kvadrat soft cells

Introducing Soft Cells

Soft Cells are acoustic panels which can be mounted both on walls and ceilings. Available in customisable sizes, shapes and colours, and upholstered in Kvadrat textiles, they can be seamlessly integrated into any design scheme.

Soft Cells bring acoustic comfort, aesthetic excellence and tactile surfaces into a space. In doing so, they provide a solution to the acoustic challenges of modern architecture and promote productivity.

Sustainably designed and durable, Soft Cells frames are made with a minimum of 40% recycled aluminium. They include a patented tensioning mechanism, which ensures they are unaffected by temperature or humidity for years. Soft Cells come with a 10-year product warranty.

Client: International Criminal Court
Location: The Hague, the Netherlands
Architecture and design: Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects

Soft Cells at a glance

Description

– Acoustic panels
– Infinite design and customisation opportunities
– Look good for years due to patented tensioning mechanism
– Come with a 10-year product warranty

Architectural support

– End-to-end project management
– Contact with acousticians
– Guidance on specifications and integration
– Assistance with building regulations
– Advice on textiles and suitability for different spaces
– Delivery of drawing documentation files
– Input to sustainability programmes
– Computational design
– Provide CE marking / Declaration of Performace documentation

Sizes

– Available in bespoke sizes and shapes
– Maximum width 3000 mm, maximum length 6000 mm

Installation

– Easy to install
– Fits walls and ceilings
– Can be installed at different angles
– Suitable for pre- and post-fitting
– Simple to disassemble, update with new textiles and reinstall
– Certified installers can be arranged or organised on request

Aesthetic excellence

– Choice of over 200 colours
– A broad selection of Kvadrat textiles that have been tested
  for acoustic performance
– Unaffected by humidity or temperature

Acoustic performance

– Class A, Class B or Class C (ISO 354) sound absorption possible
– Can be calibrated with an acoustician to meet room-
  specific requirements

Sustainability

– Frames are made from a minimum of 40% recycled aluminium
– Contribute to all major environmental building certification
  schemes, including DGNB, BREEAM and HQE

Client: Europlaza
Location: Amsterdam, the Netherlands
Architecture and design: HofmanDujardin

Acoustic comfort

Our senses fundamentally shape how we experience the world. A comfortable acoustic environment enhances well-being and motivation. A space with poor acoustics has the opposite effect.

Optimising acoustic quality can be challenging for today's architects: the hard surfaces associated with contemporary building designs, such as glass and concrete, can lead to increased reverberation and cause 'acoustic smog'.

Soft Cells provide an ideal solution. Whatever the design concept, they can be specified to deliver Class A, Class B or Class C sound absorption. This enables you to create a comfortable acoustic environment that supports concentration, collaboration and communication.

Expert end-to-end support

When you choose Soft Cells you get expert support on performance, integration and functionality at every stage of the process – from initial planning to installation.

The Kvadrat Soft Cells network combines the benefits of a global presence with local insight. Our team has in-depth knowledge of building regulations, acoustics, architecture and design, and can assist with:

– Building regulations
– Technical documents for tender specifications
– Budget optimisation
– Selecting textiles
– Training your installers
– Providing drawing documentation files
– Connecting you with acousticians
– Input to sustainability programmes
– Computational design

Fixture integration

Soft Cells can easily be combined with other technical service systems such as power plugs, ventilation aggregates, sprinklers and AV equipment without losing acoustic performance or aesthetic appearance.
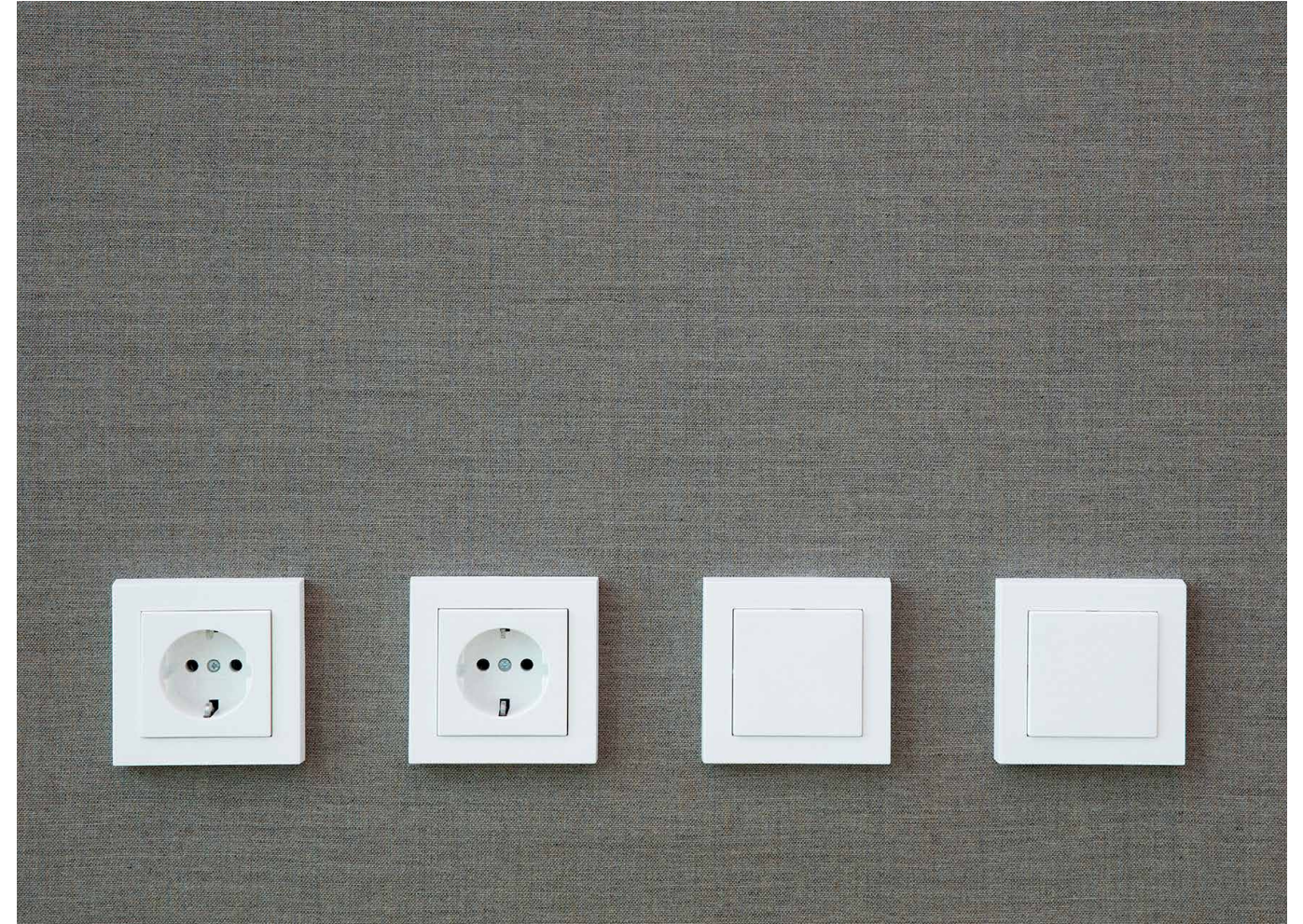
Extraordinary design flexibility

