DO IT YOURSELF SERIES

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDES

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Volume 2 ..................... Interior Painting
Volume 3 ..................... Brush & Roller
Volume 4 ..................... Decorative Finishes
Volume 5 ..................... Interior Wood Finishing
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Cloverdale Paint

UNLOCK YOUR CREATIVITY

For all of your home decorating and improvement needs, our trained and knowledgeable staff can help with your questions.
Wallcoverings

A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

Planning & Buying

Applying wallcovering is a fast, economical way to transform a room with color, pattern and texture. In addition to beautifying your living space, wallcovering is a great way to hide less than perfect walls.

This guide will help you plan and successfully hang wallcoverings.

Inspect the surface to identify any problems requiring special attention. Surface imperfections will be visible through many wallcoverings. Patch, sand and repair wall surfaces as necessary to achieve as smooth a surface as possible.

Identify colors on fixed features such as carpets, room furnishings or drapes to help you choose the color, pattern and texture (bring samples with you where possible).

Think about the mood and feel you want to achieve. Wallcoverings will last many years. It is important that your wallpaper choice will match your decor features as well as add to the character and charm of your room.

For more information about our products, visit us on the web at www.cloverdalepaint.com
Checklist for wallcovering preparation

- Plastic drop sheet for the floor
- Cleaner (TSP) to clean walls
- Sponges, paint hats
- Garbage bags
- A clear area and measuring tape for marking & cutting

Tips:

A single roll covers about 29 sq.ft. (2.69 sq.m). To allow for pattern matching and trimming, calculate that a single roll will cover about 25 sq.ft. (2.3 sq.m). It’s also a good idea to purchase one roll more than you need to allow for future repairs.

Calculate How Much You Will Need

Measure the length of your wall and the height to your ceiling. Then check the chart to determine the number of rolls you’ll need for each wall. If your pattern is large, allow for extra wallcovering as there will be more waste. A single roll covers about 29 sq.ft. (2.69 sq.m). To allow for pattern matching and trimming, calculate that a single roll will cover about 25 sq.ft. (2.3 sq.m). It’s also a good idea to purchase one roll more than you need to allow for future repairs.

Most wallcoverings are packaged in 2 roll bolts or double rolls. This minimizes waste when the paper is cut into strips. If you need less than a full bolt, we’ll gladly cut a single roll for you from any of our stock patterns. Note: Some special order wallcoverings are not available in single rolls.

Selecting & Buying Wallcoverings

Most of today’s wallcoverings are prepasted durable vinyl that are easy to hang. Some special order coverings are unpasted requiring that you apply adhesive prior to hanging.

Use paper or fabric backed solid vinyl in kitchens and bathrooms. These wallcoverings combine good looks with moisture resistance, scrubbability and durability. Avoid natural weaves or uncoated paper in the bathroom or kitchen.

Single Rolls Needed

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<th>Wall Height</th>
<th>4’ (1.22m)</th>
<th>6’ (1.83m)</th>
<th>8’ (2.44m)</th>
<th>10’ (3.04m)</th>
<th>12’ (3.65m)</th>
<th>13’ (3.96m)</th>
<th>15’ (4.57m)</th>
<th>16’ (4.87m)</th>
<th>18’ (5.48m)</th>
<th>20’ (6.09m)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Tips:

All surfaces to be covered must be clean and smooth. It is worth a little extra time to make sure that your surface is well prepared to ensure excellent results.

Take a few minutes to ensure that your work environment is risk-free and well ventilated. Read product labels for hanging instructions. Wear a long sleeve shirt, paint hat, safety glasses, and a dust mask or gloves as needed. Turn off the power when cutting around switches, fixtures and electrical outlets.

