ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS

General


In general, follow the guidelines below when designing and specifying Acoustical Ceilings and accessories. Unless specifically indicated otherwise, these guidelines are not intended to restrict or replace professional judgment.

Related Sections

U-M Design Guideline Special Instructions to Designers:
SID-F - Codes and Regulatory Agencies - for listings of buildings containing Instructional Space or Dormitory Space.

U-M Design Guideline Technical Sections:
15010 - Basic Mechanical Requirements - for acoustical requirements for room types.

Submittals

For buildings subject to the jurisdiction of the State of Michigan Bureau of Fire Services (Instructional Spaces and Dormitory Spaces), include requirement for Affidavits of Compliance.

Design Requirements

In general, exposed grid suspended ceilings are preferred over concealed systems. Avoid spline and other non-accessible systems when any mechanical systems or equipment will be concealed above ceiling.

There are currently no standardized product types for acoustic panels. However, the following general guidelines apply:

- 2 foot by 2 foot panels are preferred over 2 foot by 4 foot panels.
- Rabbeted edge panels are preferred except where economy is paramount.
- 3/4 inch thick panels are preferred over 5/8 inch panels.
- Fiberglass panels are not acceptable.
- Where possible, specify humidity-tolerant acoustical panels carrying a minimum 10 year warranty.
• Specify gypsum board or other washable panels and moisture resistant grid in food service areas.

Where ceiling-mounted items obstruct the regular spacing of hanger wires, design "trapeze" structures with additional steel supports to bridge the obstruction.