

STRATA LAYERED WALLCOVERINGS

HANGING INSTRUCTIONS

First Step

Your walls should be sound, smooth (finished to a level 5), and coated with a primer recommended by your installer. (If you are installing an overlay over an existing finish, primer is not necessary.)

Your STRATA panels will arrive loosely rolled and separated by paper. Please be careful in handling in order to maintain the integrity of the edges. AVOID CREASING.. Although panel sizes and pattern match are checked at the studio upon completion, it is important also that both client and paperhanger confirm sizing, design, and color continuity on site before hanging. **All claims on material must be made before cutting and/or installation.**

Our product is hand painted on non woven polyester that adheres normally to walls. As each panel has been hand-painted, there may be some slight variation in color from your sample. There will be slight variations in color and brushstroke between panels, which we think adds to the artistic effect of the completed design. The seams between panels are not intended to be invisible.

Paste

We have had good results with several brands of paste. The Dynamite 433 Strippable Clay* is formulated for papers that are heavier in weight. The Dynamite 234 clear* and Roman Pro 880 clear* have worked well and are easier to clean from the front. We have used the Vinyl to Vinyl* when installing overlays on shiny painted finishes with good results. Our 3 layer wallcoverings are heavier than many regular wallpapers, your installer may let that guide their choice of adhesive. A tack coat of paste applied to the wall and dried has been helpful.

These wallcoverings behave best when wiped with a damp rag on the front, generously pasted on the back, gently booked (or covered with the enclosed freezer paper), and allowed to rest before hanging.

STRATA wallcoverings are wipeable with a damp sponge or microfiber cloth, there is no cause to worry about water or paste staining the front surface. While the painted surface is quite durable, the non woven material can 'dent', we recommend soft rubber rollers and wrapping a rag over any hard plastic smoothers. If it is necessary to use tape on the front of the paper, make sure it is for 'delicate surfaces'.

Due to the combination of layers and the way they are cut, there will be different tensions inherent in the finished product. The paper will form more bubbles than a flat paper. We have found that returning several times to installed strips at 10-15 minute intervals and gently rubbing any bubbles out with a microfiber cloth will generally do the trick. Most bubbles will dry flat, some bubbles may need to be sliced.

You and your installer should take this extra time into account when estimating and scheduling.

** We have had good results with these products, but cannot guarantee them. We are not the manufacturer, formulas can change, and batches can differ.*

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Trimming & Joining

Your panels have been cut with the dominant element of the pattern already centered on the horizontal line. There is an extra 3" included on top and bottom of each panel, to allow for some flexibility in deciding the desired design height on wall.

The panels are cut with a minimum 1/2 "border to trim on both sides of each panel. Please ensure that a consistently sharp blade is used for this trimming.

Please note: there is no overlapping pattern on the sides.

Straight edge Joint Method – This method requires the hanger to first trim off the 1/2 inch of border from the each side of each panel as it prepared for hanging. This panel is then hung on the wall to a vertical plumb line. Subsequent panels are then jointed as close as possible to first panel, and third to second, etc. Panels should be butted tightly together, rolled with a soft rubber roller and wiped clean.

Modified Double Cut Method – Lay the first piece on the wall with the border untrimmed. Trim the next piece leaving just a 1/16' of the border to overlap and match the pattern. Cut through all layers and remove the excess material, roll the seam with a soft rubber roller, and wipe clean. The thickness of the paper and the need for an ample supply of sharp blades will provide an extra challenge to this method, but it can be very effective. Use caution when cutting through the material to not score deeply into the wall surface. Cutting the wall too deeply can lead to the underlying paint lifting off the wall as the paste dries, and causing the edges of the seam to open and not lie flat.

Finally

Since you will not have much, or any, leftover paper for any unexpected damage that may occur in the future, you may wish to order extra paper. Your installer can help you decide how much is appropriate. We recommend that you purchase extra at the same time as your initial order, hand painted products can vary slightly from batch to batch, and we want make every effort to ensure that you have the best possible result should repairs be necessary. Extra paper should be stored *loosely* rolled.

For very small repairs we include small containers of paint with your order. Metallics can be tricky to touch up, if you have to do a small repair our best advice is to: stir well, use as little paint on as small an area as possible, dab don't brush, and then blot very gently with a tissue. For larger repairs, call us if you are in the San Francisco Bay Area. If you are out of our area, call an experienced decorative painter close to you, and have them call us, we are happy to advise.

Do not hesitate to call with any questions, at any time. 707 536-5299.