

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Natural Silks II

Check Material

Is material as ordered (correct quantity, pattern and colorway)? And each roll arrived free from damage? Are all rolls from the same batch? Never use different batches on the same wall.

Start hanging from the highest roll number and check each new roll matches the already hung material. Hang in sequence as cut from the roll and avoid in-filling above doors, etc. Wallcoverings, especially from natural materials, will sometimes have faults.

When faults occur, they will be marked with red tags and extra material will be supplied to compensate. Minor yarn contaminations are also possible and can be particularly noticeable on light-colored materials. This contamination is inherent to natural yarns and can therefore not be considered as faults. Subtle slubbing in the silk threading is to be expected, as is a noticeable paneling.

Qualified Installer

For best results we recommend that you use only a qualified and experienced installer.

Site Conditions

The room temperature must be at least 12°C (55°F), the moisture content of the underlying surface should not exceed 6% and the air humidity must not exceed 50%. Use a quality moisture meter to verify your surface before beginning to install.

Wall Preparation

Remove all existing wallcovering and backing papers. Ensure that the surface is structurally sound, less than 6% moisture, has normal absorbency, is smooth, dust free and clear of any dirt, stains or contaminants. All surface contamination should be removed or spot treated and any mold must be properly treated before application. Light colored wallcoverings require the underlying wall surface to be of a uniform color to prevent show through.

If the wall is not absorbent, (e.g. walls with an oil-based paint) then the surface should be aggressively sandpapered, with 60 or 80 grit, all dust removed, cleaned with a detergent solution, rinsed off with clean water and allowed to fully dry. Often an overnight dry will bring you under the 6% moisture content for that wall. Verify moisture content before you begin installation.

Do not install on sealed walls or impermeable substrates. If the wall is sealed, the adhesive can remain wet for a prolonged time and can eventually soak through the backing paper and meet the surface fabric. That can result in shrinkage at the seams. If you have a surface that you must prime, use a permeable wallcovering primer.

Pre-trimmed and Butt-joining

All patterns are factory precision pre-trimmed and should be butt jointed on the wall. Do not overlap and double cut. Work clean at all times and avoid getting adhesive on the fabric.

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Adhesive

Use Roman Pro-880 Ultra Clear-professional wallcovering adhesive or a Clear heavy duty premixed vinyl adhesive suitable for natural fiber wallcoverings. Do not dilute. The adhesive must have a low moisture content to avoid the risk of shrinkage.

Apply a thin layer of undiluted adhesive paste to the wall. Do not apply excessive paste as you might press out paste at the seams. If you paste the wall 8" or 20 cm beyond the width of each sheet, that will help you prevent adhesive from getting on the fabric when applying the adhesive for the next sheet.

Final Preparation

Plan the layout of drops in advance. It is often best to create a symmetrical pattern on the wall. Look at the labels on the roll for information on repeats, hanging direction and using a rubber roller instead of a spatula. Keep your smoothing tools free of adhesive at all times and check edges of the tool for smoothness. Confirm your smoothing tool has no burrs or nicks. Never use metal edge tools to smooth.

Do a trial hang of three drops. Leave for one hour and inspect. Stop if you think the result may not be acceptable. Never assume a problem is caused by moisture and that it will disappear after drying. Notify MDC Customer Care immediately. We cannot accept any claims on labor or material if more than three lengths/sheets have been cut and/or applied. Keep all labels until after the job has been accepted. In the event of a shortage please provide the lot and roll number. **MDC assumes no responsibility for the installation of material beyond three panels. Under no circumstances will MDC be responsible for labor. This is an industry standard.**

Before You Start Hanging

Handle the roll and cut lengths with care to avoid creases and damage to the pre trimmed edges. White gloves should be used to ensure the fabric surface is kept clean from dirt, grease or adhesive.

Starting with the highest roll number, cut and, using a black graphite pencil, number drops in sequence. Only use material from a single production lot. Cut the drops to the height of the wall plus 2" or 5 cm to allow for trimming at the ceiling and skirting.

