

KLEPPER consultants
MARSHALL in
KING acoustics

96 Harlem Avenue
White Plains, NY 10603
914-761-8595

Mr. Ron Eisenhour
Eisenhour Church Furnishings

Dear Mr. Eisenhour:

Our usual recommendation for church pews includes the use of pew cushions or upholstered seats, plus possibly the front of the pew or seat backs. We do not recommend upholstery on the rear of the backs, because we believe such additional upholstery adversely affects congregational singing and responses.

Where we do recommend upholstery, we recommend that the covering fabric be "breathable", that it pass air. Mohair would be acceptable; leather would not. The filling material should have an open cellular structure. Pile, kapok, pin-foam rubber, and reconstituted foam rubber are acceptable, while ordinary foam rubber may not be.

The main acoustical purpose of the pew cushions or upholstered pews is to stabilize the reverberation time characteristics of the church, so the church does not become too reverberant for good speech intelligibility during periods of reduced occupancy. We normally design churches on the reverberant side, for good music acoustics, so the value of the pews or seats is particularly important.

There are exceptions in the cases of very small churches or churches that are simply too dry and non-reverberant. For these churches we recommend all-hard seats or pews; but these churches are in the minority.

I hope that this is the material you need and that your questions are answered.

Sincerely,

KMK ASSOCIATES, LTD

David L. Klepper
DLK/dms