

IMPORTANT: Vinyl wallcovering is a non-reinforced, semi-rigid, thermoplastic product that may be subject to dimensional changes (i.e., expansion or contraction) with temperature fluctuations. There is a tolerance of 1/32" per foot on diagonal for all sheet sizes. Follow these recommendations precisely for best results.

STORAGE

Wallcovering sheets must be stored flat in the original packaging. Do not stand sheets on end or store other material on top of them. Rolls must be stored in the original packaging; do not stack rolls or store other material on top of rolls. Store in a clean dry place where the temperature is maintained above 50 F (10 C).

BEFORE INSTALLATION

The temperature of the walls and the rooms should be maintained at a minimum of 70 F (21 C) for at least 48 hours prior to installation. Allow wallcovering and all adhesive to acclimate for at least 24 hours at a minimum temperature of 70 F (21 C) but no more than 80 F (27 C) before beginning the installation process. Place wallcovering sheets on a clean, flat surface and weight the corners for at least 24 hours to reduce the possibility of curl and to relax the vinyl. Unroll wallcovering rolls and allow to lie flat for at least 24 hours. Wipe the back of the vinyl with a damp rag to remove any dust and allow to dry thoroughly.

DURING INSTALLATION

Maintain a constant temperature and environment while installing. Temperature for the application surface and the room should be maintained at a minimum of 70 F (21 C) and a maximum of 80 F (27 C), with the preferred temperature being 75 F (24 C) during installation. If relative humidity is greater than, do not install wallcovering because high humidity can significantly lengthen the curing time of adhesives. Don't install wallcovering near heating vents, radiators, etc. or in direct sunlight; resulting expansion and contraction can cause distortion, blistering, etc.

CUTTING WALLCOVERING

Thinner gauges (.030" and .040") can be cut with a utility knife. Use a metal straight edge as a guide and make several passes with the knife blade along the line to be cut. Thicker gauges (.060" and above) can be cut by scribing with a Plexiglass acrylic sheet cutting tool and breaking. Use a metal straight edge as a guide and make several passes with the cutting tool along the line to be cut. For best results place the scribed edge over a 3/4" diameter dowel and apply downward hand pressure on both sides of the scribed line.

Wallcovering can also be cut using most common types of power sawing equipment, including circular saws, jigsaws, and saber saws. Circular saws are used for straight cuts; jig and saber saws are used for cutting small radii curves. Use standard blades designed for cutting plywood; these are preferred over carbide-tipped blades when cutting thin gauges of wallcovering.

DRILLING WALLCOVERING

Holes may be drilled in vinyl wallcovering with standard, high speed drills operated over a wide range of speeds as long as feeds are not forced. Use of a brad point wood bit will produce the cleanest shaped hole.

ROUTING WALLCOVERING

Portable routers may be used for cutting vinyl to size. Usually a wood jig is constructed on site into which the vinyl wallcovering is placed, measured, marked, and cut using the portable router.

AFTER INSTALLATION

Don't expose walls to elevated temperatures or direct sunlight as this can result in wall surface temperatures in excess of 100 F (38 C) which can cause blistering and distortion of wallcovering. Maintain temperature stability between 70 F (21 C) and 80 F (27 C) for 24 to 48 hours after installation.

INSTALLATION INFORMATION

TOOLS AND ADHESIVES

To ensure proper installation, make sure that you choose the appropriate tools and adhesive for your surface conditions. Be sure to follow manufacturer's instructions for proper adhesive use and application, including all storage and temperature recommendations. Manufacturer recommends using either mastic adhesive or 3M Fastbond 30 contact adhesive, or an exact equivalent of one of these products. Maintain adequate ventilation when working with adhesives and/or cleaning products. Keep tools clean and in good working condition at all times.

CONTACT ADHESIVE (Bonds surfaces instantly)

Smooth Surfaces

Short nap paint roller & tray

Trim brush 3M Fastbond 30 contact adhesive or equivalent

Chalk line/plumb bob

Sanding block

Heavy-duty razor knife for thin gauge vinyl or Plexiglass acrylic sheet cutter for .060" gauge and above.

Straight edge 3/4" dowel (for breaking scored lines)

Sabre saw

Hand-held circular saw

1" putty knife

Polyethylene (4-8 mil) Kraft paper or scrap vinyl wallcovering to act as slip sheeting (place between wallcovering and contact adhesive as you position sheet above adhesive; pull out as you place sheet on adhesive.