Use only full width material at all times. Cutting in with narrow widths above door frames should be avoided. Do not fill in with off cuts or out of sequence yardage. Use consecutively cut sheets in proper sequence and as full widths.

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Hanging

Do not allow adhesive to get onto the face of the wallcovering. If this happens, blot to remove the adhesive immediately when still wet with a damp sponge and dry the surface by blotting with a clean, dry towel. Once the adhesive is dried in, it will be impossible to remove.

Place sheet/drop number 1 against your established vertical plumb line. Use a flexible spatula or rubber roller to fix the material against the wall, eliminating all air pockets. Start from the middle and work upwards and afterwards from the middle downwards. If a joint roller is used it should be a soft flat rubber roller. A hard roller may damage the edges.

The wallcovering is precision pre trimmed and must be butt jointed. Use a spatula to flatten both edges at the join. Don't over paste. Apply the adhesive sparingly so that you don't squeeze out adhesive which may stain the surface.

After applying 3 drops, cut off the excess material near the ceiling baseboard using a spatula and a snap blade knife. Move the spatula whilst keeping the knife blade in continuous contact with the surface to ensure a clean result. Immediately remove excess adhesive using clean water and dry-off the area.

For outside corners, the material should be wrapped round the corner for a minimum distance of 12" or 30 cm. For inside corners, when hanging part of the width (e.g.: into a corner) make sure the seams with the neighboring sheets are made using a pre trimmed edge from both sheets. The interior corner is then formed from the site split sheet on each side of that corner. Never join a sheet middle to a factory edge.

Special Notice on Silk

The silk is handwoven from homespun and hand-dyed yarn. As such, there are irregular fabric and color effects within the roll and between the different rolls. This, together with the horizontal weave, will create a paneled effect on the wall. It is therefore advisable to cut, and layout all drops for each wall prior to hanging, to achieve a well-balanced result. All silks should be straight hung and not reversed.

Special Notice on Wet Rooms and Outdoors

Textile Wallcoverings are decorative products and, as such, not suitable for use in wet rooms or outdoors.

For additional information or technical support contact
MDC Customer Care at 847-437-4000

CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

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General approach

Dampen a clean cloth with either a water based commercial cleaning agent or a solution of 2 tablespoons of ammonia diluted in 1 liter of water. Gently blot the stain with the cloth, turning it continually so that only a clean surface is in contact with the stain at any time. Do not rub or brush.

Finish

Natural Silks are finished with a stain repellent finish. This finish prevents water-based splashes penetrating and staining the material. Any such splash will simply bead up on the surface and then, providing it has not yet dried, can easily be removed by gentle blotting with an absorbent tissue or cloth. Take care not to rub the surface as this may push any liquid into the material and create a stain. Similarly, to avoid a stain spreading further, clean any spill or splash from the outside edge, inwards. Unlike vinyl, textile wallcovering cannot be washed and therefore once a stain has been allowed to dry, it is virtually impossible to remove. Periodic vacuuming is also recommended to prevent dust from building up on the materials surface.

Stain Removal

When trying to remove a stain, first test any removal product on a hidden area of the wallcovering to ensure the product and color are not affected by the process.

Adhesive

Gently lift off as much adhesive as possible with a smooth knife or spatula. Then follow the approach as described above to remove any remaining adhesive, and dry the surface with a clean, dry towel. Clean off adhesive when still wet as, once dried, it will be virtually impossible to remove.

Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks, Fruit Juices

Clean off when still wet as these liquids can discolor when allowed to dry. Apply the general approach.

Grease, Oil, Wax, Candle

Damp a clean cloth with a mild, water free, dry-cleaning agent using the general approach method.

Pencil

Damp a clean cloth with a mild, water free, dry-cleaning agent using the general approach method. Finish by applying a small amount of ammoniated liquid detergent.

Ballpoint Pen, Ink

Apply alcohol using the general approach.

Mud

Gently remove with a smooth knife or spatula. Allow to dry and then vacuum. If the stain persists, use the ammonia solution method as mentioned under general approach.

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