JOIN THE ECOPHON SOLOTM DESIGN CHALLENGE

Make design history! SOUND SCIENCE



Do you constantly search for new ways to express your design visions? For new functional elements that can carry aesthetic impact? But you don't want them readymade, all designed by someone else? Now there is a brand new opportunity – an acoustic solution with unique design freedom. You can create your own design feature, by exploring shapes, colours, light fittings, hole cutting, installation ways and more. Meet Ecophon Solo[™] and join the design challenge.



ONE BASELINE – FOUR STORIES

With Ecophon Solo you can create your own design, and really add something extra to your interior setting. To provide you with some inspiration, we asked four interior designers from different countries to give it a go. Here you can read their stories.

What is your story?



By Xavier Chabrol CCD ARCHITECTURE, France



Sweet brownie By Peter Joehnk JOI-Design, Germany



By John Trenaman Clague Architects, United Kingdom



Universe By Nina and Håkan Corneliusson Basco Interiör, Sweden

SOUND SCIENCE

A professionally designed room supports the wellbeing of its habitants. Acoustics play a big role here, and should therefore be considered as important as any other element in that space. For example – good acoustics in a school support learning, in a hospital they support better sleep and faster recovery, and in an office they support working spirit and performance.

- Sound is formed variations in air pressure, and humans are highly sensitive to even the slightest of fluctuations.
- Our hearing is perfectly suited to life outdoors, so we need to simulate exterior acoustic conditions indoors. By adding sound absorption to a room, we can lower noise levels, improve communication and minimize fatigue.
- Interior spaces are filled with sounds we want to hear and sounds we would rather block out. Good acoustics let us take control of the sound energy in a room.
- To absorb sound, a material needs to be porous like a sponge – it must literally soak up noise. Good sound-absorbing materials are labeled "Absorption Class A".
- The experience of sound is multidimensional, comprising reverberation and echoes, sound levels, clarity of speech and the transmission of sound throughout a space.
- To know how much sound absorption is needed, you must determine its purpose. It's all about balancing the different aspects of the room: function (activity), the occupants (people) and the space itself (room).
- Free-hanging units like Ecophon Solo are extremely efficient sound absorbers, since both sides of the panels are put to use.





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Cognitive By John Trenaman Clague Architects, United Kingdom

This proposal is designed to be entertaining and target a younger audience. The design utilizes cogs cut from a standard panel. It is envisaged that the units would be hung in similar levels to each other, forming a mechanical clockwork feature. The cogs cover the entire ceiling and are produced in several bright colours. I pictured the services exposed against a painted black structure, giving an industrial feel. This void above the panels can also be up-lighted to add to the overall effect and help highlight the panels. The centre cut out has been designed to allow a circular fitting to be placed without further cutting or interruption to the pattern."



ECOPHON'S REFLECTIONS ON THE CREATION

This design concept uses the well known form of a cogwheel, in a group installation where the elements together visually creates something more, a larger entity, than the single shape – and also draws the thought towards passage of time. The concept uses the Ecophon Solo Freedom possibilities of cutting a unique shape, to use different colours, to cut holes and as carrier of a lighting source.

Two of the five cogwheels have a hole where simple light fittings are placed. The rest of the cogs also have holes, for intensifying the shapes' characteristics and further highlighting the exciting shadow play in the ceiling. This design installation is very easy to install, and created to be an interior design element, interacting with the rest of the atmosphere.

ECOPHON'S REFLECTIONS ON THE CREATION

LENITY OF LIGHT

This design concept is exploring the possibility of playing with the contrasts of hardness and softness. The elements' shapes are square and solid, while the soft, matching colours and the holes add a smooth and gentle look.

The four panels have a beige colour and painted sides in a matching, brown colour. All the panels have a cut out hole, where the inner sides are also painted in the brown colour. One of the holes is equipped with a light fitting that comes down the hole and then turns up against the element, illuminating it directly. With its glossy, chrome plated surface and LED technology, the lamp is a detail that adds a playful, flirty feeling, and also makes the installation a sophisticated lighting experience. The panel is used as a reflector of light, which opens up for creating different types of lighting ambiances in a room.