Stiff paperhanger brush

Heavy-duty pressure roller, such as a Crain #333 extension roller or equivalent

MASTIC ADHESIVE

(Ready to bond after 30-45 minutes on porous substrates; on non-porous substrates 60 minutes or until most of the color changes to clear)

Smooth Surfaces

Notched trowel - use 1/16" square notch for wallcovering less than .040" thick or 1/8" Vnotch trowel (1/2" spacing) for wallcovering .040" and thicker.

Mastic adhesive Mason's stone for rough surfaces

Chalk line/plumb bob

Block plane or scraper

Heavy-duty razor knife for thin gauge vinyl or Plexiglass acrylic sheet cutter for .060" gauge and above Straight edge 3/4" dowel (for breaking scored lines).

Sabre saw

Hand-held circular saw 1" putty knife

Heavy-duty pressure roller, such as a Crain #333 extension roller or equivalent.

INSTALLATION WITH CONTACT ADHESIVES SMOOTH SURFACES

APPLYING CONTACT ADHESIVE

1. Be certain that substrate is painted or sealed using latex primer before applying contact adhesive. Newly sealed walls must be completely dry prior to application of contact adhesive.
2. Follow all of the adhesive manufacturer's recommended safety precautions, such as providing adequate ventilation, etc.
3. Stir adhesive thoroughly before beginning.
4. Apply two coats of contact adhesive to the wall using a short nap roller; allow the first coat to dry completely before applying the second coat. Use a trim brush to cut in any corners.

Apply one coat of adhesive to the back (smooth) side of the sheet of wallcovering using a short nap roller. To ensure evenness in the adhesive film, avoid excessive rolling or re-rolling. Avoid puddles or dry spots.

5. Wait for 2½ to 3 hours. After adhesive dries, 3 hours remain to complete the bonding. **THE LONGER YOU WAIT (UP TO 4 HOURS TOTAL) THE STRONGER THE INITIAL BOND WILL BE.** The adhesive color darkens as it becomes dry. Do not install wallcovering until all wet spots have disappeared. You must re-coat the wallcovering and the walls with adhesive if sheet is not installed within 4 hours.
6. Dry adhesive should have a glossy film. Dull spots after drying indicate insufficient adhesive; these spots must be re-coated.
7. Because contact adhesive will bond to itself immediately upon contact, use of slip sheets is strongly recommended to prevent accidental bonding.

INSTALLING SHEETS

1. Align the edge of the vinyl wallcovering sheet with a chalk or tape line. (It is recommended that roll material be cut into sheets 12' long maximum for .030" gauge and 10' long maximum for .040" gauge to avoid excess twisting and additional thermal expansion/contraction problems.) Lay all cut sheets flat and weight the corners for at least 24 hours prior to installation.
2. Carefully remove the slip sheet while smoothing the wallcovering sheet into place using a stiff paperhanger brush.
3. Immediately roll the entire surface of the sheet with a heavy-duty pressure roller, such as a Crain #333 extension roller or the equivalent. Begin rolling in the center of the sheet and work outwards to the edges. **THE INSTALLER MUST APPLY HEAVY PRESSURE WHILE ROLLING TO PREVENT ANY AIR POCKETS FROM FORMING UNDER THE SURFACE.** Roll every sheet completely out to all of the edges.
4. During and after installation, remove any excess adhesive on the front of vinyl wallcovering sheets immediately. **FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FROM THE ADHESIVE MANUFACTURER FOR REMOVING EXCESS ADHESIVE.** Do not allow adhesive to dry on surface of wallcovering or tools. Use clean rags to avoid redepositing adhesive residue on wallcovering. A solvent such as naphtha or mineral spirits may be used.

INSTALLATION WITH MASTIC ADHESIVES SMOOTH SURFACES

SURFACE PREPARATION

1. Remove any pre-existing wallcovering. For best results walls must be resurfaced if damaged. Make certain that porous substrates such as concrete block are painted or sealed properly and are dry to the touch.
2. Remove any rough spots by sanding walls until smooth.
3. Test for paint adhesion. Use a razor to score the surface of a 12" square area in a grid pattern. Try to remove the broken paint film by applying cellophane or masking tape; pull off sharply. If the paint comes off, the wall must be stripped prior to installation.
4. Prime unfinished surfaces with a primer.
5. Before applying adhesive, the walls and wallcovering sheets must be completely free of grease, dirt, etc. Wipe surfaces with a clean water-dampened rag to remove any dirt or debris.

