

### STOP AND READ BEFORE INSTALLING

Upon receiving your digital wallcovering and prior to installation, please examine the goods to make certain the size, image and quality are satisfactory and as ordered. If, after reading through these instructions, there are any questions concerning the surface to be covered, the wallcovering or the installation process, a test installation of at least three strips, applied three days in advance of the main installation, is recommended. Please contact your Designtex Sales Representative or Surface Imaging Coordinator for further assistance or call 800.221.1540.

### Mold and Mildew Alert!

Before installing any wallcovering, the building must be checked for any moisture problems that could have an effect on mold and mildew growth after the wallcovering is installed. Do not install any wallcovering if the walls appear to have any moisture damage or if the building appears to have moisture infiltration problems. If you are uncertain if moisture problems are present, contact your architect, mechanical contractor, or general contractor for the standard of care and best application or finish for that area and that design of a building. Designtex will not take responsibility for any quality issues if moisture problems are not addressed before installation. You should also refer to the Mold Handbook authored by the Wallcovering Association with respect to considerations for specifying vinyl wallcovering in various climates and for various building designs. The handbook can be located at: [https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.wallcoverings.org/resource/resmgr/product\\_performance/wa-mold\\_information.pdf](https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.wallcoverings.org/resource/resmgr/product_performance/wa-mold_information.pdf).

### Before Installing

- Inspect each piece upon receipt. Immediately make a claim with the carrier if the pieces are damaged.
- Check to see that you have received what was ordered and that the rolls all have the same style and run numbers.
- If the material is to be stored, make sure the pieces are kept in a temperature controlled, dry area, and not crushed.

### Surface Preparation

- Site conditions: For best results, finished lighting should be in place at the time of wall preparation and wallcovering installation.
- Acceptable hanging surfaces must be clean, smooth, dry and structurally intact.
- Any mildew must be removed from the walls and surfaces treated to inhibit further mildew growth. In humid, mold, and mildew prone areas we suggest the use of Zinsser Plus Mildew Proof Commercial Wallcovering System that offers protection against the growth of mildew. More extensive moisture problems may require additional steps before installation.
- Do not install wallcovering unless temperature above 55 degrees Fahrenheit is maintained.
- Prior to priming and skim coating, seal damaged drywall facing paper.
- Note: Crayon, pen markers, ink, screw and nail heads, and heavy pencil marks, and stains need to be sealed with a stain-killer prior to priming.
- For all new or refinished wall surfaces, a water-based wallcovering primer should be applied to surface before application of wallcovering. Use a wallcovering primer that dries to a solid color to help conceal drywall joints
- Where there is a color contrast between the wall surface and the wallcovering, it is always best to tint the primer to match the color of the wallcovering.
- Glossy and non-porous surfaces should be primed with a coat of an adhesion promoting primer such as R-35 prior to installation of wallcovering.

### Recommended Primers and Adhesives

#### DNA Non-Vinyl

Designtex recommends the use of a good quality Heavy-Duty Clear Wall Covering adhesive as made by Zinsser and Roman when installing DNA Non-Vinyl. It is always advantageous to use a primer and adhesive from the same manufacturer.

#### Type II Wallcovering (smooth and textured)

Designtex recommends a premium quality heavy-duty clear premixed adhesive. Use of a mildew inhibitor in the adhesive is recommended. Do not dilute adhesive. Brush an even coat of paste over entire back of wallcovering. Pay particular attention to run over edges so they are sure to be pasted. Book material for ten minutes. Failure to book the drops could result in peeling and other installation problems.

### Special notes for mildew-prone environments

Use of a mildew inhibitor is recommended. More extensive moisture problems may require additional steps before installation. New vapor permeable primers and adhesives are now available to wallcovering installers. These primers and adhesives can reduce the risk of mold for all types of wallcoverings versus the use of traditional primers and adhesives.

