

# IMPACT RESISTANCE & HIGH WEAR AREAS

**When is Supawood suitable or not suitable for these types of areas?**

Supawood panels have good impact resistance and are suitable for most high wear areas. There are some situations, though, where consideration needs to be given to protecting panels. These situations are explained below.

Impact resistance – this is typically required for ball courts or sports centres, where wall panels can be hit hard by large heavy sports balls from close distance. Supacoustic is suitable for wall panels but only in slots no longer than 200mm, or in perforations.

Note that anything can be used for ceilings as the velocity of a ball reduces so much when directed upwards it is very unlikely to have accidental damage this way.

Impact resistance is not the same as scratch resistance. Some finishes have good impact resistance but poor scratch resistance and vice versa. Scratch resistance is typically required for horizontal surfaces, where persons may rub coins, IT equipment, etc over a counter or furniture top. Supawood does not recommend its finishes for horizontal applications like this.

For maximum scratch resistance, Supawood recommends our Supametal solid and woodgrain finishes on aluminium. These also have the longest warranty of 15 years.

High wear areas – Wear in high traffic areas can be reduced or improved by installing dado rails or crash barriers/ handrails, as is often done in shopping centres and train stations to reduce impact of trolleys and wheeled suitcases.

Note typical wall panels in high traffic areas are suitable in any form, but corner protection is needed for external corners which tend to be bumped.