from the beauty and durability of wood in many popular forms. With DeciBLOK, installers and contractors can ensure the rich tones and quiet privacy so treasured for quality business and home occupancies. Provides a more peaceful environment by isolating and lessening the effect of impacts of noise and reducing transmission of it between rooms.

The layered benefits, when installed with **wood** and **wood-type flooring**, make kitchens, playrooms, hallways, and larger places “click-free” so the richness of wood can be enjoyed while protecting neighboring spaces, above and below.

**Layered Performance**

DeciBLOK acoustic laminate, engineered, and solid wood floor cushion is composed of a lightweight, cellular sponge rubber mat that is layered between two polyester non-woven films. It is designed to reduce flooring noise by dampening impact effects and isolating sounds to the room where they are created.

**Product Applications**

Use where enhanced sound quality and reduction of impact noise or noise transmission is desired when installing laminate, engineered, and solid wood flooring.

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**Features and Benefits**

- Fast and easy to install
- Moisture-proof barrier – includes its own metalized foil film (DeciBLOK MC only)
- Recommended for use over all substrates above, and below grade
- Smoothes out minor subfloor irregularities
- Improves resistance to indentations
- Improves comfort level by adding firm cushion support under hard flooring
- Provides significant reduction to impact noise in the room and floor below
- Antimicrobial inhibits the growth of mold, mildew and odor-causing bacteria
- No more toxic than wood, the accepted industry standard
- Will not degrade over radiant-heated floors; tested to 150°F
- Meets Carpet and Rug Institute’s CRI Green Label Plus program for indoor air quality
- Lowest R-value in the industry
- Recommended by the RPA

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**Acoustical Data**

**Floating laminate flooring lab data:**

- **IC-70** – Impact insulation class rating (ASTM E492-90)
- **STC 66** – Sound transmission class rating (ASTM E90-97)
- Reflective sound reduction: DeciBLOK™ tested 4.5dBa to 8.5dBa quieter than standard foam pad/drop-ins when tested as an assembly with laminate flooring. Measurements taken between 2000 Hz to 4000 Hz utilizing the tapping machine described in ASTM E492 as an impact noise generator.

**Glued-down engineered wood floor above 6” concrete flooring, no acoustic ceiling, field data:**

- **FNC 57** – Impact insulation class rating (ASTM E1007-97)
- **FSCT 55** – Sound transmission class rating (ASTM E336-97)

**Floating laminate flooring over bare 6” concrete flooring, no acoustic ceiling, field data:**

- **MIC 21** – Calculated improvement in impact insulation class

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**Comparing sound materials**

DeciBLOK™ has been tested with various flooring sound materials under the regimes adopted by US Flooring producers known as Draft EPLF – Norm Auton. 1 (laminate flooring – determination of drum sound generated by means of a tapping machine – date: October 29, 2002).

The sound of a tapping noise on a floor with an acoustic cushion was compared to a wetlay fabric, a PE foam bubble material, and DeciBLOK™ with moisture control. The results are dramatic and show that DeciBLOK™ outperforms these competitors when in-room sound is considered (see results available upon request).

**Code:** STC rate a partition or material based on its ability to block airborne sound

**Code:** IIC rates a floor/ceiling assembly’s ability to block impact sound

**Enforcement:** Appendix chapter 35 of the '88 and '91 UBC, appendix chapter 12, division II of the '94 and '97 UBC, will be contained in the forthcoming IBC. Although not all municipalities have adopted this appendix chapter, it is still recognized as an industry standard.

**General information:** the Uniform Building Code (UBC) contains requirements for sound isolation in all parts of a building, including offices, apartments, condominiums, and hotels. These requirements are contained in appendix chapter 35 of the '88 and '91 UBC. Although not all municipalities have adopted this appendix chapter, it is still recognized as an industry standard.

**UBC requirements for milking and animal rooms:** 45sound insulation class (for floating, glued, or nailed installations)

**UBC requirements for floor/ceiling assemblies:** 45sound insulation class (for floating, glued, or nailed installations)

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**Available models**

- **DeciBLOK™** (for floating, glued, or nailed installations)  
  *Larger samples available upon request*  
- **DeciBLOK™ MC** (floating installations only)