

STOP AND READ BEFORE INSTALLING

If at any time during the installation a product or installation issue should be discovered – STOP! Contact your distributor or dealer before proceeding. After installing the first 3 strips of any wallcovering – STOP! Once again, make sure the product is correct, that there are no quality or product issues with the wallcovering. Should a quality issue or question arise, please call our installation HOTLINE at 1-800-797-4949, Option 4, Ext. 7749 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST. Designtex will not take responsibility for any quality issues raised after the first 3 strips are cut and installed.

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.

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.

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.
- In 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, which could 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 as described on their website (www.zinsser.com, tel. 732-469-8100) and Roman Decorating Products’ Ultra™ Plus Mildew System, specifically Ultra™ Plus Primer and Ultra™ Plus Adhesive (www.romandecoratingproducts.com, tel. 800-488-6117).
- Apply a thin, even coat of the recommended clear adhesive directly to the wall. Let the adhesive set-up.
- If adhesive does get on the face of the wallcovering, remove immediately with a damp sponge and dry with a clean, dry towel.

For acrylic back acoustical wallcovering (wall carpet) the use of a heavy duty clay based adhesive is recommended. After the wall surface has been properly primed, the clay based adhesive should be applied directly to the wall, not the back of the wall carpet.

Wallcovering Installation

- For best results, we recommend dry table trimming 2" to 4" off the inside finished edge of the wallcovering to be hung. To minimize the possibility of fraying when trimming and other potential issues, these products must be table trimmed from the back using a fresh straight edge on each cut. “Snap off” cutting tools are not recommended.
- Unless specified, all acrylic backed olefin wallcovering should be installed “straight up” as it is cut from the roll. Depending on lighting conditions at the site, some products may appear less paneled when reversed. **Due to the inherent reflective quality of the yarns, Matrix, Zip, Flip and Skip products may appear to panel. If this occurs, it may be minimized by reversing alternate strips.**
- **Please note Skip is a pattern that requires straight across match whether it is installed straight up or reversing alternate strips.**
- Care should be taken not to apply too much pressure when smoothing out wallcovering. Too much pressure can cause fabric to stretch. It can force excess paste onto the face of adjoining wallcovering. Stretched wallcovering may shrink when drying, causing seams to open. Gently work seams, over working can cause fraying. Too much pressure from finger tips or seam roller may cause paste to bleed through fabric causing permanent stains.
- In the case of acoustical products, trimming may be necessary to insure proper seams. Much care should be taken to trim between the ribs (do not cut across ribs) using a razor blade or a row cutter. Change blades after every cut. Smooth seams with wallcovering smoother or a carpet roller. Do not crush fibers.

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