



Frequently Asked Questions

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a Run or Dye Lot Number?

Each time a specific color design of a wall covering pattern is run by a wall covering press, it is given a Run or Lot number. Although most people never need to know the lot number, if you run short of wall covering to complete the job, it is best to get the same run number for an exact colour match. If for some reason the pattern is no longer available in your run number, you can still finish the job. But for optimal results, the new run number should be kept on a single wall avoiding two long strips of two different runs being hung side by side.

What is a Pattern Match & Repeat?

Most automated presses print wall covering using an imprinted cylinder that repeats the design, creating both a vertical and horizontal pattern repeat. The horizontal repeat is created to match from strip to strip, and the vertical repeat allows for a design to print on the reel in endless repetition. How distance between pattern repeats and how it is designed to match from strip to strip is important to know for installation purposes.

What is the difference between Pre-Pasted & Un-Pasted

Pre-pasted coverings have dried paste incorporated into the back surface that is activated with moisture. Un-pasted coverings require wet paste to be applied separately during installation. Whether a wallpaper is pre-pasted or un-pasted is mostly a matter of preference and tradition. Wall coverings that are intended to be installed by non-professionals are usually pre-pasted, eliminating the trouble of purchasing and applying paste. On the other hand, professional paperhangers generally prefer to paste the coverings they hang. In reality, many paperhangers install pre-pasted coverings and do-it-yourselfers install un-pasted papers. The appropriate installation instructions are enclosed with each type.

How do I determine how many Rolls I need?

Distance Around Room	*Ceiling Height			
	8 ft/2,44 m	9 ft/2,74 m	10 ft/3,05 m	12 ft/3,66 m
24 ft/7,3 m	4	5	6	7
28 ft/8,5 m	5	6	6	8
32 ft/9,8 m	6	7	7	9
36 ft/11 m	7	7	8	10
40 ft/12,2 m	7	8	9	11
44 ft/13,4 m	8	9	10	12
48 ft/14,6 m	9	10	11	13
52 ft/15,8 m	10	11	12	14
56 ft/17 m	10	11	12	15
60 ft/18,3 m	11	12	13	16
64 ft/19,5 m	11	13	14	17
68 ft/20,7 m	12	14	15	18
72 ft/21,9 m	13	14	16	19

Deduct one bolt for every 4 openings - door or windows - of average size.

*If you have a chair railing or wainscoting, adjust your wall height according by measuring from the rail to the ceiling.

What is the best Starting Point in a room to begin my Wallpaper Installation?

Since your starting and stopping point is the only place in the room that is unlikely to match, it is important to start your job in the least visible corner of the room. A good place to start is usually in the corner that is closest to the entryway.

What do the Instructions mean when they talk about 'Booking' the Paper?

Depending on type, wall covering can expand its width up to 1/4 inch/0,6 cm. To avoid expansion on the wall, which can cause bubbling and wrinkles, it is necessary to "book" the covering and allow expansion before hanging. Booking means folding the covering onto itself for several minutes, "paste-to-paste," to allow the covering to relax before applying it to the wall. Book un-pasted covering immediately after applying paste; book pre-pasted covering immediately after dipping in water. This allows the covering to fully expand, relaxing its curl, and in the case of a pre-pasted covering, it allows the pre-paste to fully activate. Exceptions to the booking recommendation are for our 'non-woven' wall coverings which, because of their composition, do not expand or contract when wet.

What is the difference between Primer and Sizing? Why do I need to use it?

Primer is a protectant/sealer for your wall which prevents the paste from absorbing into porous surfaces, and allows the paste to grip on slick surfaces. Sizing provides additional grip for better adherence and more slip for ease of sliding each strip into position on the wall. Many products on the market today are a combination sealer/sizer. These one-step 'universal' wall covering primers are easier to use and are formulated to work on a variety of surfaces under varying conditions. Sealing the surface is also an important procedure to allow for future removal.

