

### Tools for a Successful Installation:

□ Moisture meter □ Smooth solid table, larger than the biggest sheet of Woodland Wallcovering □ Step stool or ladder □ Metal straight edge □ Plumb line and/or level □ Chalk line and pencil □ Drop cloth □ High intensity work lights □ Utility knife and large scissors □ Electric iron □ Kraft paper  $\Box$  3/8" short napped roller □ Paint roller tray □ MDC Plexi-Blade installation tool\* □ SR Wood Wall Primer\* (approx. 400 sf per gallon coverage) □ SR Wood Wallcovering Adhesive\* (approx. 125 sf double coverage per gallon) \* Available from MDC Interior Solutions

### Before beginning:

If you have questions on the installation of this real wood veneer wallcovering, contact MDC.

Installation quality is very important to complete the design vision for the project. Surface inspection and preparation, room environment conditions, the use of correct materials and tools, and attention to detail are essential for a successful installation.

Install the initial 3 sheets and after 12-24 hours, review the installation. If the installation is approved, proceed with the job.

#### Preparing the room:

Installation areas should be environmentally controlled by a functioning permanent HVAC system, ideally maintaining a temperature range of 65°F-75°F, with relative humidity no more than 50% and not less than what is specified for your area in the AWI Quality Standards Section 1700-T-19, for a minimum of 4 days prior to installation, maintained throughout installation, and for a minimum of 4 days following all installation steps. Ensure the moisture content of the drywall does not exceed 5%.

Woodland Natural Wallcovering is designed for use on unpainted, unprimed drywall only. If applying to another surface, contact MDC immediately.



All drywalls should start as a bare (unpainted, unprimed) Level 4 finish, in compliance with GA-214 (Levels of Finish for Gypsum Products) and ASTM C40 (Standard Specification for Application and Finishing of Gypsum Bond), free of dirt, dust, and defect, including voids and raises. A non-smooth surface will result in telegraphed imperfections and/or poor lamination.

Installation with permanent lighting is strongly recommended.

Beginning of installation indicates acceptance of the drywall and jobsite conditions by the installer.

#### Storing the wallcovering:

The wallcovering should remain in its packaging, stored in a dry, clean and stable environment, high off the floor, until the environmental requirements have been achieved. If wood arrives in boxes, ensure that the boxes remain positioned upright on a table or pallet.

Woodland Natural Wallcovering is very susceptible to absorbing moisture from the atmosphere until it has been installed. Extended exposure to an uncontrolled environment prior to installation can result in dimensional change and warping.

#### STEP 1: Inspect the wallcovering.

Examine the product carefully under permanent lighting conditions to ensure that the material, coloring and quality are satisfactory and as ordered. This product is made of real wood, so expect variations in color, texture and grain. These variations are not defects, but rather an inherent quality of natural materials. Verify the quantity and dimension of sheets upon arrival. Sheets may be slightly oversized.

### STEP 2: Acclimate the material.

Always keep Woodland Natural Wallcovering off the floor. Lay the sheets flat on a raised table that is greater than the size of the wallcovering, with the wood facing upward, top sheet turned downward, and tools/adhesive placed on the ends to promote flatness. Allow the wood to lay flat and acclimate to the atmosphere in the installation area for 12-24 hours. The sheets are delivered in sequences; keep the sheets ordered to assist with installation.

If the wood sheets curl, roll them in the opposite direction to lose their memory and flatten out.

### STEP 3: Select and prepare sheets.

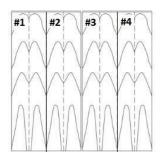
Sheets are numbered and must be hung to maintain a proper appearance. The installer should refer to notes provided by the specifier and/or distributor. If no notes are provided, sequences should be identified and utilized based upon wall breaks. Begin with the sheet intended for the left edge of the installation surface, moving rightward with each sheet.



Long edges are factory trimmed to be butt jointed during installation, pending installer's inspection of edges. If edges require trimming, installer should table cut with a new, sharp razor blade for best results.

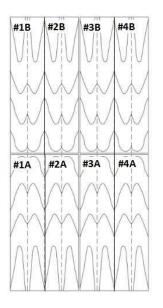
### Standard Application - Straight Match:

Straight Match sheets are numbered and must be hung in order, left to right, to maintain a proper appearance.



### **Special Application - End Match:**

End Match sheets are the architectural standard to cover a large surface area, where sheets are special ordered and manufactured to match both side-to- side and end-to-end.



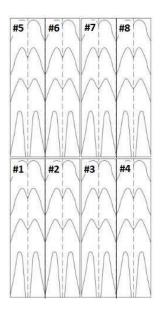


Always start at the lower left with the first sheet (#1A) and proceed rightward (#2A, #3A, etc.) before installing the next level. The installer should refer to notes provided by MDC.

Ends may require table cutting for best fit.

### <u>Special Application – Stack Match:</u>

Stack Match occurs when End Match is not available and provides a different visual effect.



Always start at the lower left with the first sheet (#1) and proceed rightward (#2, #3, etc.) before installing the next level. The installer should refer to notes provided by MDC.

Ends may require table cutting for best fit.

### **Special Application - Corners:**

Bending any prefinished wood wallcovering into or around a 90-degree corner will cause the wood and finish to crack. Sheets in interior/inside corners should be butted together. Sheets on exterior/ outside corners should be installed with approximately a 1" overhang extending beyond the corner edge, then trimmed back once adhered using a new, sharp razor blade or handheld router.



