Architecture Research Office Collection

filzfelt

About Architecture Research Office

Architecture Research Office is the New York City firm led by Stephen Cassell, Kim Yao, and Adam Yarinsky. Founded in 1993, ARO has earned a reputation for elegant, innovative, and imaginative architecture born out of relentless exploration and engagement.

Through investigation, analysis, and testing, Architecture Research Office creates designs that unite the conceptual and the pragmatic within a strong, compelling vision. This research-driven process enables the firm to operate on a wide variety of projects spanning strategic planning, architecture, and urban design, and to craft elegant solutions to seemingly intractable problems. From a 1,000-square-foot, low-income, sustainable housing prototype to a proposal to reinvent the role of ecology and infrastructure in New York City, ARO's work is materially sensuous, intellectually rigorous, and socially engaging.

Architecture Research Office received the 2011 Cooper-Hewitt National Design Award for Architecture, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters honored the firm with their 2010 Academy Award for Architecture. The firm's work has been exhibited widely and is in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum.

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Natural Material Story

Manufactured in Germany—where the history of FilzFelt's felt mill goes back 155 years—wool felt is one of the oldest man-made textiles. To produce felt, raw wool undergoes a wet felting process that involves matting, condensing and pressing the fibers. Felting, the natural characteristic of most animal fur to entangle and form matts, creates a textile superior to synthetic fibers. Natural characteristics include an inherent durability and resilience, excellent dye ability producing highly saturated colors, and natural flame resistance.

A high standard of dye processes in Germany and content of 100% wool make this product biodegradable and earth friendly. Felt also has a life cycle that is substantially longer than other synthetic materials. And since wool felt is made of sheep's wool and viscous staple fibers, this means that after the felt product has been used or become worn out, it can be disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner as it is 100% biodegradable.

“Intellectually engaging and materially sensuous design creates a resonance between idea and form.”

– Architecture Research Office

Martha’s Vineyard House by Architecture Research Office

Custom ARO Plank 1 Bench in 170 Asche and Custom Red, ARO Array 4 Hanging Panels in 170 Asche, + ARO Plank 3 in 170 Asche

Architecture Research Office Collection

As workplaces become more open, enable multiple work styles, and foster collaboration, controlling sound and minimizing distractions becomes essential. The Architecture Research Office Collection combines the natural beauty of 100% Wool Design Felt with repetition and pattern to create acoustic architectural finishes that are elegant and easy to install. Solutions for the wall, ceiling, and dividing space allow acoustic and privacy customization by combining standard components.

ARO Block, Plank, and Shingle evoke movement and are quietly animated by light and shadow. Composed of 100% Wool Design Felt mounted to high-performing acoustic substrates, these wall systems enable variation across large areas by combining standard modules. ARO Baffle provides optimal acoustic absorption and creates subtle patterning across the ceiling. And a reinterpretation of FilzFelt's standard Hanging Panels, ARO Array investigates stasis and movement with transformational geometric patterns that provide varying privacy. Combined with the Hanging Panel Track System, the panels provide different degrees of privacy and enable flexible space division with visual and acoustic separation.

The ARO Collection is a 2015 Interior Design HiP Performance Wonder award winner.

ARO Block 1 in 102 Kirsche,105 Rost + 116 Orange

ARO Block

ARO Block is a series of modular acoustic tiles that add sound control in a customizable, easy-to-install system. Available in several standard shapes inspired by geometry, spoke systems, and architectural shingles and cladding, ARO Block tiles are 100% Wool Design Felt mounted to an über-thin 10mm acoustic substrate. 63 wool felt color options allow for endless configurations and one-of-a-kind sound softening solutions that install wall-to-wall or in small areas to add color, texture, and unique patterning. ARO Block arose out of a need to resuse post-industrial remnant material at FilzFelt's manufacturing facility. This material is generated from FilzFelt's CNC cut products and projects and tends to be narrow strips that require smaller or modular products.

ARO Block 3 in 272 Royal,
284 Himmel, 286 H'Blau + 423 Hellgrau

ARO Block 2 in 377 Maigrun, 378 Oliv,
423 Hellgrau + 425 Taubengrau

ARO Block 4.1 + 4.2 in 170 Asche, 175 Graphit +
274 Senf

ARO Plank

ARO Plank is a wall system composed of modular planks that assemble to create standard patterns, yielding a continuous, acoustically absorptive architectural finish. Modules that are composed of felt-covered acoustic substrate and available in four standard configurations. The planks install quickly and easily with FilzFelt's Interlock Mounting System and are available in 63 colors of 100% Wool Design Felt.

The ARO Collection is an 2014 Interior Design HiP Performance Wonder award winner.

ARO Plank 4 in 170 Asche

ARO Plank 1 in 613 Gletscher

ARO Plank 2 in 686 Enzian

ARO Shingle

ARO Shingle is a wall system composed of individual courses that create a continuous, shingled effect when patterned across a larger surface. ARO Shingle 1 has two distinct tile profiles and the tile rows are offset to create multiple pattern readings. The tiles overlap each other vertically and horizontally and an acoustic substrate backs each tile. Courses attach to vertical strapping with FilzFelt's Interlock Mounting System and choose from a wide range of colors to create endless patterning with the individual shingles.