Soft Cells are customisable to any shape to suit all acoustic, project-specific and market needs. The frames allow for the textile's tension to be optimised according to the size, shape, orientation and curvature (if required) of the panel.

It is also simple to update Soft Cells to meet new design requirements. Quick to install, they can just as easily be dismounted, reupholstered and reinstalled. The design of the frames allows for this process to be repeated as often as required.
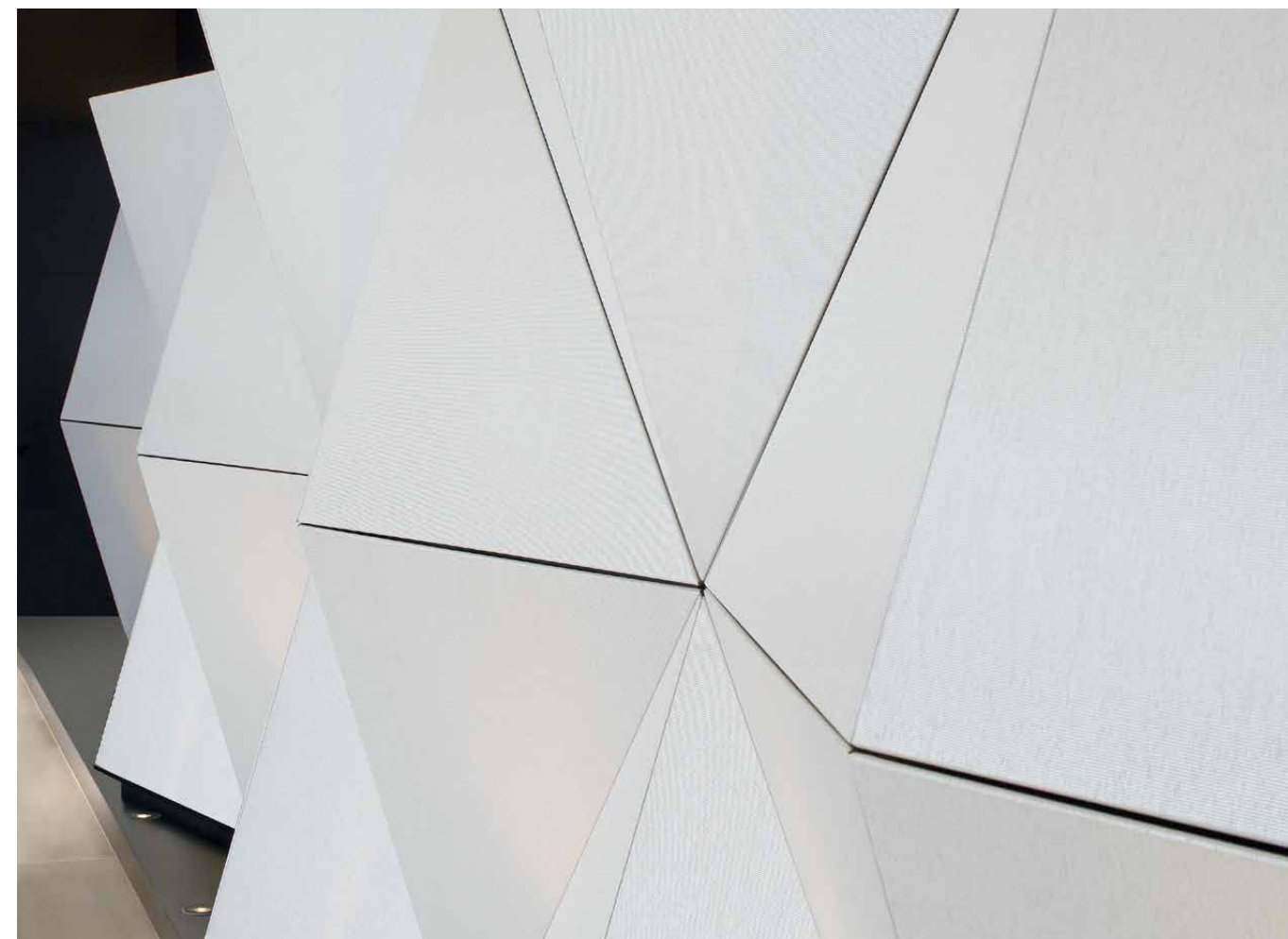
Safety and CE marking

Safety is paramount at Kvadrat Soft Cells. Our customers can always have total confidence in our products.

For ceiling and high walls installations, Soft Cells carry the CE marking, which indicates that the manufacturer or importer claims compliance with the relevant EU legislation.

In practice, the CE marking confirms the Soft Cells have been tested for reaction to fire, asbestos content and formaldehyde emissions. It also ensures we can provide the supporting documentation.

Client: An investment company
Location: London, United Kingdom
Architecture and design: OMA

Textiles as an architectural tool

Textiles introduce colour and a tactile quality. They can change the ambience of a room instantly. They are a means to add personality, softness and natural materials to a space, thereby enhancing the sense of well-being.

