

# Acoustical Resource

## Key Terminology

<b>NRC Rating:</b>	The NRC rating, Noise Reduction Coefficient, is a measurement of sound absorption by the wallcovering being tested. The greater the number, the greater the sound absorption. The ratings are typically figured with the material installed over gypsum board and acoustical backer board.
<b>ASTM E-84:</b>	The accepted government tunnel test to classify the material as having a Class “A” flame rating. All acoustical wallcoverings carried by MDC carry a Class “A” rating.
<b>Flame Spread:</b>	A classification of the extent of the material contributing to the spread of an existing fire situation. The higher the flame spread rating, the greater the fire spread potential. The number system ranges from 0 – 100, with cement board as a 0 and red oak flooring as 100.
<b>Smoke Developed:</b>	A classification of the extent of the material contributing to the smoke development in the same situation. The higher the smoke developed rating, the greater the amount of smoke generated.
<b>UBC 8-2:</b>	Formerly known as the UBC 42-2 or Phoenix Corner Burn test. The material being tested for a UBC 8-2 rating is mounted vertically as opposed to the horizontal mounting in the ASTM E-84 test. This test more accurately simulates the material under actual conditions. Only two acoustical wallcoverings carried by MDC carry a UBC 8-2 rating.
<b>Latex Backing:</b>	The wallcovering is held together by a liquid latex coating applied to the back of the material.
<b>Radiant Fusion Backing:</b>	The wallcovering is held together by a process in which the fibers are heated to their melting point and fuse together before cooling and hardening.