**Introduction**

Designed for use British Gypsum GypWall classic systems where high levels of acoustic and fire performance are required.

**Product description**

Higher density core with glass fibre and other additives.

Gyproc SoundBloc F consists of an aerated gypsum core with glass fibre, water repellent and other additives encased in, and firmly bonded to strong paper liners. Gyproc SoundBloc F is a plasterboard that is suitable for drylining internal surfaces.

**Board performance**

**Fire protection**

Plasterboard linings provide good fire protection owing to the unique behaviour of the non-combustible gypsum core when subjected to high temperatures. For the purposes of the national Building Regulations, plasterboard is designated a ‘material of limited combustibility’ (Approved Document B). The surfaces of Gyproc SoundBloc F are designated Class 0 (for the purposes of national Building Regulations). Please refer to the table below.

**Fire resistance / sound insulation**

Please refer to the appropriate WHITE BOOK product or system section for information on the fire resistance and sound insulation of building elements lined with Gyproc SoundBloc F.

**Reaction to fire test performance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BS 476: Part 7: 1997 Surface spread of flame tests for materials.</td>
<td>Class 1 (both sides).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EN 520: 2004</td>
<td>Classified without further testing as A2-s1, d0.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thermal conductivity**

Gyproc SoundBloc F - 0.25W/mK

**Effect of temperature**

Gyproc SoundBloc F is unsuitable for use in areas subject to continuously damp or humid conditions, i.e. above 70% RH, and must not be used to isolate dampness. Plasterboards are not suitable for use in temperatures above 49°C but can be subjected to freezing conditions without risk of damage.

**Effect of condensation**

The thermal insulation and ventilation requirements of national Building Regulations aim to reduce the risk of condensation and mould growth in new buildings. However, designers should take care to eliminate all possibility of problems caused by condensation, particularly in refurbishment projects.

**Sound absorption**

Typically \( \alpha_w = 0.05 \)

**Board colour**

- Blue face paper
- Pink reverse side paper

**Board printing**

Face - screw centre markings ‘x’.

Edge - product code, EAN number, board thickness x width x length, edge type.

Reverse - standard and certification.

**Board range**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Width mm</th>
<th>Length mm</th>
<th>Nominal board weight kg</th>
<th>Thermal Resistance m² K/W</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15mm board</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>2400</td>
<td>40.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200</td>
<td>2700</td>
<td>47.6</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td>50.8</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Board types**

T/E - with Gyproc jointing materials for taped and filled joints or application of Thistle Board Finish, Thistle Multi-Finish or Thistle DuraFinish plasters.

**Application and installation**

**General**

It is important to observe appropriate health and safety legislation when working on site i.e. personal protective clothing and equipment, etc. The following notes are intended as general guidance only. In practice, consideration must be given to design criteria requiring specific project solutions.

**Handling**

Manual off-loading of this product should be carried out with care to avoid unnecessary strain. For further information please refer to the Manual Handling section of the SITE BOOK or the Manual Handling Guide, available to download from www.british-gypsum.com

**Cutting**

This product may be cut using a plasterboard saw or by scoring with a sharp knife and snapping the board over a straight edge. Holes for switch or socket boxes should be cut out before the boards are fixed using a utility saw or sharp knife. When cutting boards, power and hand tools should be used with care and in accordance with the manufacturers’ recommendations. Power tools should only be used by people who have been instructed and trained to use them safely. Appropriate personal protective equipment should be used.
**Application and installation (continued)**

**Fixing**
Fix boards with decorative side out to receive joint treatment or a skim plaster finish. Lightly butt boards together. Never force boards into position. Install fixings not closer than 13mm from cut edges and 10mm from bound edges. Position cut edges to internal angles whenever possible, removing paper burrs with fine sandpaper. Stagger horizontal and vertical board joints between layers by a minimum of 600mm. Locate boards to the centre line of framing where this supports board edges or ends.

**Jointing**
Gyproc jointing materials produce durable joint reinforcement and a smooth, continuous, crack-resistant surface ready for priming and final decoration. A number of jointing specifications are available to suit the board type, method of application and site preference.

**Decoration**
After the joint treatment has dried, decoration, including any decorator’s preparatory work, should follow with the minimum delay.

**Plastering**
The face (blue) of Gyproc SoundBloc can be plastered with either Thistle Board Finish, Thistle Multi-Finish or Thistle DuraFinish. There should be the minimum of delay between completion of the lining and the commencing of plastering.

**Product standards**

**EN520: 2004 Gypsum Plasterboards, definitions, requirements and test methods**

Type D: Gypsum plasterboard with controlled density.
These boards have a controlled density, with a face to which suitable gypsum plasters or decoration may be applied. This enables improved performance in certain applications to be obtained.

Type F: Gypsum plasterboard with improved core adhesion at high temperatures.
Plasterboard with a face to which suitable gypsum plasters or decoration may be applied. These boards have mineral fibres and/or other additives in the gypsum core to improve core cohesion at high temperatures.

**Maintenance**

**Repair**

**Minor damage** - Lightly sand the surface to remove burrs and fill flush with Gyproc Easi-Fill, Gyproc Easi-Fill 45, or two applications of Gyproc Joint Cement. When dry, apply Gyproc Drywall Primer or Gyproc Drywall Sealer to leave the surface ready for decoration.

Deep indents resulting from impact - Check the plasterboard core to ensure that it is not shattered. If intact, apply a coat of Gyproc Joint Filler, or Gyproc Easi-Fill or Gyproc Easi-Fill 45, followed by the procedure for repairing minor damage as outlined above, once set / dry.

**Damaged core and / or broken edges (non-performance situations only)** - Remove the damaged area of core. Score the liner approximately 10mm away from the sound plaster around the damaged area, and peel the paper liner away. Apply Thistle GypPrime or PVA to seal the core and surrounding liner. Bulk fill the hole with a stiff mix of Gyproc Easi-Fill, Gyproc Easi-Fill 45, or Gyproc Joint Filler, and strike off flush.

Apply Gyproc Easi-Fill, Gyproc Easi-Fill 45, or two applications of Gyproc Joint Cement, once the filler is set / dry. When dry, apply Gyproc Drywall Primer or Gyproc Drywall Sealer (only suitable in non-performance situations).

**Extensive damage** - When the damage is more extensive, it may be necessary to replace that area of plasterboard. It is important that the replacement board is of the same type as specified and installed. Cut out the affected area back to the nearest framing member. Replace the plasterboard, accurately cutting and screw-fixing the same type and thickness of plasterboard. Fill edge joints, then tape and finish in the recommended way. Treat the finished surface with Gyproc Drywall Primer or two coats of Gyproc Sealer, if previously specified for vapour control purposes. Redecorate as required.

**Note**
It is essential that repairs are made ‘like for like’. If the finish is skim plaster, jointing materials must not be used in the repair.