



THERMAFIBER® MINERAL WOOL INSULATION

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is Thermafiber® mineral wool insulation?

Thermafiber® mineral wool insulation is made from naturally occurring rocks and recycled slag. Slag is a by-product of the steel industry. Rocks, of various types, are an abundant natural resource. These raw materials are melted at 2,600°F and fiberized (spun into fibers) to create Thermafiber® mineral wool insulation products with an industry-leading minimum of 70% recycled content.¹ Thermafiber® mineral wool is non-combustible.

2. What happens if Thermafiber® insulation gets wet?

Thermafiber® mineral wool insulation is moisture resistant and does not readily absorb water as tested per ASTM C1104. If the insulation gets wet, simply allow it to dry in order to maintain original performance.

3. Is Thermafiber® insulation resistant to mold and fungi growth?

As an inorganic material made from rocks and slag, Thermafiber® mineral wool insulation does not provide a food source for mold growth. Thermafiber® products have been tested per the ASTM C1338 standard for determining the resistance of insulation to the growth of fungi.

4. What is Thermafiber® Fire & Sound Guard® Plus?

Fire & Sound Guard® Plus is the first hybrid mineral wool insulation batt product that offers thermal performance, noise control, and fire resistance for both interior and exterior walls, floors, and ceilings for residential and light commercial construction applications.

5. What is the difference between Thermafiber® Fire & Sound Guard® Plus, Thermafiber® Fire & Sound Guard®, and Thermafiber® UltraBatt™?

- Fire & Sound Guard® was an interior wall batt that is designed for noise control.
- UltraBatt™ was an exterior wall batt that is designed for thermal comfort.
- Fire & Sound Guard® Plus combines the acoustic benefits of Fire & Sound Guard® and the thermals of UltraBatt™ into one product that can be used in both interior and exterior walls. It meets the same test standards and has the same SKU offering and more with the creation of two new R-values (R-13 and R-21), and it is just as easy to install.



6. How does sound travel through my home?

Sound inside a home can either be an impact sound (walking on a floor and furniture moving) or an airborne sound (people talking and music playing).

Impact sounds travel mainly through mechanical vibration of the rigid components in the wall, floor, or ceiling (wood studs, drywall, or flooring). Separating these rigid components from one another is the best way to reduce the transfer of vibrations. Resilient channel installed on ceilings is a common practice used to reduce impact sound transfer through floors/ceilings.

Airborne sounds also travel through vibrations in rigid components, but in addition, they reverberate through empty stud and joist cavities. Sound-absorbing insulation can reduce this reverberation to provide improved acoustical performance, but best practice is to install sound-absorbing insulation and resilient channel to address both mechanical vibrations and reverberations.

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