



## Acoustic Comfort

Expert advice for building a new home

# Planning a comfortable, quiet home

Imagine building a new home where you and your family can live together in peace and quiet without disturbing each other whether you are working, playing or sleeping.

While this may be what most people expect from a contemporary home design, often the reality is far from the dream.

With a little careful planning before the construction of your new home begins, you will be able to ensure that your home will be as comfortably quiet as it can be.

# A good looking home is just the beginning

Most new home buyers place a greater focus on the layout and aesthetic aspects of their home, rather than the out-of-sight comfort upgrades. While important, even the best-looking modern home needs to have internal acoustics properly considered for a high-quality result.

## It's all about comfort

When thinking about home comfort, we imagine a space that contributes to our physical and mental wellbeing. Noise-related disturbances are a direct contributor to stress levels - something we all want to avoid, especially when it comes to the comfort of our own home.

When planning your new home, you have the opportunity to take important steps towards improving the long-term comfort for your family. It all starts with factoring in effective acoustic comfort upgrades when planning your new home design.



## Advice from an Acoustic Engineer

### Noise annoys

“ Internal acoustics is often overlooked in the design of a new home. The Building Code of Australia doesn't provide any sound insulation requirements and typically an architect may not consider acoustics in the design stage.

There are two main aspects of internal acoustics: sound transmission – noise passing through a wall or floor and reverberation – sound that reflects and echoes within a space.

Reverberation is treated on a case by case basis, generally by the introduction of more soft furnishings or other absorptive materials, but sound transmission needs to be treated at the construction stage.

Homes these days have very loud noise sources such as large TVs, game consoles and home theatres, but there's also other typical noise sources such as laundries, bathrooms and entertaining areas to consider.

Internal walls are typically constructed with a timber frame and a thin layer of plasterboard on each side. When this type of lightweight wall is left empty, unwanted sound can readily pass through.

The easiest and most cost-effective way to minimise sound transmission is to fill the hollow wall with high-density acoustic insulation.

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**Joel Parry-Jones**  
PKA Acoustic Consultants

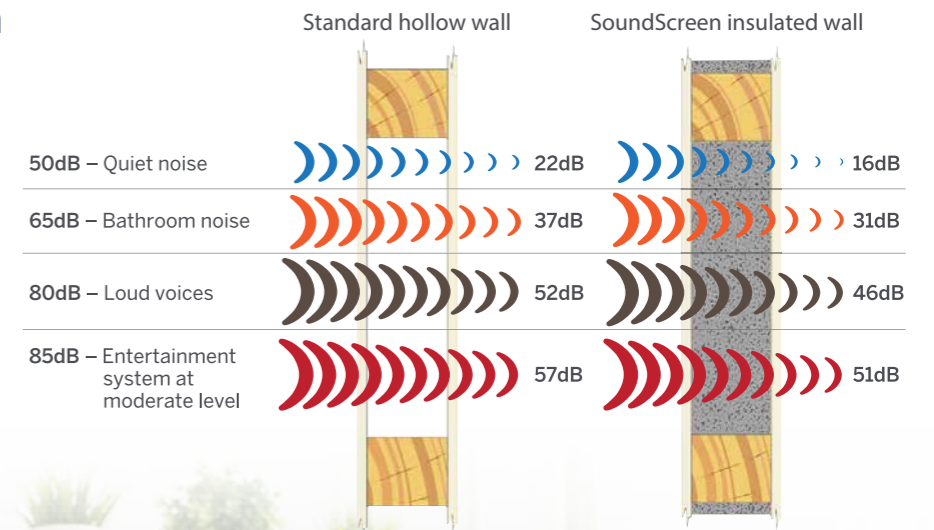
Joel Parry-Jones is an acoustic consultant who works with architects and builders to help design the acoustic comfort within residential homes.



## Bradford SoundScreen

Bradford SoundScreen is a high-density acoustic insulation that's specially engineered for internal walls in new homes. Including SoundScreen around noise affected rooms will effectively reduce loud noises to a whisper and ensure harmonious living.

Whether the internal wall is separating a bedroom from a toilet, living area from a study or laundry from a lounge room, the internal walls need to function at an acceptable acoustic level to ensure noise is kept in its place.



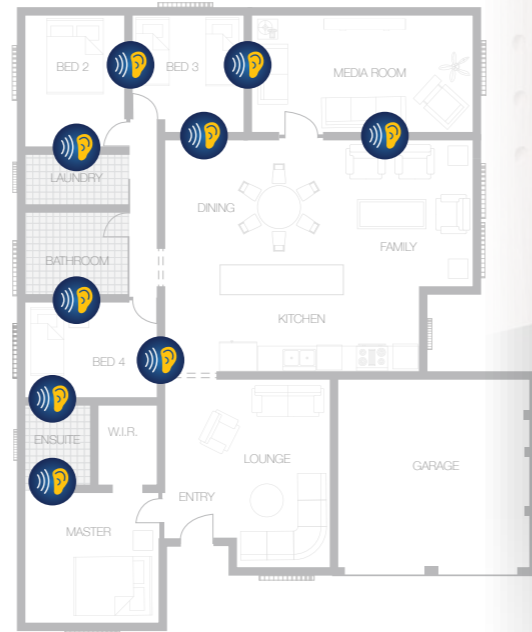
Bradford SoundScreen is approved by the National Asthma Council's Sensitive Choice® program, making it ideal for the homes of asthma and allergy sufferers.

# Take control of unwanted noise

You may choose to include acoustic insulation throughout your home or just around the rooms you feel need it most. Think about how you'll be using your home.

