Innovators of Fibre Cement Products

DryBloc® 35s - High-Mass Acoustic Floating Floor Panel

Drybloc 35s Description. **Technical Datasheet**

DryBloc® 35s is a factory-laminated, high-mass floating floor panel designed to improve both airborne and impact sound insulation in lightweight floor constructions. The system combines a 22mm tongued-and-grooved (T&G) DryBloc® fibre-cement board with a DeciBloc® 3mm rubber-crumb isolation layer and a recycled acoustic fleece resilient layer, creating a stable, dense platform ready to receive a wide range of floor finishes.

By adding significant mass while controlling resonance and flanking transmission, DryBloc® 35s is intended to support compliance with UK Building Regulations for separating floors when used as part of a compatible build-up and detailing strategy.

Panel Construction (top to bottom)

1. **22mm T&G DryBloc® fibre-cement board** - high mass, moisture-robust substrate providing a smooth, stable surface.
2. **DeciBloc® 3mm rubber-crumb isolation layer** - factory-bonded to the underside of the board to reduce impact transmission and damp structure-borne vibration.
3. **Recycled acoustic fleece resilient layer** - decouples the board from the sub-deck to further limit flanking paths and tune the system's dynamic stiffness.

Advantages Of Use.

High mass + resilience to improve both **airborne** and **impact** performance in lightweight floors.
Stable surface ready for many floor finishes (carpet, LVT, engineered timber, ceramic/stone* - see Floor Finishes).
Factory-bonded layers for quality and speed on site.
Moisture-robust fibre-cement board for improved dimensional stability compared to that of cement particle board.
Recycled content in rubber-crumb and fleece layers.
UK-focused: designed to support **Approved Document E (England & Wales)**, **Section 5 (Scotland)** and **Part G (Northern Ireland)** compliance when integrated into a tested build-up with appropriate ceilings and flanking control.
Refurbishment, change-of-use and new build suitability.

Applications.

T&G 4 Overlay board suited to all subfloor types.

Standard Dimensions.

Thickness	Dimensions
35mm	1200 x 600m

Reference To Acoustic Ratings.

Set out below are acoustic test results for a typical timber floor construction. Should you require more detailed technical advice or assistance in interpreting this data for your project, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Typical Floor Construction	Airborne Sound		Impact Sound
	Site Test Result DnT,w dB	Site Test Result DnT,w + Ctr dB	Site Test Result L'nT,w dB
Drybloc 35s fitted as a structural floor onto 50mm x 225mm timber joists with 100mm 60kg/m³ mineral fibre slab in the void and 2 layers of 12.5mm plasterboard on the underside to form the ceiling.	55	47	57
As above incorporating heavy duty resilient bars to decouple the ceiling below.	58	51	47
Drybloc 35s overlaid onto 22mm timber floorboards with 100mm 60kg/m³ mineral fibre slab between timber joists and 30mm lath and plaster ceiling in good condition or single layer plasterboard.	54	46	56

Flanking Transmission.

The performance figures quoted above are based on test results for timber floors and can only be achieved where the building has been designed and constructed in line with good practice, ensuring that all potential flanking paths are eliminated.

For wall and floor constructions to perform as intended, particular care must be taken in detailing the junctions between the separating wall or floor and adjoining elements, such as external walls and any penetrations. If these junctions are not correctly detailed, the overall acoustic performance may be compromised and the relevant Building Regulation requirements may not be met in practice.

Packaging and Handling.

Drybloc 35s boards are supplied on non-returnable pallets. They should be stored indoors, under cover, in a dry and well-ventilated area. Boards must be laid flat, raised off the ground, and protected from moisture. Take particular care when handling to avoid damage to edges and surfaces.

Availability.

Drybloc 35s, Phonostrip flanking band and Cembond flexible hybrid sealant and adhesive (which also serves as an acoustic sealant and jointing adhesive) are available through a national network of stockists, distributors and builders' merchants. Further details are available on request.