On a purely practical level, textiles also bring many valuable benefits. They enable you to segment or unite different areas of a space, and can help to optimise light conditions. Finally, they enhance acoustic conditions, making for a more comfortable, productive environment.

Soft Cells seamlessly fit any design concept due to the versatility of the panels and the wide selection of Kvadrat textiles they are available in. These offer a choice of over 200 colours, and most have been pre-tested for acoustic performance.

Available in many colours and shapes, Soft Cells are ideal for those looking to discreetly blend acoustic panels into an interior theme. Furthermore, they can be easily disassembled and reupholstered to reflect new design requirements.

Soft Cells can also be specified to perfectly match other textiles in an interior project, as Kvadrat offers premium quality curtains and upholstery textiles too. This 'one-stop shop' option not only provides an opportunity to optimise aesthetic and functional quality; it also simplifies project management.

Sustainable design

Soft Cells are designed for optimal sustainability. Consequently, they contribute to major environmental building certification schemes – notably, DGNB, LEED, BREEAM and HQE.

Supporting this, the Kvadrat Soft Cells team can advise on specifying Soft Cells and textiles in order to gain environmental certification. In doing so, they work closely with architects and interior designers.

Made with a minimum of 40% recycled aluminium, Soft Cells are long-lasting. Due to their patented tensioning mechanism, they are unaffected by humidity and temperature. Moreover, they can be reupholstered and their components can be reused.
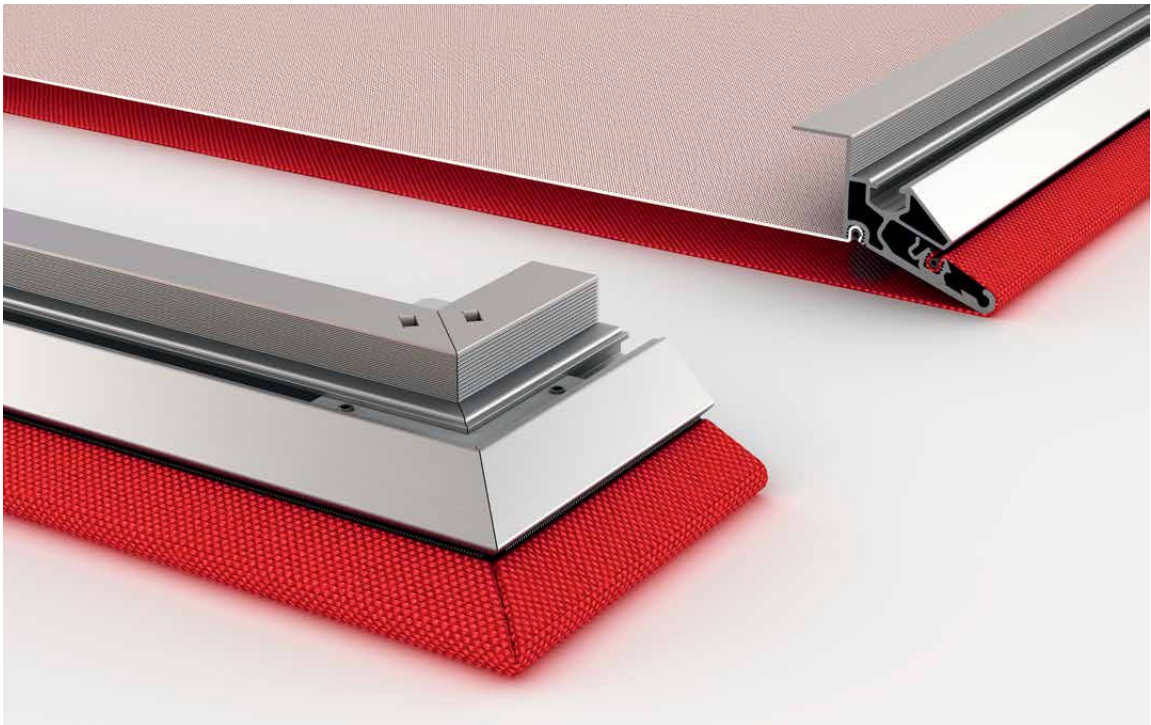
Client: Gefion Gymnasium
Location: Copenhagen, Denmark
Architecture and design: Rørbæk and Møller Architects
Photography: Adam Mørk

Types of Soft Cells

Different projects have different acoustic requirements. Reflecting this, there are four types of Soft Cells panels, which offer varying levels of performance. This ensures that, whatever the acoustic challenges of the space in question, there is a Soft Cells solution to match.

The four types of Soft Cells all share the same patented tensioning mechanism, aluminium frame and front textile layer.

Soft Cells Standard
Delivers Class C to D conditioning between 200–4000 Hertz

Soft Cells Broadline
Delivers Class A conditioning between 125–5000 Hertz

Soft Cells Lowtone
Delivers optimal acoustic performance between 125–500 Hertz

Soft Cells Reflective
Delivers Class E sound absorption (high reflection)

Soft Cells Standard

Soft Cells Lowtone

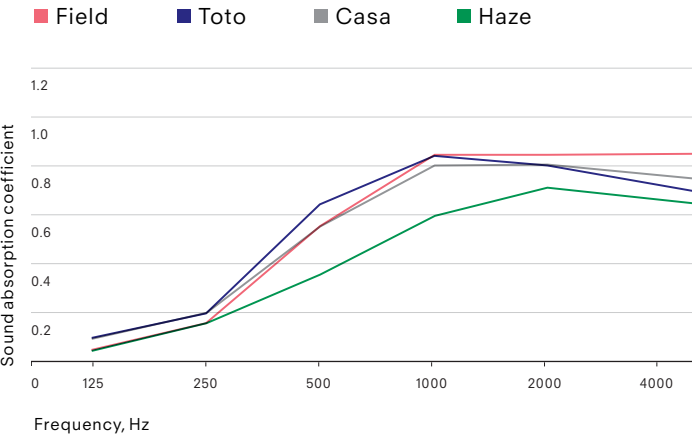Soft Cells Broadline

Soft Cells Reflective

Soft Cells Standard

Soft Cells Standard panels rely on two layers of tensioned textile to control sound. Typically, this version offers Class C sound absorption, as per ISO 11654.