Can I apply paste to Pre-Pasted Wall Covering?

Pre-pasted wall covering are imbued with dried paste that activates when moistened. The moisture from a wet paste will also activate the dried paste on a pre-pasted wallpaper. So, yes, you can paste a pre-pasted covering. Just one caution: Use a thin paste to uniformly activate the dried paste. Otherwise, you could be left with some dry pockets and may negate the strippability feature of the pre-pasted covering. If you are pasting because you prefer that method of installing over the use of a water box, we suggest you also consider using a pre-paste activator. An activator is applied like a paste, but is specifically designed to properly activate the dried paste on a pre-pasted covering without having to completely submerge the wall covering in water.

Should I do it myself or hire a Paperhanger?

Obviously, the easiest way to install wall covering in your home is to hire an experienced professional. However, doing it yourself can be a fun, easy and rewarding project with a little preparation and some helpful hints.

Can I hang Wall Covering over existing Wall Covering?

Although the ideal surface on which to hang wallpaper is a clean, primed and sized wall from which all previous wallpaper has been removed, we realize that is not always possible. While not ideal, it is sometimes possible to hang wall covering over existing wall covering, but if you go that route, be prepared to accept less than ideal results. To minimize potential pitfalls, take these precautions:

1. Make sure the wall covering over which you install your new wall covering is securely installed. The better the previous installation; the better chance of success.
2. Ensure that all of the seams over which you hang your new covering are completely flat to avoid obvious ridges that might show through.
3. Plan your first strip so that your new seams do not align with the old seams.
4. Test hang a strip and let it stay overnight to make sure the moisture from the new covering does not loosen the previous layer of wall covering.
5. Before hanging over wall covering, it is even more important to seal and/or size the existing wall covering in order to create a surface that is easy to slide your paper into place and which will maintain adherence to the old wall covering.
6. Finally, if you are installing a light colored covering over a dark or high contrast paper, use a specialty pigmented wall covering primer to block the old pattern from coming through the new design.

UNDERSTANDING WALL COVERING

Why Wall Covering?

There has been a recent trend toward cross usage of residential wall coverings in commercial spaces, particularly specialty wall coverings like sand and glass beads, and bolder colors not typically available in commercial wall coverings. Similarly, commercial vinyl wall covering is being used in residential spaces like hallways and playrooms where higher durability makes it a very desirable wall surface.

STYLE

There is no single decorating element that can do as much for a room so quickly, and at such great value. Wall covering can dramatically transform a room with a single application. It can hide imperfections on a wall, add architectural detail where there is none, visually raise a ceiling or expand a small space, create a cozy corner or brighten a bedroom – all in your own personal style. From country to classic, contemporary to casual, wall covering can set a style, create excitement and give elegant drama to plain, painted walls. Wall covering can help you turn your house into a home.

DURABILITY

Most wall coverings are either washable or scrubbable, allowing for different levels of stain resistance and washability. However, all wall coverings provide protection for the walls from normal wear and tear, while hiding dirt and unwanted marks that inevitably occur in high traffic areas of the home. Other wall treatments may seem less expensive at first, but when you consider the longevity of wall covering by comparison, not only is it a more visually appealing option, it becomes a more economical choice. That is why you will find wall covering in most public spaces where it is important to maintain clean, fresh looking walls with minimal effort for the longest period of time.

WALLPAPER OR WALL COVERING?

Paper was the first material on which designs were printed to create wallpaper. And paper, albeit an improved version, is still the most popular substrate for wallpaper designs. However, wallpaper designs are also printed on grass cloth, vinyl, leather, fibrous non-woven materials, reflective mylar and other continuous reel substrates that give specific characteristics to the final product. Thus, the term 'wall covering' was introduced to expand and better define the category of printed wall décor products. Today, the terms are used interchangeably, but technically, the term 'wallpaper' defines the category of products printed on paper substrates, and 'wallcovering' is an all-inclusive category incorporating all substrates, including paper.