ARO Shingle 1 in 150 Weiß. 170 Asche,
175 Graphit, 200 Natur + 300 Anthrazit

ARO Baffle

ARO Baffle is a felt ceiling system that adds texture, color, and acoustic performance to any space. The system is composed of individual, acoustically absorptive baffles with chamfered edge detail that combine to create a continuous, open ceiling. Individual baffles can be arranged at varied spacing allowing the integration of lighting and mechanical systems and are available in 63 colors.

26 ARO Array 2 in 170 Asche

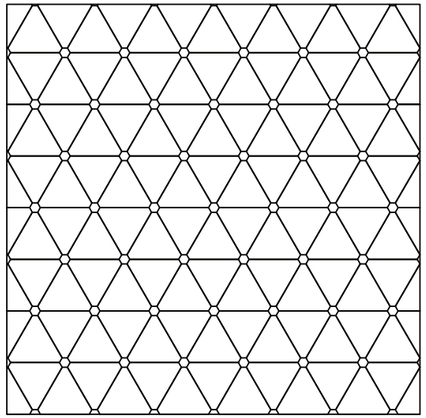
ARO Array

As workplaces become more open, enable multiple work styles, and foster collaboration, controlling sound and minimizing distractions becomes essential. The Architecture Research Office Collection combines the natural beauty of 100% Wool Design Felt with repetition and pattern to a series of hanging panels designed to allow acoustic and privacy customization.

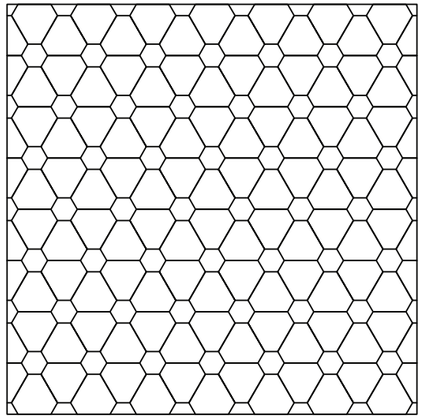
A reinterpretation of FilzFelt's standard Hanging Panels, ARO Array investigates stasis and movement with transformational geometric patterns that can be used individually or in series. Combined with FilzFelt's Hanging Panel Track System, the panels provide different degrees of privacy and enable flexible space division with visual and acoustic separation.

ARO Array 1 in 170 Asche

ARO Array 4 in 170 Asche



ARO Block 1



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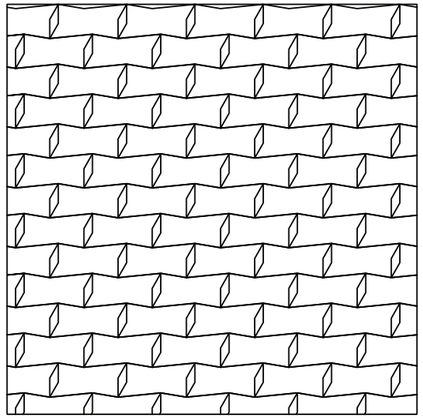

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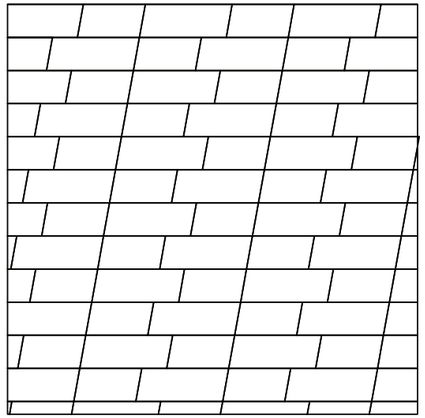

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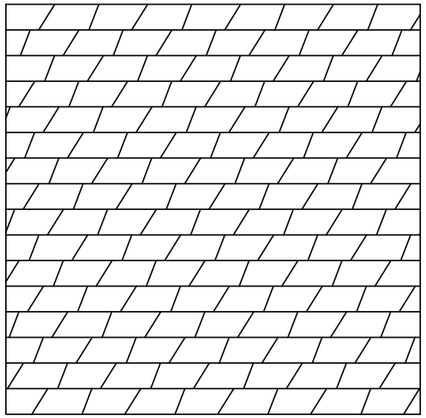
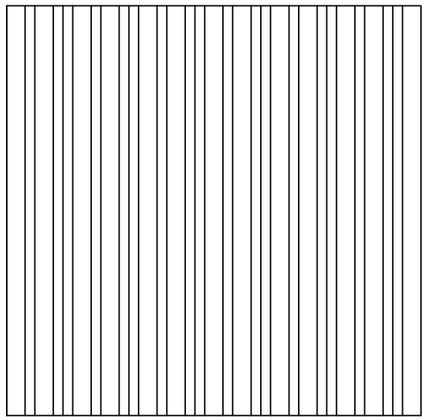