Particularly well suited to:

– Spaces with moderate need for sound absorption
– Spaces with large free surfaces – particularly in ceilings
– Spaces where high frequency absorption on walls and broadband absorption as suspended ceiling is needed
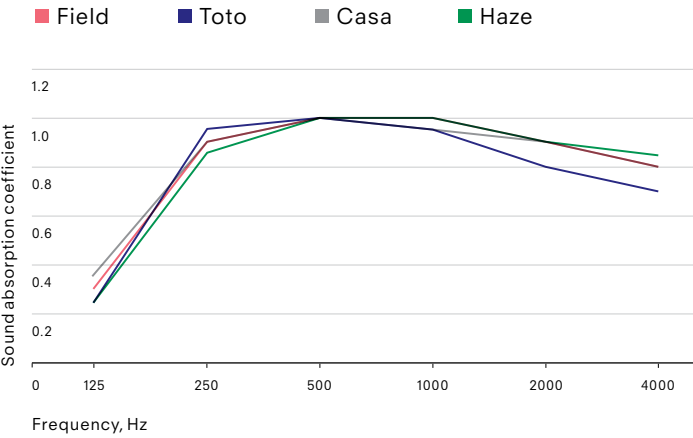
Soft Cells Broadline

Soft Cells Broadline panels incorporate acoustic padding behind a textile layer. Typically, this model offers Class A broad sound absorption, as per ISO 11654.

Particularly well suited to:

– Spaces with severe to moderate sound reverberation problems and noise
– Spaces with limited free wall or ceiling surface for acoustic regulation
– Lowering overall reverberation due to broadband absorption

Wall and ceiling absorbers installed with magnets, 55 mm depth (ISO-354) with different front textiles

Suspended ceiling absorbers, 200 mm depth (ISO-354) with different front textiles

Wall and ceiling absorbers installed with magnets, 55 mm depth (ISO-354) with different front textiles

Suspended ceiling absorbers, 200 mm depth (ISO-354) with different front textiles

Textile example	Acoustic Class	α	EN Fire Class
Ginger	D	0,4	B-s1,d0
Toto	D	0,5 (MH)	B-s1,d0
Casa	D	0,5 (MHH)	B-s1,d0
Pro 3	D	0,45 (MH)	B-s1,d0
Tempo	D	0,5 (HH)	B-s1,d0
Haze	D	0,4 (HH)	B-s2,d0
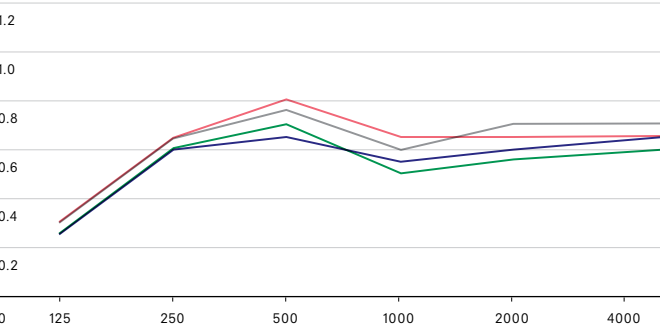
Textile example	Acoustic Class	α	EN Fire Class
Ginger	D	0,55	B-s1,d0
Toto	C	0,6	B-s1,d0
Casa	C	0,7	B-s1,d0
Pro 3	C	0,7	B-s1,d0
Tempo	C	0,7	B-s1,d0
Haze	D	0,55	B-s2,d0

Textile example	Acoustic Class	α	EN Fire Class
Field	A	0,95	B-s1,d0
Ginger	A	0,95	B-s1,d0
Toto	B	0,85	B-s1,d0
Casa	A	0,95	B-s1,d0
Pro 3	A	0,95	B-s2,d0
Tempo	A	0,9	B-s2,d0
Haze	A	0,95	B-s2,d0
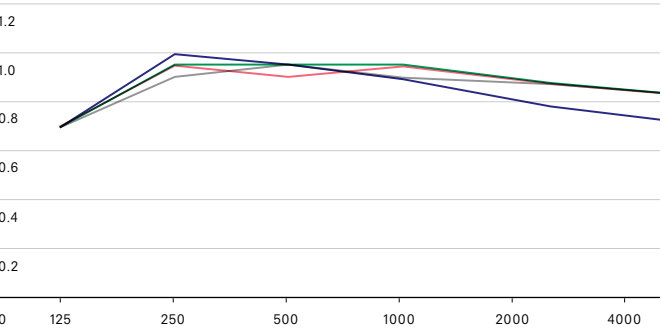
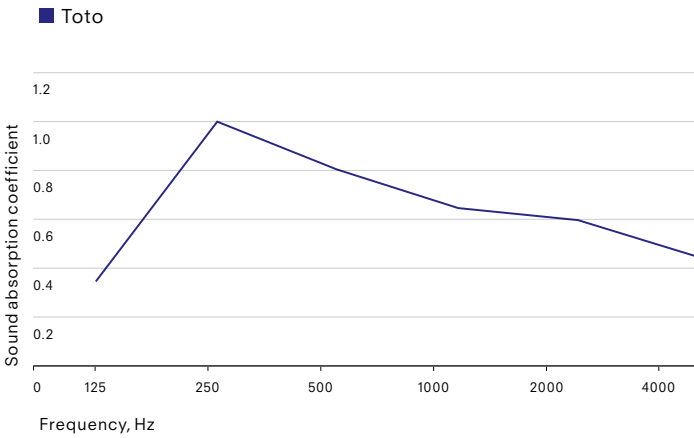| Textile example	Acoustic Class	α	EN Fire Class
Field	A	0,95	B-s1,d0
Ginger	A	0,95	B-s1,d0
Toto	A	0,9	B-s1,d0
Casa	A	0,95	B-s1,d0
Pro 3	A	0,9	B-s2,d0
Tempo	A	0,95	B-s2,d0
Haze	A	0,95	B-s2,d0