Drybloc 35s — Installation Guide (All Floor Finishes, Adhesive-Only)

1. Scope

This section covers installation of all common floor finishes (LVT, vinyl sheet, rubber/linoleum, carpet, laminate, engineered timber, poured resin, ceramic/porcelain/natural stone) over Drybloc 35s (fibre-cement board with resilient fleece) using an adhesive-only method.

2. System Rules (must comply)

- Board joints: Bond every tongue & groove with Cembond flexible hybrid sealant/adhesive.
- Jointing tape: Not required on Drybloc 35s.
- Perimeter isolation: Install Phonostrip cork-polymer flanking band continuously at all perimeters, thresholds, and abutments (maintains 6–10 mm movement/isolation gap).
- Mechanical fixings: Not permitted anywhere (no screws, nails, pins, plugs, gripper tacks).
- Primer: Cembloc Primer is mandatory wherever a new bonded layer is applied. Follow the Cembloc Primer datasheet for coverage, dilution, number of coats, and drying/overcoat times.
- Uncoupling membrane (when specified for tiles): Schlüter-DITRA or equivalent, fully bonded with C2 S1, do not prime the membrane's fleece.

3. Structural Limits

- Direct to joists at up to 600 mm centres: Permitted. DryBloc 35s acts as the structural acoustic deck at joist spacings ≤ 600mm centres.
- Existing floors (overlay): Permitted over sound concrete/screed or timber decks that meet moisture and deflection limits.
- Note on tiles: The integrated resilient layers (sound-transmission + fleece) are compressible, for tiled finishes you must add a rigid load-spreading layer as specified in **8**.

4. Substrate Preparation (all cases)

- Flatness before the final finish (2 m straightedge):
  - Resilient/LVT/vinyl/poured resin: ±2 mm
  - Laminate/engineered timber/carpet: ±3 mm
  - Ceramic/stone tiles: ±3 mm
- Moisture: concrete/screed ≤ 75% RH (use a compatible surface DPM if higher), timber ≤ 16%.
- Cleanliness: firm, dry, dust-free, grease-free.
- Perimeter: fit Phonostrip before boarding/overlay and keep it clean of primer/adhesive.
- Environment: stabilise temperature and RH to typical in-service conditions (especially for timber finishes).

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5. Base Boarding (both scenarios)

1. Lay Drybloc 35s with staggered long and short joints.
2. Bond every T&G with Cembond, close joints to achieve squeeze-out, wipe excess.
3. Maintain a 6–10 mm isolation gap around the perimeter of the room using Phonostrip.
4. Prime the Drybloc 35s surface with Cembloc Primer and allow to dry per datasheet. (This precedes any leveller, backer, membrane, adhesive, or finish.)

6. Method A — Direct on Joists at 600mm centres (adhesive-only)

- Drybloc 35s functions as the structural deck. No mechanical fixings are used at any stage.

A1. Perimeter & Boarding

- Confirm joists are at **≤ 600mm centres**, level and adequately stiff, control twist with noggins as required.
- Install Phonostrip continuously.
- Lay 35s and Cembond all T&G joints as per **5**.

A2. Rigid Layer Above 35s (choose one, then tile/finish)

- **For resilient, carpet, laminate, engineered timber and resin finishes:** proceed via the matrix in **8** (typically a fibre-reinforced levelling/smoothing compound to tolerance, then the finish).
- **For ceramic/porcelain/natural stone tiles:** install a **rigid tiling layer** as specified in **8** (Thin build with leveller + uncoupling, or bonded-only cement backer boards). The rigid layer is essential to bypass the compressible acoustic/fleece layers.

7. Method B — Overlay to an Existing Floor (concrete/screed or timber)

B1. Assess & Prep

- Remove weak/loose areas, grind high spots, fill lows, verify moisture limits.

B2. Prime the Existing Substrate

- Apply Cembloc Primer to the existing floor (concrete/screed/timber) as specified.

B3. Bond Drybloc 35s (adhesive-only)

- Full-bed C2 S1 (or continuous ribbons of an elastic construction adhesive where appropriate).
- Cembond all T&G joints, maintain Phonostrip perimeter.

B4. Prime 35s & Build Up

- Prime the 35s surface with Cembloc Primer.
- Proceed with the Thin build or Bonded backer overlay routes exactly as described in Method A (above), then install the chosen finish from **8**.