ARO Shingle 1



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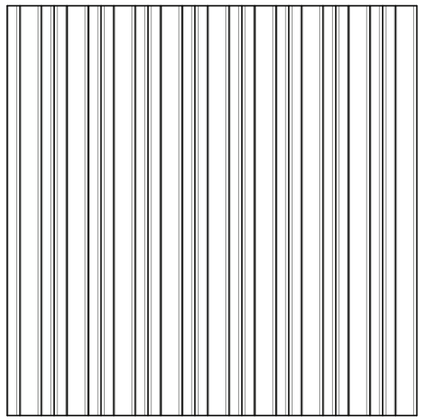

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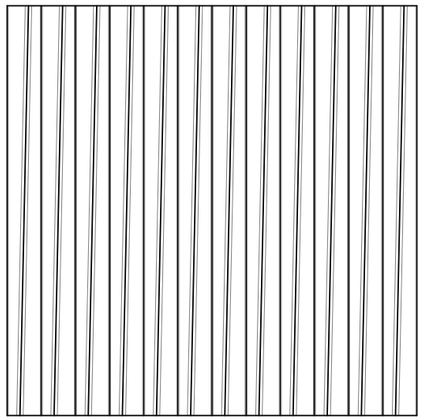

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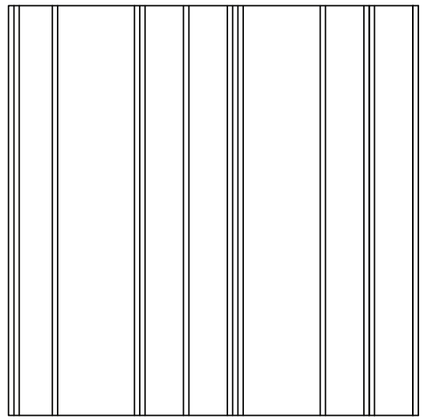

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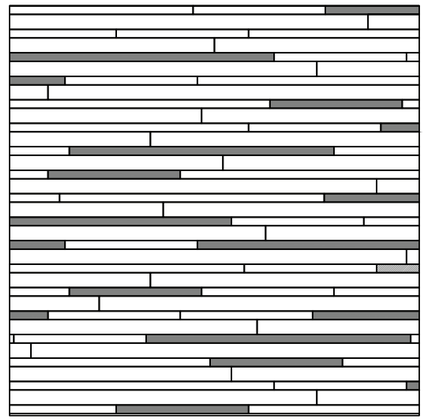

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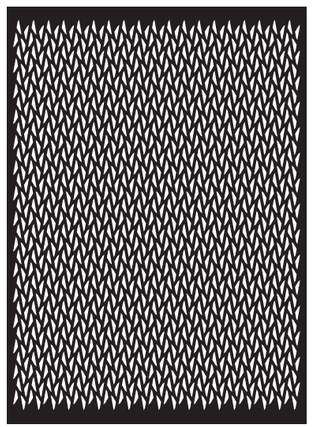
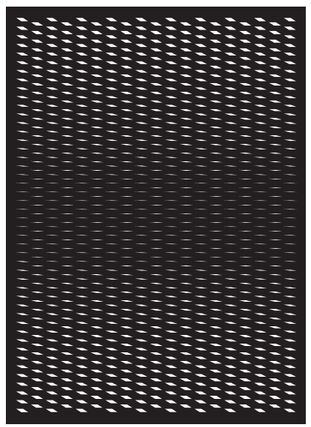


ARO Array 1



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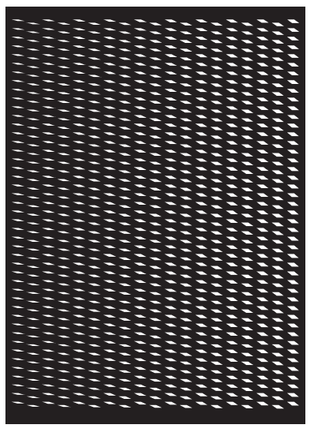

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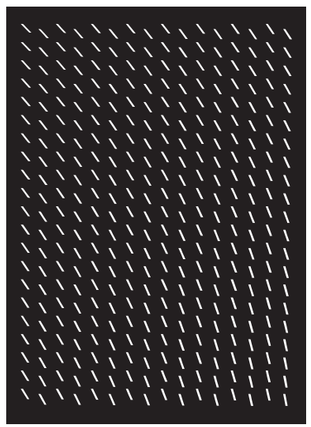

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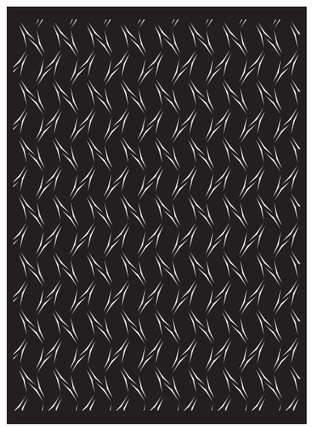

ARO Array 5

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