Soft Cells Lowtone

Soft Cells Lowtone panels have a specially developed glass textile membrane behind a tensioned front textile layer, and deliver excellent acoustic performance concentrated in the low and mid range frequencies.
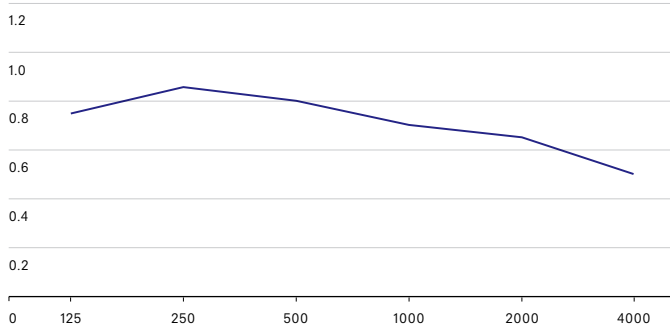
Particularly well suited to:

– Spaces with special acoustic requirements –
  not just sound absorption
– Small rooms or spaces with large free surfaces for
  combining with other types of Soft Cells
– Low frequency absorption and high frequency reflection
– Environments with constant low frequency sounds,
 such as ventilation systems

Soft Cells Reflective

Soft Cells Reflective panels incorporate a reflective plate behind a textile layer. Typically, this model offers Class E sound absorption (high reflection), as per ISO 11654.

Particularly well suited to:

– Spaces where speech / sound needs projection in a specific
  direction, eg. close to a speaker in a conference room or in
  a music hall above the orchestra
– Spaces that feature advanced acoustic design with both
  reflective and absorbing panels in combination with one
  consistent surface/appearance
– Combining reflective (hard) acoustic properties with the
  aesthetic soft and tactile textile surface choices of Soft Cells

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Wall and ceiling absorbers installed with magnets, 55 mm depth (ISO-354)

Suspended ceiling absorbers, 200 mm depth (ISO-354)

■ Toto

Textile example	Acoustic Class	α	EN Fire Class
Toto	C	0,6 (L)	B-s1,d0

Textile example	Acoustic Class	α	EN Fire Class
Toto	C	0,65 (L)	B-s1,d0

Wall and ceiling absorbers installed with magnets, 55 mm depth (ISO-354) with different front textiles

Suspended ceiling absorbers, 200 mm depth (ISO-354) with different front textiles

■ Basel   ■ Steelcut 2   ■ Casita   ■ Casa
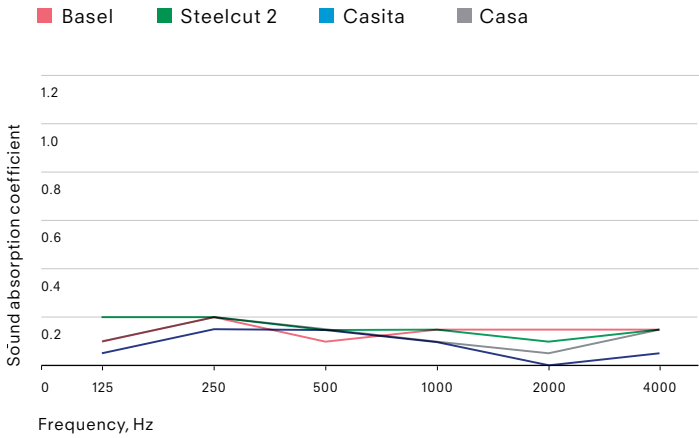
Textile example	Acoustic Class	α	EN Fire Class
Basel	E	0,25 (L)	No class
Steelcut 2	E	0,25 (L)	No class
Casita	E	0,2 (L)	B-s1,d0
Casa	E	0,2 (L)	B-s1,d0
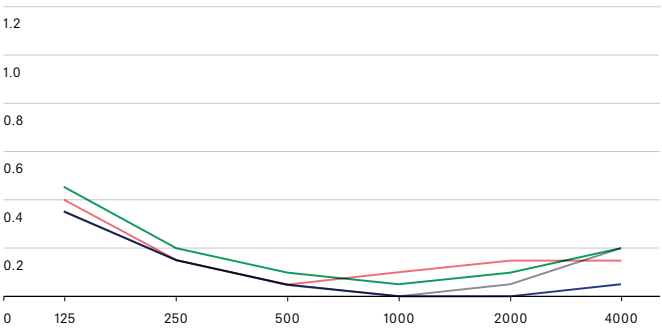
Textile example	Acoustic Class	α	EN Fire Class
Basel	E	0,2 (L)	No class
Steelcut 2	E	0,2 (L)	No class
Casita	E	0,15 (L)	B-s1,d0
Casa	E	0,15 (L)	B-s1,d0