Preparing to Hang Wallcoverings

Prepare the Room

1. Remove light fixtures and cover plates on outlets, wall switches and heating ducts.
2. Remove drapes, pictures and easy to move furniture from the room.
3. Move remaining furniture to the centre of the room.
4. Cover floors with a dropsheet.
5. Bring all tools that you will be using into the room.
6. Inspect the wallcovering to ensure that the patterns and colors are correct and all run or lot numbers are the same. Also confirm that you have enough material to complete the job. Save labels and packaging information in case you need to buy more wallpaper.

Prepare the Walls

All surfaces to be covered must be clean and smooth. It is worth a little extra time to make sure that your surface is well prepared to ensure excellent results.

1. Remove old wallpaper. In general, don’t hang new wallcoverings over existing wallpaper! Wallpaper inks may bleed or the paper may lift. Use a liquid wallpaper remover or steam it off. Wallpaper steamers are available from your local store or rental centre.

For more information about our products, visit us on the web at www.cloverdalepaint.com
**Tips:**

If wallpaper has been hung directly over unprimed drywall, **DO NOT STRIP**. Apply one coat of alkyd primer and one coat of wall size.

To check to see if your wallpaper has been applied to unprimed drywall, remove a small section of wallpaper in an inconspicuous corner to see if it will remove easily. If peeling existing wallpaper removes a layer of wallboard exposing a rough surface, do not continue to strip.

**Prepare the Walls**

If wallpaper has been hung directly over raw unprimed drywall, **DO NOT STRIP**. Apply one coat of alkyd primer and one coat of wall size.

2. Wash the surface to remove dirt and marks using TSP then thoroughly rinse to remove the residual film. If mildew is present, wash the wall with a solution consisting of 1 part bleach with 3 parts water. Scrub solution vigorously. Leave the solution on the surface keeping it wet for at least 20 minutes to kill the mildew. Rinse thoroughly with water. Allow to dry. We recommend that you use gloves and eye protection and follow the bleach manufacturer’s instructions.

3. Patch and fill all holes and cracks. **Volume #2 Interior Painting Guide** gives detailed information on wall repairs.

4. Sand all patches smooth.

5. Apply a sealer to all repairs and let dry thoroughly.

**Previously Painted Surfaces**

Apply wall size with a brush or roller. This will provide an excellent surface on which the wallcovering can adhere. Wall size will help prevent curled corners and open seams. It will also provide some “slip” when moving the strip into place and protect your wall when it comes time to remove the wallpaper.
Tips:

Prepasted Material
Read the directions and tips from the manufacturer. Use the recommended water temperature. Change the water in the tray frequently. Soak the strip in water according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Unpasted Material
Read the directions carefully for tips. Determine whether the paste should be applied to the back of the covering with a paste brush or low pile roller. Use the correct adhesive. Wallpaper may fail to adhere properly if the incorrect adhesive is used. Excessive bubbles and wrinkles may form and adhesives can stain certain wallcoverings.

Unpasted Walls
Apply a coat of alkyd primer to thoroughly seal the wall, then apply wall size to promote the best adhesion and allow for easier stripping in the future. DO NOT use latex paint to seal the wall unless you are willing to allow the paint to cure for 30 days before hanging.

Hanging Wallcoverings

Pick Your Starting Point
Pick your starting point in the least obvious corner. The strips should be lined up so the pattern is centered on the wall.

Mark a Vertical Guide Line
Measure from your starting corner, a distance equal to ½ inch (1.2cm) less than the width of the wall paper. For example, if your wallpaper is 20.5” (51.5cm) wide, you would measure 20” (50.8cm) from the corner and make a mark on the wall. Use a plumb line or your yardstick and a level to draw a straight vertical line that will be the right hand guideline for hanging the first strip. Since corners are rarely square, this will ensure that the first strip you hang is straight. If you do not use this method, the first strip may be crooked and the rest of the strips will follow this incorrect angle. You can then go back to the corner and trim off any overlap on the adjacent wall.

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Tips:

Remember to hang the paper right side up! Hold the strip up to the wall to see how the pattern flows. A good rule of thumb is that flowers grow up!

Do not force or stretch the paper. Lift the strip completely off the wall for large moves. Wall size promotes “slip” for greater maneuverability.