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Sweet brownie

"The difference of an acoustic panel and a flat real ceiling is that the suspended pieces of acoustic material can be seen three dimensional. So for me the volume of the Solo element is important and needs to be shown. This is the reason why I wanted the edges to have a different colour than the main surface. And then thinking further, what an acoustic element could do in a three dimensional space, I added two extra values – atmosphere and lighting. Especially by using an indirect lighting fixture, which highlights the acoustic panel, it becomes more important and visible. Functionally it gives light to the room but also the panel itself then needs to be attractive and decorative. And as I strongly believe that premises for people should be warm and cosy (but also could be representative and impressive, by using blue or gold) I chose beige and brown for my Solo element and immediately it was called "brownie". So the short description would be "Sweet brownie with a hungry worm looking out".

By Peter Joehnk JOI-Design, Germany







"In most ancient languages, grammar punctuation did not exist. There, everybody expressed themselves as bloggers on the Internet today – discussions were polluted with confusions and misunderstandings. In 1541, François 1:er eats his breakfast in blooming Renaissance. Between two chicken wings, he pays a look at a book called Punctuation de la langue Françoyse, which Etienne Dolet has just published. Etienne was a good guy, who wanted the people to talk properly. He wanted the French language to be noble and that the written word served the spoken word. Therefore, he listed the signs meant to give rhythm to sentences, out of which the very French soupir (whisper) and comma. The birth och the comma was then a fact."







ECOPHON'S REFLECTIONS ON THE CREATION

This design concept is created around the thought of using a symbol as an attractive element, and also as a message supporting a certain atmosphere. The designer has used Ecophon Solo Freedom panels, and cut them in a soft, symmetrical shape of a comma. Simple measures are used to create a striking symbol – of the French revelation of the comma sign.

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These soft shaped comma signs, hanging in different levels and angles, create a room setting with natural dynamics – almost like a pleasant rhythm in the room, filled with caressing beauty and sensuality. The use of different levels and angles adds to the distinguished, somewhat feminine effect, especially when light setting is placed to create exciting and unexpected shadows in the room. In this creation all the elements are white and a further exploration of this design approach would be to use one or more colours, to create powerful design effects in relation to the room.



ECOPHON'S REFLECTIONS ON THE CREATION

This design concept demands its space and recalls a more spectacular art installation. The concept explores many of the possibilities of Ecophon Solo Regular by using standard panels, the cutting of holes and the placing of lighting. The basic installation is a cluster of five large circles and four smaller circles, hanged together in different heights and creating a floating, spacey atmosphere. All the elements are white, but complemented with LED light chains that can change colour. The colour flexibility can be used to completely alter the room's atmosphere, giving it a glow from different colours. The red and blue light gives a strong colour impact affecting the whole room, while orange, green or yellow light gives a softer, more subtle ambience. The round lamp in the middle element, easily placed by penetrating the panels, creates the obvious energy centre of the installation.

This whole creation is designed to allow the integration of all types of installations trough or in the elements, for example lighting, speakers, fire protection like sprinklers or detectors, surveillance and ventilation.



The designers has choosen to work with Philips solution called iColor Cove MX Powercore with the Smart Interface, UID8540 TOBETOUCHED .



By Nina and Håkan Corneliusson Basco Interiör, Sweden

"We see a heaven, a universe with planets and stars that lights the sky, and the sun that shines down on our earth. The heaven is also a place with an acoustic harmony. The thought behind our design is to create a light, warm and silent atmosphere."









DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Already in 1995 Ecophon, as the first acoustical ceiling company, was granted the Nordic Swan eco-label.
- Our products consists of more than 70% of household glass and recycled glass wool.
- We have developed our waste management process that takes care of all glass wool waste in our production.
- EcoDrain[™] is a product made of our waste and is today used as drainage layer in landfills.
- By using "bag-in box" container, we have reduced paint waste and decreased our water consumption.
- We will decrease our energy consumption with 25% by 2020, based on our "index acoustic panel".
- All our steel waste is disposed of and recycled.
- Ecophon Solo absorbers have undergone a third-party audit which provides documented certainty with respect to the indoor environment requirements.









A SOUND EFFECT ON PEOPLE

www.ecophon.com