Soft Cells Standard

Soft Cells Broadline   # Soft Cells Reflective

Aluminium frame

Distance between textiles

Front textiles

Bracing

Back textile

Aluminium frame

Distance between textile
and acoustic padding

Distance between textile
and steel plate reflector
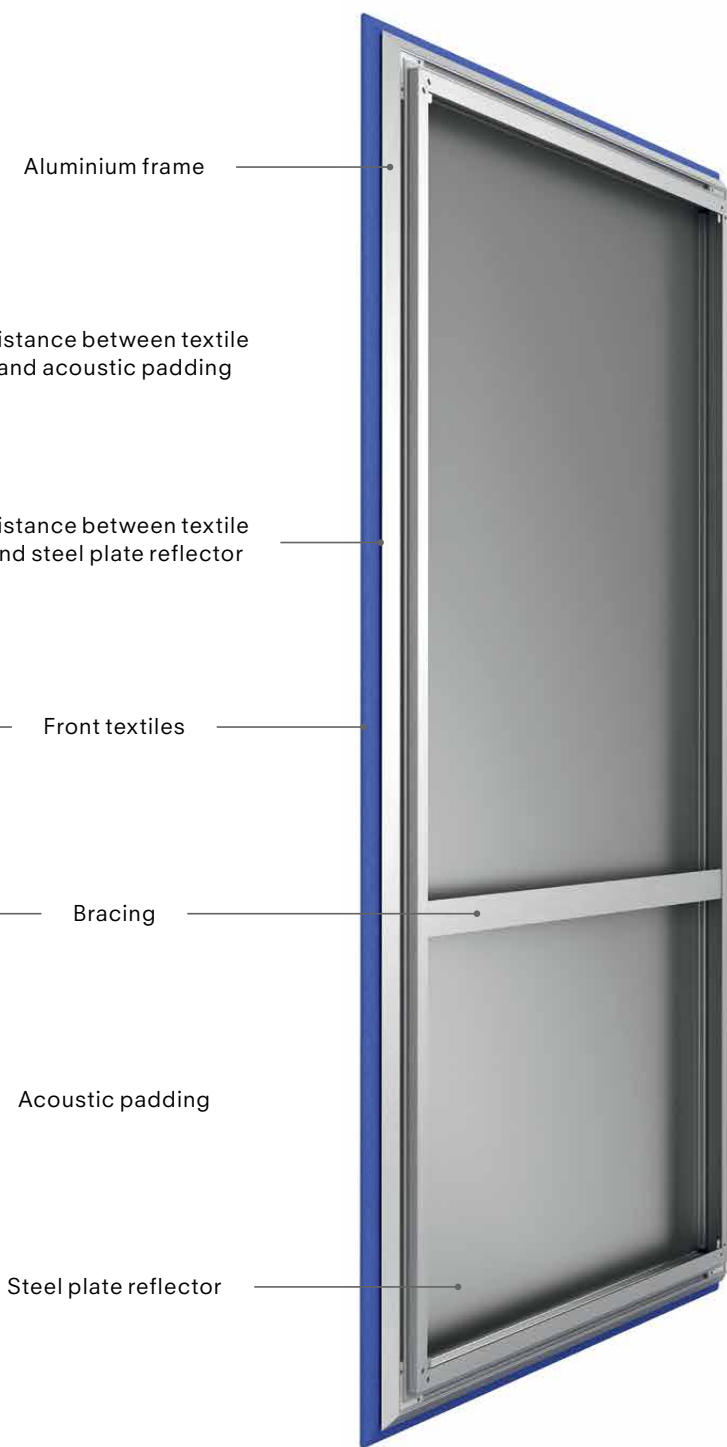
Front textiles

Bracing

Acoustic padding

Steel plate reflector
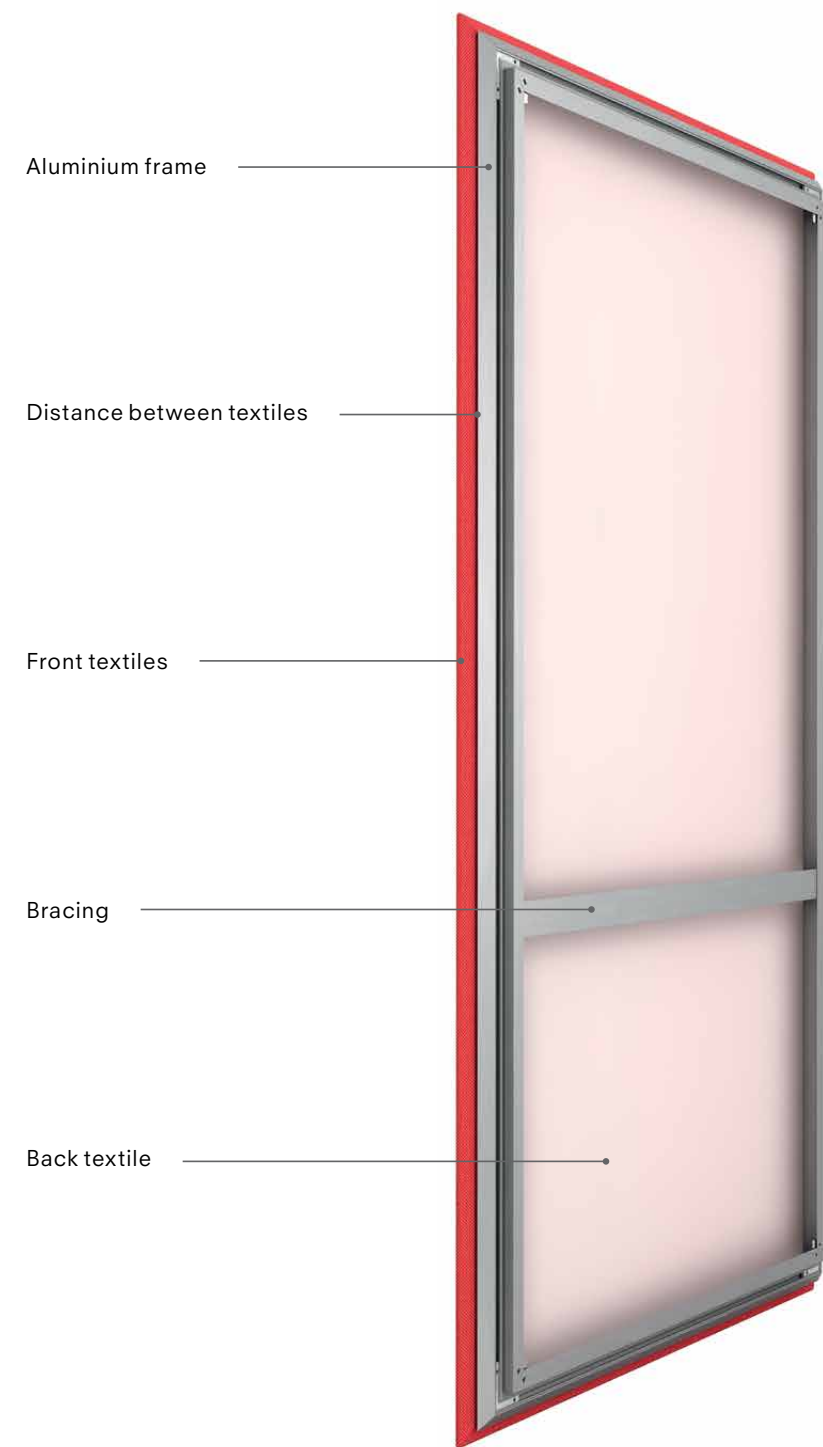
Depth of panels: 49 mm
Minimum size (w × h): 200 × 200 mm
Maximum size (w × h): 3000 × 6000 mm

Depth of system from face of installation surface depends on selected fitting.
Please see the following pages for the different fitting solutions.