Careful!
Too much smoothing will stretch wallcoverings causing the product to lift or shrink at the seams.

If there is a bubble on the wall after the covering dries, make a small slit in it and insert some adhesive. Smooth it down and rinse.

When hanging foil be very careful not to create a wrinkle or crease. These marks are very difficult to remove.

Hanging Wallcoverings

Cut your First Strip

Cut one strip at a time, especially if you are matching patterns. Measure the length then add 4” (10cm); 2” (5cm) to overlap the ceiling and 2” (5cm) to overlap the floor.

Prepare the Wallcovering for Hanging

Slide the strip, paste side out, through the water tray and “book end” the strip by folding the ends paste to paste. Allow it to sit for approximately 5 minutes (refer to manufacturer’s directions for exact time). This allows the paper to relax, making it easier to work with.

Hang the Wallcovering

Use a stepladder to reach the top of the wall. Unfold the upper half of the wallcovering leaving the lower fold still in place. Hold the wallcovering between your finger and thumb, position the top edge to overlap the ceiling by about 2” (5cm). Slide the wallcovering into position, aligning the right-hand edge with the vertical guideline on the wall or previous piece.

Smoothing

Smooth out bubbles and wrinkles with a wallpaper smoother or a smoothing brush (short bristle for washable wallcoverings). Smooth from the middle of the strip toward each edge. If a wrinkle does not smooth out, gently roll with the seam roller.

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**Tips:**

Some strips will have to be cut for width. Measure the area to be covered carefully and use the yardstick and knife to cut a straight edge. Allow for overlap that can be trimmed once it is hung.

Corners are rarely square. Overlap wallcovering around the corner ensuring that there are a couple of inches on the adjoining wall. Use a plumb line on the new wall (as described earlier) and overlap with the next strip.

**Switches & Outlets:**

Hang wallcover right over light switches and outlets then use your knife to make diagonal cuts to the corners. Press the flaps into position & trim. Flaps will tuck behind the cover plate. Be sure to shut off the power when trimming around switch plates and outlets.

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**Hanging Wallcoverings**

**Trim the Edges**

Press the top edge into the angle of the wall with a wide putty knife or the smoother. Trim for an exact fit along the ceiling, floor and around doors and window frames with a knife and metal straight edge. Some coverings may require the use of scissors.

**Rinse**

Rinse the strip with clean water to remove adhesive.

**Hang your Next Strip**

When you are matching a pattern, put the roll on the floor and lift it up to the ceiling. Match the pattern, ensuring that you have at least 2” (5cm) to overlap at the ceiling. Allow a 2” (5cm) overlap at the bottom, then cut.

**Seam Roll**

Use a seam roller or brush about 20 minutes after hanging to make sure seams are secure. Then wash down each strip with a sponge dipped in warm water to remove excess adhesive while it is still wet. Some adhesives may stain if not rinsed off.

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Tips:

Hanging a border;

Follow the same steps as hanging wallpaper, however, soak the rolled border in cool water for only 20 seconds and do not “book” for more than 3 minutes. Follow the ceiling line around the room allowing ½” overlap at the corners.

Use vinyl-to-vinyl or border adhesive for applying a border over vinyl wallpaper.

Hanging Wallcoverings

Hanging Around Doors and Windows

Allow the wallcovering to hang over the face of the closed door or window trim. Trim wallcovering roughly to the shape of the frame, allowing about 1” (2.5cm) overlap. Make a ½” (1.2cm) diagonal cut into the corner. Allow the paper to separate and lay smoothly against the wall. Trim the excess paper around the frame with the knife and metal straight edge.

Finishing & Clean Up

Clean tools and equipment and allow to dry. Record pattern name and number and dye lot for future reference and correct matching. Save the labels and packaging information in case you need to buy more wallpaper later. Replace fixtures, switch and receptacle plates.

Enjoy your revitalized living space.
NOTES

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