

AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl MLV Soundproofing Barrier

Important Information

- **Do not use AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier to surround or enclose any light fixtures.**
- **Cut AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier back a minimum of 24" away from any canned lights.**
- **AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier is not recommended for permanent exterior installation where exposed to ultraviolet radiation (sunlight).**

Preparation

1. Typically installed after framing, insulation, and electrical is complete. Insulation should be used in addition for optimal performance.
2. Ensure that all applicable inspections are completed prior to installation of AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier.
3. AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier may be installed prior to “drying in” the building (prior to installation of windows and doors).
4. Acclimate AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier for a minimum of 24 hours at temperatures 60° F or greater to reduce material stiffness when handling.
5. Starting in one corner of the room, install AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier flush with the top of the wall studs, and hang it vertically.
6. Drywall should be installed within 2–4 weeks of AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier to prevent excessive wear. If longer delays are expected, washers should be installed to securely fasten AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier. Drywall installation permanently attaches the AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier to the stud.

Wood Studs

1. Attach AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier directly to the top of the wood plate using wide-crown ½" staples or pan head screws.
2. A fastener should be placed every 12" horizontally along the top.
3. Straighten AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier so that it is flush against the wood studs and apply from the top down.
4. Using staples or pan head screws, attach AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier to each stud in the center of the stud. Only one fastener is required for each vertical stud every 36".
5. Use an exterior fastener pattern, only fastening to the studs where the seam falls.

NOTE: Hammer stapler may be the best way to attach staples through AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier into stud.

Metal Studs

1. Attach AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier directly to the metal stud using pan head screws.
2. A screw every 12" is recommended along the top.
3. Straighten AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier so it is flush against the metal studs.

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INSTALLATION GUIDE

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4. Using drywall screws, attach AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier to the stud in the middle of the stud. Only one fastener is required for each vertical stud.
NOTE: High Walls
 - a. Walls higher than 12' shall have AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier secured with washers along the top to prevent the fastener from pulling through the material. Walls higher than 10' shall have AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier secured with washers along the top to prevent the fastener from pulling through the material.
 - b. Fasteners should also be used on intermediate studs (in addition to exterior studs) every 24" vertically.
5. Install AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier on all required walls.
6. Keep fasteners as flush as possible, since all protrusions will put a dimple into the finished wallboard. Fasteners shall not protrude more than 1/16" from AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier surface.
7. Tightly butt the side of the next sheet of AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier to the edge of the attached sheet. Do not overlap seams.
8. Tape all seams with Seam-Seal or equivalent. Ensure that there are no bubbles or wrinkles in the tape. The tape is semi-permanent, and will be permanently sealed in position when drywall is hung.
 - a. If AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier is installed horizontally or a seam does not fall on a stud, the seams must be taped, preferably with Seam-Seal tape, which provides a long-lasting attachment.
 - b. If seams fall on the stud, with no gaps > 1/8", then no taping is required. Drywall installation will seal the AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier against the existing studs.
 - c. Commercial alternatives include commercial duct tape.
9. AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier is easily cut to fit around irregular objects and electrical boxes. The material should be cut around outlets, switches, and junction boxes. Gaps shall be less than 1/8". If greater, they shall be sealed with acoustical caulk.
10. ISO pads (putty pads) should be installed on the back of all electrical boxes.
11. Caulk the bottom plate at the floor line with acoustical sealant.
12. Install drywall per normal technique (ASTM# C840 – Standard Specification for Application and Finishing of Gypsum Board). AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier will be fastened permanently when the gypsum board is hung.

Storage

AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier may be stored in wet or dry environment and may be stored outside on construction sites without special tarps or covering. If stored below freezing temperatures, material may require 24–48 hours of acclimation to regain pliability.

Use of Seam Tape

When using Seam Tape with AudioSeal® Mass Loaded Vinyl (MLV) Soundproofing Barrier, look for a product that uses acrylic adhesives. Other types of tape may not adhere well to this material. T-Rex Duct Tape is known to work well, and can be found at many hardware, big box, and building supply stores.

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