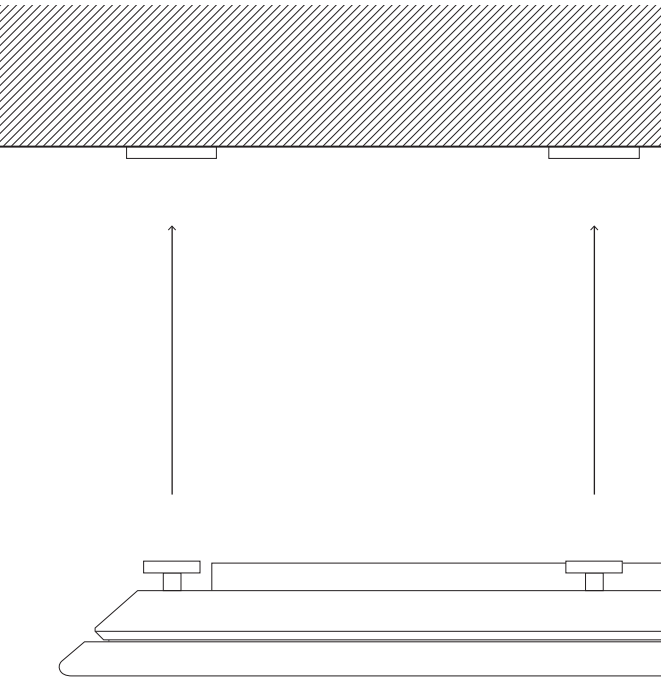# Easy installation and reinstallation

Installing and, if required, reinstalling Soft Cells is simple and quick. They can be pre-and post-fitted to walls and ceilings.

Soft Cells uses a versatile installation system. The frames are fully detachable and offer easy access, without having to fully remove the panel.
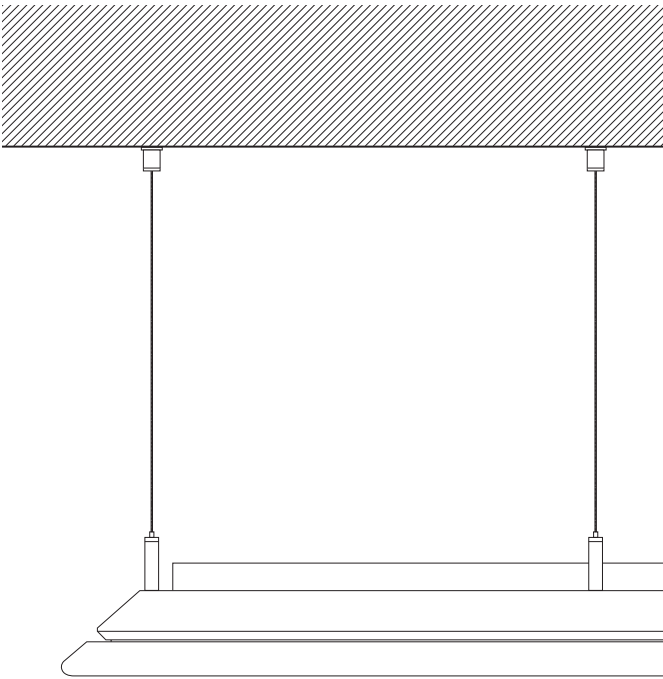
Magnet mounting

Allows for the dismantling of panels without tools.
Suitable for installation on walls and ceilings.

Material: pot magnet, steel
Dimensions from the front side of the Soft Cells to the installation surface: 55 mm

Steel wire suspension

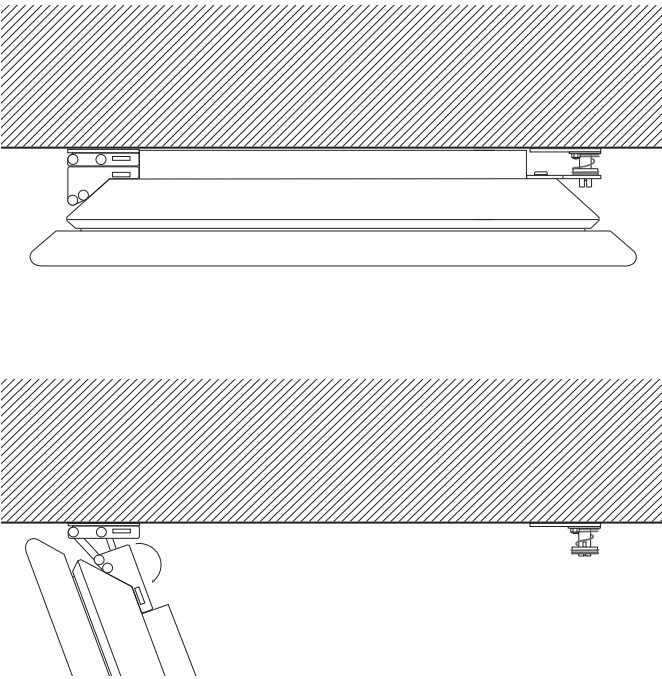For ceiling mounting where a suspended ceiling is required.

Material: stainless steel wire
Minimum dimension of the front side of the panel to the installation surface: 110 mm

Hinge/push latch ceiling suspension

If subsequent access is required behind the panel, Soft Cells should be mounted with hinge/push latch.

