

# dB - PLY 28

dB-Ply 28 has been designed as an impact reducing floor panel that can be used as a structural or an overlay board. Offering an alternative to the standard chipboard finish, dB-Ply 28 is especially suitable for areas requiring extra moisture protection, such as kitchens and bathrooms and offers an excellent surface for application of the final flooring finish, whether using ceramic tiles or wooden flooring.

## Acoustic Performance

Impact L' <sub>nT,w</sub> dB	Airborne DnT,w dB	Airborne DnT,w + Ctr dB
55	55	49

Results based on 200mm timber joists at 450mm centres



## Product Data

- Can be laid over concrete, existing timber floors or directly over joists up to 450mm centres\*
- Comprises 18mm WBP tongued and grooved plywood with 10mm Hushfelt™ resilient layer
- Overall Board Dimensions 2400mm x 600mm x 28mm
- Overall nominal thickness 28mm
- FFL over floor deck 26mm
- FFL over timber joists \*36mm (used in conjunction with dB-10 Joist Strip)

## Suitable for:



## Features

- ✓ Strong, durable and waterproof
- ✓ Ideal for flooring finishes which require screw fixings
- ✓ Refurbishment and New Build
- ✓ Can be tiled over if used with Permalayer and a flexible adhesive
- ✓ Can be used as part of a Code For Sustainable Homes compliant development
- ✓ Building Regulations Part E (England and Wales), Section 5 (Scotland) and Part G (Northern Ireland)
- ✓ Robust Details FFT5 compliant for floor structures EFC-1, EFC-2 and EFS-1
- ✓ Easy to install in a single time saving operation

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# RESIDENTIAL BUILDING REGULATIONS

## Overview

The nuisance of noise is regarded as a health and safety issue for persons living in dwellings and all occupants of a dwelling should be allowed to follow normal domestic activities, including sleep and rest, without threat to their health from noise.

Noise is transmitted in buildings by both airborne and impact sound sources and UK Building Regulations requires that both these noise types are controlled. Practical guidance to meet with Building Regulation requirements is given within Approved Document E.

UK Building Regulations approved Document E 2003 incorporates a unit of measurement to determine low frequency airborne sound transmission.

Due to proven intrinsic difficulties of measuring low frequency sound, in domestic sized rooms, it must be expected that there could be significant deviations in the accuracy of these measurements. Furthermore, there will be variations from site to site due to structural differences in buildings, general site conditions and workmanship.

All these factors can influence the repeatability of both impact and airborne acoustic test results. Therefore, any test results must be considered as an indication only and no warranty can be given or implied as to the actual acoustic performance in any particular situation.

Sound insulation, in general terms, is the prevention of airborne and impact sound being transmitted from one part of a building to another through separating floors, ceilings or walls.

## Airborne Sound

Airborne sound sources produce noise by vibrating the surrounding air, for example speech, televisions and home entertainment systems. Airborne sound insulation is concerned with reducing this sound transmission through separating floors and walls.

## Impact Sound

Impact sound sources produce noise by direct physical excitation of a part of a building, for example footsteps on a floor. Impact sound insulation is concerned with resisting this impact sound upon separating floors.

## Flanking transmission

Flanking transmission occurs when sound is transmitted from one space to another indirectly, through adjoining parts of the structure, e.g. impact sound may be transmitted from one room to another through a timber floor, but also through the supporting wall.

Flanking transmission is always a potential problem within any structure, in particular, buildings being converted, and depending on the intensity of the acoustic energy received via flanking transmission paths, the effectiveness of sound insulation of separating partitions can be much lower than expected from their construction.

Careful consideration must be given to the effect of flanking transmission within any building and all potential flanking paths must be identified and eliminated prior to the installation of any sound insulation system.

## England & Wales

### New Approved Document E

Building Regulations New Approved Document E came into force on 1st July 2003 with the introduction of pre-completion testing (PCT) for sound insulation as a means of demonstrating compliance, and as from 1st July 2004 the use of Robust Details (RD) in new build has been accepted as an alternative to PCT.

Requirements E1, E2 and E3 of Document E apply to the sound insulation of any type of conversion or new build used as a dwelling including; houses, apartments, hostel rooms, hotels, boarding houses, halls of residence and residential homes. Requirement E4 applies to acoustic conditions in schools.

Performance standards are given for each requirement, as follows:

**Table 0.1a** Dwelling-houses and flats – performance standards for separating walls, separating floors, and stairs that have a separating function

	Airborne sound insulation sound insulation $D_{nT,w} + C_{tr}$ dB (Minimum values)	Impact sound Insulation $L'_{nT,w}$ dB (Maximum values)
<b>Purpose built dwelling - houses and flats</b>		
Walls	45	-
Floors & stairs	45	62
<b>Dwelling - houses and flats formed by material change of use</b>		
Walls	43	-
Floors & stairs	43	64

**Table 0.1b** Rooms for residential purposes – performance standards for separating walls, separating floors, and stairs that have a separating function

	Airborne sound insulation sound insulation $D_{nT,w} + C_{tr}$ dB (Minimum values)	Impact sound Insulation $L'_{nT,w}$ dB (Maximum values)
<b>Purpose built dwelling - houses and flats</b>		
Walls	43	-
Floors & stairs	45	62
<b>Rooms for residential purposes formed by a material change of use</b>		
Walls	43	-
Floors & stairs	43	64

**Table 0.2** Laboratory values for new internal walls and floors within dwelling-houses, flats and rooms for residential purposes, whether purpose built or formed by material change of use

	Airborne sound insulation $R_w$ dB (Minimum values)
Walls	40
Floors	40

For further information on Approved Document E visit [www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk) or [www.planningportal.gov.uk](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk)

## PCT & Robust Details

Pre-completion testing applies to all conversion projects and new build projects not built by means of Robust Details. At least 10 percent of each type of all new residential properties are tested to determine fulfillment of the regulations and pre-completion testing must always be carried out by an accredited acoustic engineer.

Contact with suitable sound testing companies can be arranged through our technical department.

## Robust Details

Robust Details are high performance separating wall and floor constructions that are expected to be sufficiently reliable not to need the check provided by PCT. A set of design details which achieve compliance with requirement E1 have been approved by Robust Details Ltd.

Builders intending to use any of these design details must register the project with Robust Details Ltd and follow, to the letter, procedures issued by Robust Details Ltd.

For further information on Robust Details visit [www.robustdetails.com](http://www.robustdetails.com)

## Scotland & Northern Ireland

### Scottish Building Regulations Section 5

Deals with the reduction of sound through separating building elements between domestic buildings.

	New build and conversions other than traditional buildings	Conversion of traditional buildings*
Minimum airborne sound transmission ( $D_{nT,w}$ ) (Floors & walls)	56dB	53dB
Maximum impact sound transmission ( $L'_{nT,w}$ ) (Floors only)	56dB	58dB

For further information please visit [www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk)

## Northern Ireland Building Regulations Part G

Northern Ireland Building Regulations Part G, Sound Insulation in Dwellings

	Airborne sound insulation sound insulation $D_{nT,w}$ dB (Minimum values)	Impact sound insulation $L'_{nT,w}$ dB (Maximum values)
<b>New Build</b>		
Floors	52	61
<b>Conversion</b>		
Floors	48	65

For further information please visit [www.buildingcontrol-ni.com](http://www.buildingcontrol-ni.com)