Examples of such newly available permeable mildew systems are:

- Zinsser's V.P. Vapor Permeable™ System, specifically Shieldz V.P. Primer and Sure Grip V.P. Primer. See [www.zinsser.com](http://www.zinsser.com) or call 732-469-8100 for more information.
- Roman Decorating Products Ultra™ Plus Mildew System, specifically Ultra™ Plus Primer and Ultra™ Plus Adhesive. See [www.romandecoratingproducts.com](http://www.romandecoratingproducts.com) or call 800-488-6117 for more information.

### Adhesive Application

- We recommend the use of a good quality heavy duty "clear" vinyl adhesive as made by Zinsser and Roman.
- It's always advantageous to use a primer and adhesive from the same manufacturer.
- This adhesive should be used at full strength. Do not dilute adhesive.
- Application of the recommended adhesive can be applied to the back of the DNA Non-Vinyl wallcovering or directly to the wall surface. If the back of the DNA Non-Vinyl wallcovering is to be pasted, the adhesive can be applied by use of a past machine or roller and make certain the adhesive completely cover the back of the wallcovering, especially at the edges.
- **Each pasted strip has to be "booked" for approximately 10 to 15 minutes to allow the wallcovering to "relax". This will prevent blisters from occurring when the strip is applied to the prepared wall surface.**
- If the wall surface is to be pasted, the back of each strip of DNA Non-Vinyl wall covering should receive an application of water and then "booked" for approximately 10 minutes to allow the wallcovering to "relax". This will prevent blisters from occurring when the strip is applied to the prepared wall surface. The adhesive applied to the wall should be allowed to become tacky.

### Hanging the Wallcovering

Please note, when hanging drops, it is important to line up patterns/images at eye level allowing any drift in lineup to run off toward the ceiling and floor. If pattern is lined up at the ceiling the pattern misalignment may begin sooner, and the gap will be larger and more visible. Also, most patterns will be viewed at eye level therefore it is that area that needs to look aligned.

- Apply adhesive as described above. Hang the first panel to a plumb line and allow it to overlap onto the ceiling and baseboard. Use a smoothing brush or plastic smoother to remove any air bubbles and to make sure all wallcovering has made good contact to the wall. Use the smoothing tools gently in order not to damage the image surface. Use light pressure. Do not press hard enough to remove the adhesive from underneath the wallcovering.
- Trim with a razor knife at the ceiling and baseboard, around windows, etc.
- Overlap the second strip 2" over the edge of the first strip, align image, and smooth out firmly. Panel edges should be overlapped and double cut on the wall. Care should be exercised so that the wallboard underneath is not scored. A double cutting tool or seam pad is recommended to prevent scoring the wall.
- The selvage (excess trimmed edge) should be removed from the wall and the seam closed within one hour.
- Sponge each strip with clean water to remove any excess adhesive. Use a soft bristle brush to clean if necessary. Change the wash water frequently and blot surfaces dry with a clean towel. Be certain to wash the ceiling and the baseboard to remove any paste residue. Do not leave any overlap at the seams since the vinyl will not adhere to itself. Seams should be vertical, have a tight fit, and be free from air and paste bubbles.
- Proceed in the same manner for remaining strips.
- Avoid burnishing the face of the material. Use a wallcovering brush or a plastic scraper to smooth the wallcovering onto the wall.
- Use a seam roller to flatten the edges at the seams, ceilings and baseboards. Use light pressure. Do not press hard enough to remove the adhesive from underneath the wallcovering.

### Wallcovering Maintenance

- Stains should be removed as soon as possible to eliminate any possible reaction between the staining agent and the wallcovering. Time is especially important for removing materials containing colors or solvents, such as ballpoint ink, lipstick, oil, shampoo tints and some foodstuffs. If soil remains on the wallcovering too long, permanent discoloration may develop.
- Vinyl wallcovering should not be sprayed with wax or other protective coating. Such applications can discolor the material and, in any case, offer little protection.
- Ordinary dirt and smudges can be removed with a mild soap and warm water. Clean from the bottom of the wall upward to protect the baseboard and to prevent streaking. Rinse thoroughly with clean water from the top down using a sponge. Dry with a clean cloth.
- Do not use active solvent-type cleaning preparations, such as nail polish remover, tar and bug removers, abrasive cleaners, steel wool, etc., as they can remove the finish from the wallcovering.