Material: steel
Dimensions from the front side of the Soft Cells to the installation surface: 55 mm

All ceiling and wall installations mounted above 3000 mm from the floor with magnets and/or hinges, must be installed with safety wires
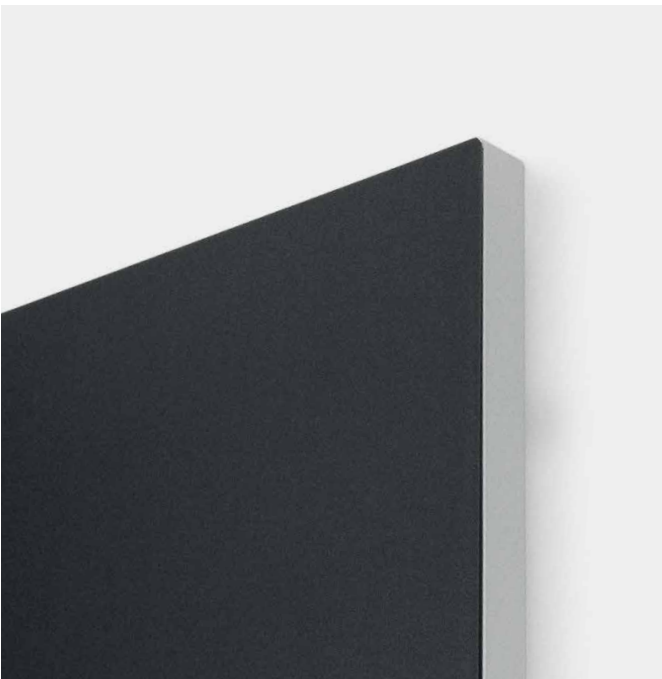
End caps

If you wish to create a seamless look, you can cover the small gap between the Soft Cells and the wall with end caps. You can have these painted in any colour or upholstered in textile.

Material: aluminium
Width: 55 mm
Length: maximum 6000 mm, in one piece

CE marking and Declaration of Performance

For our ceiling solutions, Kvadrat Soft Cells is able to provide a CE marking certificate.

Magnet

Wire

Hinged ceiling solution

End cap

Client: Element GmbH Office
Location: Frankfurt, Germany
Architecture and design: Valerie Reisdorf, Paris / APO FFM

Client: Essendropsgate
Location: Oslo, Norway
Architecture and design: Kor Interior
Photography: Anne Bråtveit

Client: Leadenhall Building
Location: London, United Kingdom
Architecture and design: Advanced Interior Solutions

Client: Jazzcampus, Basel Music Academy
Location: Basel, Switzerland
Architecture and design: Buol & Zünd

About Kvadrat Soft Cells

Kvadrat Soft Cells creates fully customisable, high-performance acoustic panels characterised by aesthetic excellence and exceptional versatility. In addition, we offer end-to-end project support, delivered by a global network of specialists who have been specially trained in architecture and design.

We are dedicated to pushing the aesthetic and technological boundaries of acoustic solutions. Reflecting this, Soft Cells acoustic panels set the benchmark for sustainability, flexibility and durability.

Soft Cells are used in numerous visionary architectural developments all over the world. These include: The Royal Danish Library, Oxford University, PwC, Rolls-Royce and Microsoft.

Kvadrat Soft Cells is a Kvadrat-owned company. Established in Denmark in 1968, Kvadrat holds a leading position in Europe's high-quality contemporary textiles market.

Client: Masdar Institute
Location: Masdar City, Abu Dhabi
Architecture and design: Foster + Partners

Selected references

Cultural

Danish Broadcasting Corporation, Copenhagen, Denmark
Danmarkshuset, Paris, France
King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Kunsthalle, Hamburg, Germany
M&C Saatchi, Milan, Italy
Nordisk film, Aarhus, Denmark
Science Museum, London, United Kingdom
Städel Museum, Frankfurt, Germany

Education

Duke Kunshan University, Kunshan, China
Gefion Gymnasium, Copenhagen, Denmark
Imperial College, London, United Kingdom
Oxford University, Oxford, United Kingdom
St. Patrick's College, Dublin, Ireland
Wharton Business School, Beijing, China

Hospitality

Gibson Hotels, Dublin, Ireland
Hilton Hotel, Liverpool, United Kingdom
Hilton Terminal 5, Heathrow, United Kingdom
25hours Hotel, Zürich, Switzerland
Hotel Pullman, Brussels, Belgium
Kilternan Hotel, Dublin, Ireland

Music Halls and Auditoriums

Basel Music Academy, Basel, Switzerland
Fraunhofer Institute, Erlangen, Germany
Handelskammer Innovation Campus, Hamburg, Germany
Harpa Concert & Conference Centre, Reykjavik, Iceland
Hyundai, South Korea
La Maison des Huit Heures, Brussels, Belgium
Music Hall, Aarhus, Denmark
Musiktheater, Linz, Austria

Offices and Banking

Axis Bank, Mumbai, India
Bank of Montreal, London, United Kingdom
Bank PHB, London, United Kingdom
Barclays Bank, London, United Kingdom
BASF, Ludwigshafen, Germany
BNP Paribas, Brussels, Belgium
Boston Consulting Group, Frankfurt, Germany
BP, London, United Kingdom
British Land, London, United Kingdom
Cisco Systems, Lisbon, Portugal

Danfoss, Sønderborg, Denmark
Department of Health, London, United Kingdom
Drägerwerk AG, Frankfurt, Germany
Ernst & Young, Arnhem, Frankfurt, Germany
FC Bayern, Munich, Germany
Foster & Partners, London, United Kingdom
Gallup, London, United Kingdom
Google, Copenhagen, Denmark
Coca-Cola, Paris, France
HBOS, the Mound, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
HSBC, Dublin, Ireland
IBM, London, United Kingdom
International Chamber of Commerce, Paris, France
Maersk, Copenhagen, Denmark
Microsoft, Milan, Italy
National Bank of Kuwait, Kuwait City, Kuwait
Novartis, Basel, Switzerland
Philips, Hamburg, Germany
PwC, Munich, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Germany
Schweizerische National Bank, Bern, Switzerland
Tottenham Hotspur, London, United Kingdom
XFEL, Hamburg, Germany
#Clouds.Paris, Paris, France

Public areas and lobbies

Confederation of Danish Industry, Copenhagen, Denmark
German National Library, Leipzig, Germany
Korona Shopping & Entertainment Mall, Brasov, Romania
Messe Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany
Royal Danish Library, Copenhagen, Denmark
Unibail-Rodamco Shopping Mall, Lyon, France

Other

Eastern High Court, Copenhagen, Denmark
International Criminal Court, The Hague, the Netherlands
King Abdullah Financial District, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Landratssaal, Heilbronn, Germany
Ratssaal, Wilhelmshaven, Germany
Rolls-Royce, London, United Kingdom
Sedus Research and Development Centre, Waldshut, Germany