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8. Finish Selection Matrix (above Cembloc-primed 35s)

Finish type	Required build-up above primed 35s	Notes (adhesives & thicknesses)
LVT / Luxury vinyl tile	Fibre-reinforced smoothing compound 5–10 mm → (prime if required) → LVT in approved adhesive	Achieve ±2 mm flatness. Use high-temperature acrylic where UFH/solar gain applies.
Vinyl sheet	Smoothing compound 5–10 mm → (prime if required) → vinyl in approved adhesive	Roll to remove air. Flash-cove with compatible cove former, bond only.
Rubber / Linoleum	Smoothing compound 5–10 mm → (prime if required) → finish in approved adhesive	Observe open times carefully.
Carpet (textile)	Smoothing compound 3–6 mm → double-stick system (bond underlay to leveller, bond carpet to underlay)	If gripper is required, use adhesive-bonded gripper (no pins). Skirtings bonded only.
Laminate (floating)	Smoothing compound 3–6 mm → acoustic underlay (bonded) → laminate floated	Tape/lock underlay joints per system, maintain expansion above Phonostrip
Engineered timber (floating)	Smoothing compound 3–6 mm → acoustic underlay (bonded) → boards floated	Acclimatise boards, respect manufacturer's expansion allowances.
Engineered timber (fully bonded)	Smoothing compound 5–10 mm → approved elastic wood adhesive → boards	Use elastomeric/modified-silane adhesive compatible with the primed leveller.
Poured resin (epoxy/PU/MMA)	Smoothing compound 6–12 mm (or system-approved scratch coat) → resin system	Prime DryBloc 35s, then use the resin maker's primers on the cured leveller.
Ceramic/porcelain/ natural stone	Option A: Smoothing compound 8–12 mm → (prime if required) → uncoupling membrane (*Schlüter-DITRA or equivalent*) → C2 S1/S2 → tile. Option B: Bonded cement backer boards 6–12 mm → C2 S1/S2 → tile.	No screws. Use backers only if rated for bonded-only installation. Large-format/stone: favour C2 S2.

Levellers: fibre-reinforced, cement-based, compressive strength **≥ 30–35 MPa**. Always prime interfaces as required (Cembloc on Drybloc 35s, follow leveller manufacturer for subsequent coats).

9. Adhesives & Primers (summary)

- Primer (mandatory): Cembloc Primer on 35s and wherever specified, observe dry-to-bond windows.
- Tile adhesive: C2 S1 (or C2 S2 for large format/stone/UFH).
- Resilient/carpet adhesives: follow floor covering manufacturer, select high-temperature grades where UFH/solar gain applies.
- Timber adhesive (fully bonded): elastomeric/modified-silane type, compatible with the primed leveller.
- Resin primers: use the resin system's primers over the cured leveller (Cembloc remains on 35s).
- Uncoupling membranes: bond with C2 S1, do not prime the fleece face.

10. Movement Joints & Edges

- Perimeter: maintained by Phonostrip (6–10 mm). Keep primer/adhesive off Phonostrip faces.
- Internal fields (tiles/resin): joints every 8–10 m each way (tighten to 5–8 m with underfloor heating or strong solar gain).
- Structural/expansion joints: continue through all layers to the finished surface.
- Where Schlüter-DITRA or equivalent is used as part of a waterproof build-up: seal all laps, seams, and upstands with the membrane manufacturer's approved tapes and accessories.

11. Underfloor Heating (UFH)

- Electric mats: locate above the rigid layer (within the leveller or above bonded backer, below any uncoupling). Embed in adhesive/leveller as specified.
- Water systems: position within/below the structural layer, pressure-test before finishes.
- Commissioning: only after full cures, increase temperature gradually over 7 days.

12. Acoustic Integrity — Key Notes

- Maintain continuous Phonostrip and avoid rigid bridges at perimeters/penetrations.
- Bond skirtings, thresholds and trims with adhesive, do not fasten mechanically through the system.
- For heavy point loads (pianos, island legs, castors), provide load-spreader pads beneath the finish to protect the acoustic/resilient layers.