If you want to work from home with children in the house, creating quiet zones around bedrooms and studies will be essential. For growing families, the nursery will be an important point of focus. Stopping sound from escaping noisy areas like media rooms, rumpus rooms and even bathrooms is equally important to ensure minimal disturbance.

Bradford SoundScreen is surprisingly inexpensive. Many builders offer SoundScreen upgrades from as little as \$400 a room, making it one of the most cost-effective new home upgrades. That's a reasonable price to pay for long term peace in your new home.



*SoundScreen for internal walls*



## Unwanted noise can be a problem in many common home situations

### Adjoining kids bedrooms

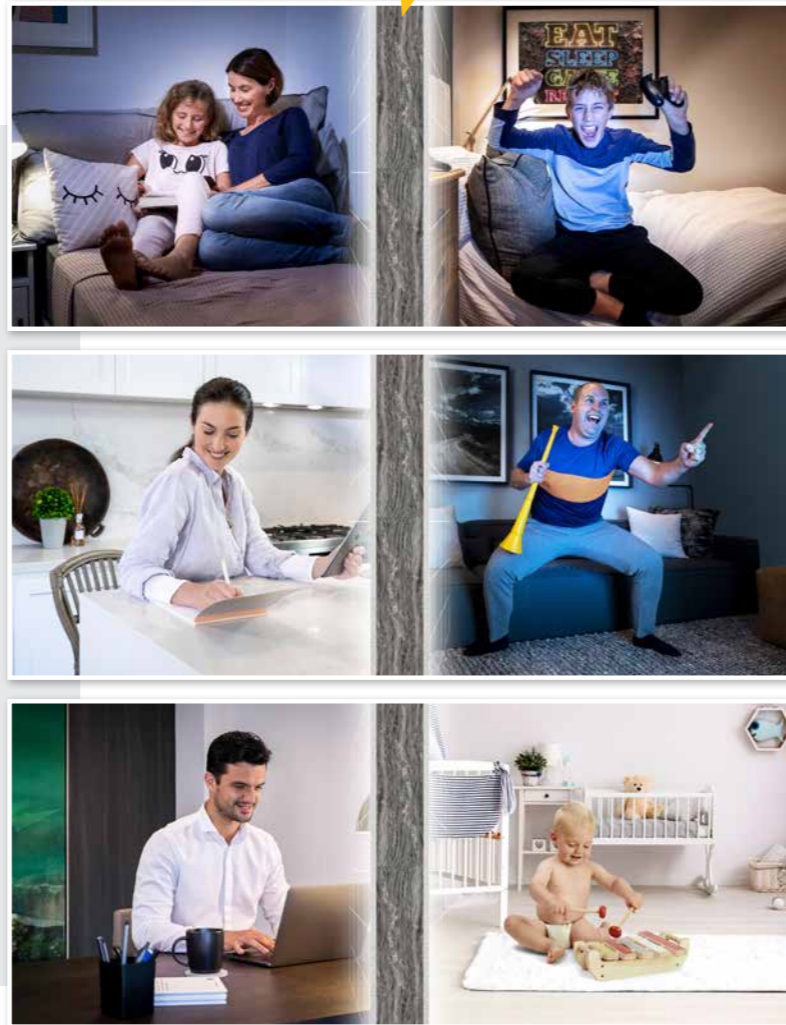
Imagine settling your youngest into bed while there's a galactic battle going on in the next room.

### Media and entertainment rooms

Imagine doing some important planning while the big game is on the big screen in the next room.

### Home offices and studies

Imagine working from home in your new study while your little one is bashing out a tune in the next room.



## Working with your builder to plan your new home

SoundScreen acoustic insulation can only be installed during construction, so the timing for a decision on including it is critical. The best time to ensure your designer or builder includes the right level of acoustic insulation in your new home is before you start building.

Remember that builders work to tight specifications and timelines, so discussing all your requirements early is crucial to ensure you're on the right path for high-level acoustic comfort. As this is an important long-term consideration for you and your family,

make sure you take control and discuss everything you want included in your new home.

While the new home planning process can differ between builders, there are typically five key stages. The Tender stage is the best time to make your builder aware of important inclusions such as SoundScreen.

While it may be possible to add SoundScreen a little later in the process, depending on your builder's timelines, be proactive and ensure you cover it off early on.

### Typical Planning Process





## Choose Bradford for Peace of Mind

When you choose Bradford SoundScreen, you can take comfort that you are choosing the best for your family.

Bradford has been making insulation for over 80 years and remains embedded within local communities, employing over 500 people across 4 manufacturing plants.



● Manufacturing Locations

### Guaranteed Performance

Our products are fully guaranteed and backed by CSR – a leader in building science and technology and one of Australia’s oldest companies.

### Environmentally Friendly

Our products help reduce your carbon footprint by reducing the amount of energy needed to heat and cool your home.

We are also sustainable in our manufacturing, using up to 80% recycled glass in the production of insulation and ensuring our processes use the latest technology to reduce waste and protect our resources and environment.

## Upgrade to Total Home Comfort

**Bradford SoundScreen is just one of a suite of products that will help you make your new home more comfortable.**

Comfort comes in many forms.



Thermal Comfort



Financial Comfort



Acoustic Comfort



Healthy Home



Peace of Mind

Take a look at the full range of Total Home Comfort products at [TotalHomeComfort.com.au](http://TotalHomeComfort.com.au)

For further information call **1300 760 233**  
or visit [SoundScreen.com.au](http://SoundScreen.com.au)



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