DRY FITTING SHEETS

1. Use a chalk line or masking tape to outline the area to be covered. If installing as wainscoting, make sure the sight line at the top edge is level. On full wall installation the vertical edge must be plumb.
2. For consistent appearance, install sheets with the "Windrift" texture running in the same direction. This is indicated by arrows printed on the back side of each sheet.
3. Wallcovering must have a 1/16" (1.6mm) expansion gap between sheets.
4. Do not butt wallcovering up against door jambs, ceilings, or baseboards. Leave a 1/16" (1.6mm) expansion clearance.
5. For recommendations on installing joint cover, inside and/or outside corner, or top cap moldings, etc., see pg.
6. An expansion clearance of at least 1/8" (3.2mm) must be allowed on all four sides of the sheets on interior surfaces of perimeter walls and any area subject to temperature variations to permit natural dimensional change.
7. When installing fixtures such as handrails, airducts, etc., oversized holes must be drilled due to the natural expansion and contraction of the sheet as temperature changes occur. Accessories such as caulk or moldings can be used to minimize the visual effect of large openings.
8. Check the surface that the wallcovering will be applied to for squareness. Check all wallcovering sheets for squareness; there is a tolerance of 1/32" per foot on diagonal on all sheets.

APPLYING MASTIC ADHESIVE

1. Be certain that the entire substrate, including all drywall and drywall taping compound, is sealed before applying mastic adhesive. Newly sealed walls must dry completely prior to application of mastic adhesive.
2. Follow all of the adhesive manufacturer's recommended safety precautions, such as providing adequate ventilation, etc.
3. Apply mastic adhesive only to the wall surfaces. Don't apply adhesive to the wallcovering. Don't let adhesive dry on tools or materials; keep trowel grooves clean while working by washing frequently. Spread the adhesive evenly onto the walls with a notched trowel only, making sure to cover the surface area completely. To adhere .030" gauge wallcovering to smooth walls use a 1/16" square-notched trowel to apply adhesive. For all other gauges of wallcovering, use a 1/8" deep V-notched trowel. Make sure you achieve 100% surface coverage on all walls with an even coat; using an insufficient amount of adhesive is the cause of most installation problems.
4. Allow mastic approximately 30-45 minutes to dry before installing wallcovering on porous substrates. The adhesive should start to become firm to the touch; this increases the initial tack and helps reduce telegraphing of bulges.
For non-porous substrates such as painted metal, stainless steel, etc., let mastic dry for a minimum of one hour but not longer than three hours. The change in color of the adhesive from white to clear signifies the optimum time for adhering the wallcovering.

INSTALLING SHEETS

1. Align the edge of the vinyl wallcovering sheet with a chalk or tape line (It is recommended that roll material be cut into sheets 12' long maximum for .030" gauge and 10' long maximum for .040" gauge to avoid excess twisting and additional thermal expansion/contraction problems.) Lay all cut sheets flat and weight the corners for at least 24 hours prior to installation.
2. Place the sheet on the wall and smooth it into place by hand. DO NOT allow vinyl wallcovering sheet to touch adhesive unless it is completely aligned or the installer may be unable to re-adjust the sheets properly
3. Immediately roll the entire surface of the sheet with a heavy-duty pressure roller, such as a Crain #333 extension roller or the equivalent. Begin rolling in the center of the sheet and work outwards to the edges. **THE INSTALLER MUST APPLY HEAVY PRESSURE WHILE ROLLING TO PREVENT ANY AIR POCKETS FROM FORMING UNDER THE SURFACE.** Roll sheets completely out to all of the edges.
4. During and after installation, remove any excess adhesive on the front of vinyl wallcovering sheets immediately. **FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FROM THE ADHESIVE MANUFACTURER FOR REMOVING EXCESS ADHESIVE.** Do not allow adhesive to dry on surface of wallcovering or tools. Use clean rags to avoid redepositing adhesive residue on wallcovering. Dry adhesives can sometimes be removed with naphtha or mineral spirits. For additional cleaning recommendations, see page 8.