13. Wet Areas

- Over the rigid layer, apply a liquid-applied waterproofing where specified. Use system-compatible primer if required. Reinforce at changes of plane and penetrations. Tile after full cure.

14. Prohibitions & Critical Notes

- Do not install finishes directly onto the fleece-faced 35s without the listed rigid layers (where applicable).
- No mechanical fixings at any stage.
- No jointing tape at 35s board joints.
- Ensure chosen levellers, backer boards, membranes, and adhesives are compatible with Cembloc Primer and the adhesive-only method.

15. “Equivalent” Definition (for uncoupling membranes)

For substitution, “equivalent” means an uncoupling membrane that:

1. is designed for full adhesive bond (no mechanical fixings),
2. provides uncoupling/crack-bridging and vapour pressure relief comparable to Schlüter-DITRA,
3. is compatible with Cembloc Primer below and C2-class deformable tile adhesives above, and
4. has a manufacturer-approved waterproof seam-taping system where required.

16. Site Sign-Off Checklist

- [ ] Joist spacing confirmed (600mm centres) or structure engineered to meet deflection criteria.
- [ ] Phonostrip fitted continuously, 6–10 mm perimeter isolation maintained and clean.
- [ ] All T&G joints bonded with Cembond, squeeze-out observed/cleaned.
- [ ] Cembloc Primer applied wherever bonding occurs, correct coats and dry times observed.
- [ ] Flatness achieved for the chosen finish (see §4).
- [ ] Moisture within limits, DPM used where required and compatible.
- [ ] Selected intermediate layers (leveller/backer/underlay/membrane) are bonded-only compatible.
- [ ] Finish installed per manufacturer guidance, movement/expansion details formed.
- [ ] For membranes: laps/seams/upstands sealed per system (where waterproofing is specified).

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Material Safety (MSDS).

Health And Safety Best Practises.

Dust: When processing the boards, for example, cutting, drilling, sanding etc, these will generate dust. As a result, attention should be paid to the dust particles generated and measures put in place to minimise their effect. Please process the boards in a well ventilated area with the use of localised extraction to avoid dust inhalation.

Skin Contact:

- **Acute Effect:** The dust from these products may cause irritation of the skin due to friction but is not absorbed through the skin.
- **Precautions**: Direct contact with dust and debris should be avoided by wearing full body covering overalls. .
- **Measures taken if effect experienced:** Wash thoroughly with soap and water.

Ingestion:

- **Effect:** When processing, the dust may affect food and beverages, indigestion of the dust may result in abdominal discomfort.
- **Precautions**: Do not attempt to eat the board, put the board near the face and avoid touching your face and mouth when previously dealt with the board.
- **Measures taken if effect experienced:** Ingestion is unlikely due to product size. However should this occur, seek medical attention immediately.

Inhaled:

- **Effect:** The dust from processing may cause irritation of nose, throat, lung and cause coughing and sneezing via breath.
- **Precautions**: During dry cutting ,drilling, routing , sanding and any continuous handling where dust is generated, used an approved particulate dust mask .
- **Measures taken if effect experienced:** Go into a open area with plenty of air circulation outdoors and drink plenty of water, until acute effects have gone.

If any acute effects persist, seek medical attention immediately.

Handling Requirements.

Minimise the dust generation at the workplace. When there is cutting, sawing, sanding or grinding during the installation and handling of this product, it should be carried out at well ventilated area (e.g. outdoor, open-area). Work area should be cleaned regularly by wet sweeping or vacuuming.

Cembloc panels are stacked on timber pallets. The boards must be stored in a ventilated and dry environment on a flat, level surface protected from contamination. To avoid excessive flexing of the boards, long edges must be supported when lifting and handling.

Storage:

Store in a dry well ventilated area. The boards should be protected from excessive humidity and temperature changes, such as rain, sun, wind and moisture. The boards must always be stored on flat level surface.

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Contact us.

Let’s talk about your project.

We are proud of our reputation for excellent service.
Whether you require, part or full load deliveries, our team will make sure we do everything possible to help you and your project, as together we can build better.

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