

TAPETEX APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

✔ **Qualified installer**

- For best results it is recommended that a qualified installer is employed.

✔ **Check**

- Is material as ordered and 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.

✔ **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%.

✔ **Wall preparation**

- Remove all existing wallcovering and backing papers. Ensure that the surface is structurally sound, dry in depth, normal absorbent, smooth and clean. All surface contamination should be removed and any mold treated before application. Light coloured wallcoverings require the underlying wall surface to be of a uniform colour.
- If the wall is not absorbent, (e.g. walls with an oil based paint) then the surface should be sandpapered, cleaned with a detergent solution, rinsed off with clean water and allowed to dry. For non-absorbent surfaces such as metal, Formica, etc., and for instance high lime content plaster a suitable primer and adhesive must be used.
- If the wall is too absorbent or has a powdery surface, pre-paste with the same adhesive diluted with 20% water and let dry a couple of hours.
- **Do not seal the wall. It is best to hang on to a bare plaster surface so that the adhesive can be absorbed by both the wall and the backing of wallcovering. If the wall is sealed, the adhesive will remain wet and will eventually soak through the backing paper and come into contact with the surface fabric which will lead to shrinkage at the seams.**

✔ **Pre-trimmed and butt-jointing**

- All qualities, even those with repeats, are precision pre-trimmed and should be butt-jointed. Do not overlap and double cut.
- Avoid getting adhesive on the fabric. If you paste the wall 20 cm (8") beyond the width of each strip, you prevent that adhesive can get on the fabric.

✔ **Adhesive**

- Use Tapetex PRO-1 professional wallcovering adhesive or a heavy duty undiluted premixed vinyl adhesive suitable for natural fibre wallcoverings. The adhesive must give a strong bond and should have a low moisture content to avoid the risk of shrinkage.
- Apply a thin layer of undiluted adhesive paste. Do not over paste as you might press out paste at the seams. 1 kilogram of adhesive will give approximately 5 m² of coverage.

✔ **Final preparation**

- Plan the layout of drops in advance to create a symmetrical pattern on the wall.
- Look at the labels on the roll for information on reversing, repeats, hanging direction and using a rubber roller instead of a spatula. With linens, raised metallic designs, surface lasered, flock and crush wallcoverings it is advisable to use a rubber roller as a spatula or seam roller may cause damage to the surface.
- 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 your supplier immediately. We cannot accept any claims on labour or material after more than three lengths have been cut and applied.
- Keep all labels until after the job has been accepted. In the event of a shortage please provide the lot and roll number.
- 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 coloured materials. This contamination is inherent to natural yarns and can therefore not be considered as faults.

HANGING RECOMMENDATIONS

✔ 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.
- 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 5 cm (2") to allow for trimming at the ceiling and skirting.
- If the label denotes reverse hanging is required, to avoid mistakes, hang drops numbered 1, 3, 5 etc. with the number at the top and hang drops 2, 4, 6 etc. with the number at the bottom.
- Use only full width material. Cutting narrow widths above door frames etc., should be avoided. Do not fill in with off cuts or out of sequence drops. When hanging part of the width (e.g.: into a corner) make sure the joint is made using a pre trimmed edge, reversing or not as appropriate. Never join middle to edge.
- Use a black graphite pencil to draw a plumb line on the adjacent wall approximately 2 cm (1") out from the corner. Hang the material to this line so that the drop will overlap by 2 cm (1") before being trimmed into the corner itself.

✔ Hanging

- Do not allow adhesive to get onto the face of the wallcovering. If this happens remove the adhesive immediately when still wet with a damp sponge and dry the surface with a clean, dry towel. Once the adhesive is dried in, it will be impossible to remove.
- Place drop number 1 against a vertical plumb line so that the material overruns a few centimetres near the ceiling, skirting board and corner. 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.
- For an external corner, the material should be wrapped round the corner for a minimum distance of 30 cm (12").
- 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 to 4 drops, cut off the excess material near the ceiling, skirting board and corner 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.

✔ Special notice on Silk

- The silk is handwoven from homespun and hand-dyed yarn. As such, there are irregular fabric and colour 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, in order to achieve a well-balanced end result. All silks should be straight hung.

✔ Special notice on Suede

- The suede has a nap and must be straight hung to avoid the creation of a paneled effect. Handling and touching the suede surface will also disturb the nap direction. Therefore after installation brush the surface in one direction with a soft clothes brush to even out the nap.

✔ Special notice on Removal of Wallcoverings

- All wallcoverings are easily removed. This is best done by peeling the surface fabric away from the backing material. Starting at the top of a drop, gently pull the surface material down vertically towards the floor. Do not pull it outwards as this will exert pressure on the plasterwork. Once the surface has been removed the remaining backing material can easily be removed by steamer without damaging the wall.

✔ Special notice on Wet Rooms and Outdoors

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