Corner guards or trim are not required for a clean edge but can be used as wall protection if selected by the specifier.

#### STEP 4: Apply primer on the drywall.

Use a moisture meter with pins/prongs to test the moisture content of the drywall, ensuring that it does not exceed 5%. It is very important that the room's temperature and humidity remain constant from this point forward until the product has adhered and bonded properly.

Prime all areas to be covered with one coat of SR Wood Wall Primer. For best results, use a roller and allow 12 hours of dry time. Low temperature, high humidity and poor ventilation will slow the drying process. Keep area free and clean of construction dust.

If the drywall was previously painted or primed with another product, block sand the surface prior to applying SR Wood Wall Primer, and test hang one sheet of Woodland Natural Wallcovering. Failure from the previously painted/primed drywall is the responsibility of the installer and/or contracting team, not the Woodland Natural Wallcovering distributor or manufacturer.

#### STEP 5: Apply adhesive on the drywall.

Stir SR Wood Wallcovering Adhesive to achieve proper consistency. Do not dilute with water. Using a 3/8" short nap roller, size the wall by applying a medium coat of adhesive to the entire drywall surface. Make sure to maintain a uniform, flat, and complete coverage as if painting. Spots not covered with adhesive will not adhere properly. Allow the adhesive to tack on the drywall until it is no longer wet, but still has tack – approximately 45-90 minutes, depending upon the room's temperature, humidity and air flow.

If the adhesive on the drywall has dried completely with zero tack, reapply a sparse coat (a kiss coat) of adhesive to the drywall, and once again allow to tack until no longer wet, but still has tack.

#### STEP 6: Apply adhesive to the wallcovering.

Stir SR Wood Wallcovering Adhesive to achieve proper consistency. Do not dilute with water. Using a 3/8" short nap roller and roller pan to control the amount of adhesive on the roller, apply a thin, uniform, flat coat of adhesive to the back of the Woodland Natural Wallcovering, across the entire surface of the sheet, paying extra attention to apply completely to the edges. Avoid inconsistent coverage, as well as over-saturating the sheet. Pre-paste only one sheet at a time. The adhesive will begin drying immediately, so move the sheet to the wall with pace. This product is not designed to "book" with adhesive, nor is it needed; it should be installed immediately to the wall.



### STEP 7: Install the wallcovering to the drywall.

Apply the sheet to the wall, starting at the left corner of the surface to be covered, butting the edge of the sheet directly against the adjoining corner/trim/ sheet. Do not overlap and doublecut or re-position the sheet as this can result in spots with little or no adhesive. Once the sheet is on the drywall, use the Plexi-Blade with very firm pressure to drive the sheet onto the wall firmly, pushing all trapped air out from underneath. Start from the center of the sheets, pressing into the wood with the Plexi-Blade and pushing away, along the grain lines, out toward the narrow ends. It is important to press down the entire sheet using this technique, even if it appears to be laying flat. Do not push across the grain. Do not use j-rollers, seam rollers, FRP rollers or other smoothing tools.

#### STEP 8: Review your work.

Installation errors are best corrected before the adhesive dries in 3-4 hours (if adhesive is not drying within 3-4 hours, environmental conditions are not consistent with these Instructions). Intently review each sheet 1-2 hours after hanging. Areas not properly adhered can best be discovered by: (1) a tap test, tapping fingers across the sheet – improperly adhered areas of the sheet will feel and sound noticeably different, indicating the presence of an air bubble; and (2) shining a powerful light across the sheet – shadows indicate improperly adhered areas. Press down any unadhered areas/bubbles using the Plexi-Blade technique.

Any adhesive on the wallcovering face should be removed immediately with a slightly damp sponge or cloth, using only enough water to remove the adhesive, then promptly dried with a lint free towel.

Inspect closely with sufficient lighting after installing the first 3 sheets. If problems occur, stop and contact MDC. Proceeding beyond this point will be done at the installer's risk and will absolve MDC of all responsibility.

#### Staining and finishing:

Woodland Natural Wallcovering is sold as factory prefinished. Stain or finish should not be applied to this product.

#### Post-installation conditions:

For a minimum of 4 days following all installation steps, installation areas should be environmentally controlled by a permanent functioning HVAC system, ideally maintaining a temperature range of 65°F-75°F, with relative humidity no more than 50% and not less than what is specified for your area in the AWI Quality Standards Section 1700-T-19.



Woodland Natural Wallcovering is designed to function long- term in a climate-controlled environment, with temperatures levels between 60°F-80°F, with relative humidity at 55% or less. Abrupt changes or extreme levels of temperature and humidity can cause damage to the adhesion at any stage.

Woodland Natural Wallcovering is not designed for areas including, but not limited to, those with exposure to indoor pools, saunas, spas, or outdoor atmosphere.

#### Repairs after the adhesive dries:

If areas with poor adhesion or trapped air exist after the adhesive has dried, in some instances, they can be laid back down by placing a piece of Kraft paper between the Woodland Natural Wallcovering and a standard clothes iron. Move the iron in a circular motion to reactivate the adhesive under the bubbled area.

Then immediately use the Plexi-Blade to press down the affected area and hold until the area cools.

If the installation errors are too large to iron out, use a thin, very sharp utility knife to slice the wood with the grain to release trapped air and then follow the procedure above. After all repairs are done, review the wall again using the tap test and light test as outlined above.

Visit <u>www.mdcwall.com</u> for additional product information and resources, including care and maintenance details.

If you have any questions regarding installation or application, please contact the MDC Customer Care team at 847-437-4000.