

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Five helpful hints for soundproofing your condo.

Chatty neighbours, slamming doors, the “ping” that announces the arrival of the elevator. Depending on your circumstances and where your suite is in the building or complex, life in a condo can be less than peaceful. Complete soundproofing may be outside the Scope and Budget for many owners, but there are a few less expensive and invasive ways to minimize noise reflection and transfer.

Bookcases

Built-in furniture such as bookcases and media units are a great way to personalize your space and create a buffer between you and the world around you. Storage cabinets are another way to add density and mass to your wall to help absorb exterior sound.

Area Rugs

An area rug will not revolutionize the noise levels in your suite, but they can help to limit the ambient noise bouncing off hardwood floors as well as noise transfer between floors. While specifically engineered sound absorbing rugs do exist, any thick rug with properly rated under-pad will make a difference. As will drapery, upholstered furniture, and throw cushions.

Soundproof Panels

Materials have been developed with properties that make them better at absorbing sound. Mass-Loaded Vinyl, a dense material embedded with small metal particles, can significantly reduce sound. Acoustic panels and foam are another way to block noise and reduce vibrations.

White Noise

Noise machines are another way of drowning-out noise from outside your condo. And they’re less restrictive than wearing earplugs. Select a model with a variety of settings so you can tailor the sounds to your space for maximum benefit.

Door + Window Seals

Plenty of noise gets through the gaps around your doors and windows. Eliminating these unwanted sources of noise pollution is critical to sound – and weather – proofing your home. Draft stoppers and black-out curtains can also be effective at reducing noise.

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