

Non Woven and TPO Wallcoverings

Installation and Maintenance Guidelines

For Europa, Organics, Thermoplastic Olefin (TPO) and other Non Wovens

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Examine the material carefully to ensure that the pattern, color, and quality are satisfactory and as ordered. Check that the quantity and dimensions match the required specifications, prior to cutting. *In the event that any discrepancies are found, STOP and contact Wolf-Gordon customer service at 800-347-0550, before proceeding.*

We recommend that Non Woven and TPO wallcoverings be acclimated in the installation area for at least 72 hours prior to and after installing, at 65–85°F, with relative humidity at 50% or less. Verify that the wall moisture content does not exceed 4% using a suitable moisture meter, and that active moisture infiltration, condensation, and/or accumulation—particularly in warm, humid climates—is not present. If walls show mold, mildew or visible moisture damage, or if moisture content exceeds recommendations, do not proceed with installation until the condition has been fully corrected under the direction of a qualified professional. *Wolf-Gordon will not be responsible for any performance or quality issues if moisture problems are not addressed before or following installation.*

SURFACE PREPARATION

All surfaces must be clean, dry, structurally sound, and free of grease and mildew. Stains such as ink, grease, crayon, or other foreign matter should be spot treated with a stain-killing primer to prevent bleeding through the new material. With all surfaces—once properly prepared—apply a good quality, acrylic or latex wallcovering primer/sealer. If an oil-based primer was used, apply an acrylic or latex primer over it before hanging, to avoid trapping moisture or adhesion problems. If the surface does not have a uniform color, use a pigmented primer.

New drywall should be finished to a Level 4 as per the Gypsum Association guidelines (www.gypsum.org), although a Level 5 is preferred. Follow with a pigmented primer.

Newly plastered walls should completely cure for 60-90 days, and not have excessive quantities of lime or alkali. Follow with an adhesion-promoting primer. An adhesion test should be performed to ensure compatibility of the primer with the adhesive.

Painted surfaces should be tested for moisture resilience. Hold a wet sponge or cloth to the paint surface for 15 seconds, rub the surface vigorously with a cloth, and if little or no paint is removed, the surface should be sound. If a large amount comes off, sand or wash the surface with ammonia and water to remove the paint. Once dry, apply a pigmented, adhesion-promoting primer. Painted walls should also be tested for adhesion.

Existing walls present varied conditions, but essentially, glossy surfaces should be sanded, and mildew should be cleaned from the surface with a solution of two cups household bleach per gallon of water. Unless firmly bonded to the wall, old wallcovering should be scraped and removed. Nicks, gouges, and other surface blemishes must be filled and sanded smooth. Follow with a pigmented, adhesion-promoting primer.

HANGING GUIDELINES

Wallcovering rolls are numbered consecutively and should be cut and installed in reverse sequence, starting with the highest numbered roll. All strips should be hung in sequence as they are cut from the roll, using full widths of material, whenever possible. Install the wallcovering under permanent lighting conditions to evaluate color and texture uniformity.

When hanging **non-reversible** or **matching patterns**, measure the wall height, allowing for pattern match, add 4", and table trim using a straight edge to ensure alignment across seams. Large, dominant pattern repeats require more careful planning as far as starting point, ceiling line, chair rails, door/window headers, etc. Patterns are meant to match at eye level and may run off slightly at the top and bottom of the wall.



When hanging **textured** or **random-match patterns**, reverse hang alternate strips for a uniform appearance, overlap and double cut, being careful not to score the wall. If the pattern effect is not acceptable after three strips are hung, re-hang strip #2 without reversing.

If any defect, color variation, or unacceptable pattern effect is noticeable after three panels are cut and hung, STOP and contact Wolf-Gordon immediately. Wolf-Gordon cannot accept any claims on labor or material after more than three lengths have been installed. Upon approval, returns will be subject to a 35% handling and restocking charge. Requests for return authorization must be made within 30 days of ship date.

ADHESIVE APPLICATION

For **paper-backed wallcoverings**, apply a uniform coat of a premium, clear or clay-based, premixed wallcovering adhesive to the back of the material, using a short-napped paint roller or stiff bristle brush (do not use a pasting machine). Clay-based adhesives are recommended for use with *Organics* wallcoverings, and in areas with high humidity, but note that they do not allow for slippage. Use of a mildew-inhibiting adhesive is recommended. Fold each sheet over and allow 5-8 minutes booking time for the adhesive to penetrate the material and avoid drying of paste at the edges. Be careful not to crease when booking as you might damage the material.

For **spun fiber-backed wallcoverings**, apply a uniform coat of a premium, clear or clay-based, premixed wallcovering adhesive to the back of the material, using a short-napped paint roller or stiff bristle brush (a pasting machine can be used at the installer's discretion). Clay-based adhesives are recommended in areas with high humidity, but note that they do not allow for slippage. Use of a mildew-inhibiting adhesive is recommended. Fold each sheet over and allow up to 15 minutes booking time—depending on weight—for the adhesive to penetrate the material and avoid drying of paste at the edges.

INSTALLATION

Hang the first strip to a plumb line, overlapping the ceiling and baseboard. Use a soft bristle brush or cloth (do not use sharp-edged tools) to ensure that the wallcovering makes contact with the wall. Smooth from the middle to the outside edges, being careful not to stretch the material, and work out all air bubbles. Trim at the ceiling and baseboard with a sharp razor blade. For matched patterns, butt the second strip to the edge of the first and smooth out firmly. When double cutting non-matching patterns, place a 2-3" wide strip behind the seam to avoid scoring the wall. Flatten seams exerting light pressure with a seam roller, as hard rolling can cause a sheen on the seam. Before applying the next strip, trim the top and bottom as with the first panel, and proceed in the same manner around the room.

Avoid cutting narrow widths of material for placement above doors and below windows. Vertical joints should not occur less than six inches from inside or outside corners. When trimming at chair rails and ceilings, always use a broad knife rather than a straight edge. Take extra care in keeping the adhesive off the face of the wallcovering. Remove excess adhesive immediately with a natural sponge, frequently rinsed in clear, warm water, and dry with a soft, lint free cloth.

After installation, the walls and wallcovering should be monitored for potential moisture or vapor infiltration, which must be promptly eliminated.

MAINTENANCE

Non Woven and TPO wallcoverings are easily cleaned using clear, warm water and mild soap with a natural sponge. A soft cloth or towel should only be used to tamp dry (do not rub). Stubborn stains can be removed with a laundry spot remover or rubbing alcohol. Test first in an inconspicuous area. Do not use solvent-based cleaning agents, lacquer thinners, nail polish remover, pine oil, or cleaning agents containing bleach, which may cause discoloration over time.

Note: The above is intended only as a guideline. Wallcovering installations must conform to current hanging instructions included with each shipment. The installer has final responsibility for proper installation and evaluation of jobsite conditions.