INSTALLATION INFORMATION

1. The temperature of the walls and the rooms should be maintained at a minimum of and a maximum of for proper installation.
2. Cut moldings with a common power saw with standard blades designed for cutting plywood, or use carbide tipped blades. When planning the job leave allowances for intersecting moldings (for example, where a top cap molding meets a joint cover).
3. **USING MASTIC ADHESIVE:** You don't need to apply additional adhesive to the back side of the moldings; the adhesive troweled onto the wall is sufficient.
4. **USING CONTACT ADHESIVE:** Use a small trim brush and apply one coat of contact adhesive to the back side of moldings and allow to dry according to manufacturer's instructions. Do not allow adhesive to contact visible surface of moldings.

TOP CAP

Slip the top cap molding over the edge of the vinyl wallcovering prior to using the high-pressure roller. The molding is trapped between the wallcovering and the substrate. Immediately after installing the top cap molding use the high-pressure roller to roll all surfaces and edges of wallcovering.



INSIDE CORNER

After the first sheet of wallcovering has been installed, leave a 1/16" gap at the interior corner. Put the channel of the inside corner onto one side of the sheet being installed on the intersecting wall and install this sheet with the corner molding overlapping the previously installed sheet. Leave a 1/16" gap within the molding to allow for sheet expansion.



OUTSIDE CORNER

After the first sheet of wallcovering has been installed put the channel of the outside corner onto one side of the sheet being installed on the intersecting wall and install this sheet with the molding overlapping the previously installed sheet. Leave a 1/16" gap within the molding to allow for sheet expansion.



JOINT COVER

After the first sheet of wallcovering has been installed put the channel of the joint cover onto one side of the sheet being installed on the intersecting wall and install the second sheet next to the first sheet with the free leg of the joint cover overlapping the previously installed sheet. Leave a 1/16" gap within the molding to allow for sheet expansion. Install successive sheets in similar manner.



CAULK

Caulk is an acrylic based evaporative cure sealant with a special silicone modifier that is color matched to our vinyl wallcovering. Caulk provides a waterproof seam when applied properly. Caulk allows for the normal thermal expansion of wallcovering. It will darken to color match as it dries. Tooling is recommended to ensure positive contact with joint surfaces. A 10.5 oz. tube covers approx. 150 linear feet. Joint dimension should not exceed 3/8" x 3/8". Remove unwanted caulk immediately from wallcovering surfaces and tools with soapy water.



CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

AFTER INSTALLATION

ALWAYS FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS FROM THE ADHESIVE MANUFACTURER TO CLEAN UP AND/OR REMOVE EXCESS ADHESIVE. To prevent possible staining of wallcovering, it's important to remove any adhesive residue and/or other dirt immediately upon completion of installation of sheets. Use mineral spirits, naphtha, or a specific solvent recommended by the adhesive manufacturer and follow the directions carefully. Rinse the cleaned area immediately with warm soapy water, then rinse with clean water and dry with a soft cloth.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Do not use an ammonia based cleaner, powdered cleaners or bleach; they can leave a residue if not rinsed properly. Use a liquid cleaner (such as SoftScrub without bleach, Fantastic, 409, etc.) on a sponge or a soft cloth; use a stiff bristle brush to remove heavy dirt from the textured surface if necessary. Always rinse with clean water and dry with a soft cloth.

For heavy-duty cleaning (graffiti, etc.) use a stronger cleaning agent such as "Crown Anti-Vandal Spray" or the equivalent. Follow the same procedures noted above, always rinsing all areas thoroughly in clean water and drying completely.

High-pressure water can also be used to clean wallcovering surface. Make sure that all seams and joints are completely sealed and do not spray high-pressure water directly on caulked seams or joints. Do not use water with extremely high temperature and do not use steam to clean vinyl wallcovering because it may cause blistering and/or warping.

PLEASE NOTE

Data and suggestions in this booklet are offered in good faith and as general guidelines only. There is no guarantee specified or implied because conditions and installation methods concerning vinyl wallcovering products cannot be controlled by the wallcovering manufacturer. Because each installation is unique, it is recommended that you determine the suitability of the materials, adhesives, tools and installation methods according to the needs of your specific location and process before beginning installation.

For additional information or technical support contact MDC Customer Service at 800-621-4006