

50 cents



# HOW TO HANG WALLCOVERINGS

**WALLPAPER WAREHOUSE**

**1065 Washington Pike**

**Bridgeville, PA. 15017**



# How to Hang Wallcoverings Copyright 1977

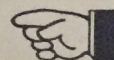
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**SPECIAL NOTE:** Before you begin your wallcovering project, take a few minutes to read through this booklet paying special attention to the sections that pertain to your particular project. These few minutes can save you time and help you do a better job.







# First Steps

If you have already measured the room and bought your wallcovering from the NDPA store where you bought this book just skip along to Tools 'n Tips. If you don't already have your wallcovering follow these instructions and take your measurements to your NDPA dealer. (Also, if convenient, take a swatch of carpeting or drapery or upholstery fabric for color coordinating. In fact, take in anything that you may wish to coordinate with your wallcoverings. Your NDPA dealer can match practically anything with the right wallcovering color, pattern and style).

## 30 Is The Magic Number

Wallcoverings are packaged by the bolt. Each bolt contains two or three rolls of wallcoverings. The width of the rolls varies the most common widths being 20-1/2", 21", 24", 27" and 28". *Regardless of width*, each single roll contains 36 square feet of wallcovering and will cover approximately 30 square feet of wall or ceiling surface. The only exceptions are the Euro 1-1/2 and 2-roll bolts. These may contain slightly less square footage than American-made rolls. With the average eight-foot ceiling you usually get 3 or 4 full ceiling-to-floor strips from a 2-roll bolt. By using the 30 square foot figure as a basis for measurement, you'll have enough wallcovering to allow for matching patterns. (More about matching on page 6).

## How to Measure

Use a yardstick or steel tape, not a cloth tape measure.

Take measurements in feet.

Multiply the height by the distance around the room. Then divide by 30.

From this result subtract one-half roll for each normal size window and door. You now have the number of rolls you'll need.

Example: The distance around the room is 48 ft. The height is 8 ft. There are two windows and one door.

$48 \times 8 = 384$  sq. ft. wall area.  $384 \div 30 = 12.8$  rolls.

12.8 minus 1.5 (deduction for 2 windows and 1 door) = 11.3 rolls.

You'll need 12 single rolls.

If you plan to paper the ceiling, check the Room Estimating Chart for the rolls needed.

WALL ESTIMATING CHART

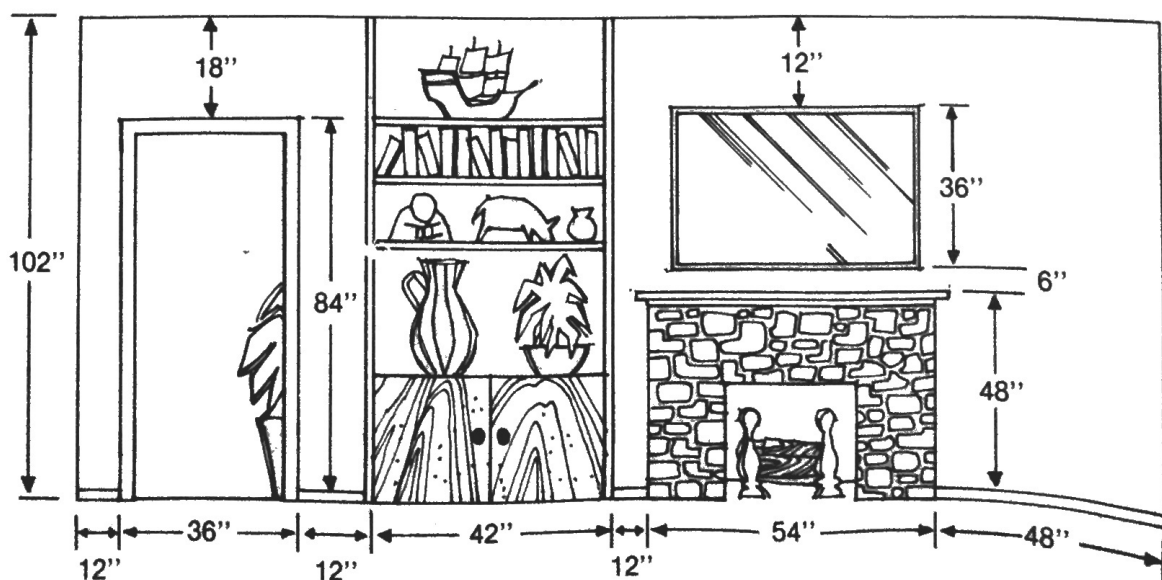
Distance of Wall	Single Rolls for Wall Area Height of Ceiling			Number of Yards for Borders
	8 Feet	9 Feet	10 Feet	
6	2	2	2	3
8	2 to 3	3	3	3
10	3 to 4	4	4	4
12	4	4	4	5
14	4	4	5	5
16	4 to 5	5	6	6
18	5	6	6	7
20	6	6	7	7
22	6 to 7	7	8	8
24	7	7	8	9
26	7 to 8	8	9	9

NOTE: Design repeat of pattern and length of roll may increase your rollage

ROOM ESTIMATING CHART

Distance Around Room in Feet	Single Rolls for Wall Areas Height of Ceiling			Number Yards for Borders	Single Rolls for Ceilings
	8 Feet	9 Feet	10 Feet		
28	8	8	10	11	2
30	8	8	10	11	2
32	8	10	10	12	2
34	10	10	12	13	4
36	10	10	12	13	4
38	10	12	12	14	4
40	11	12	12	15	4
42	12	12	14	15	4
44	12	13	14	16	4
46	13	14	15	17	6
48	14	14	16	17	6
50	14	15	16	18	6

If wall is unusually broken up, write down measurements on a diagram so your dealer can calculate number of rolls you'll need.





# Tools 'n Tips

You already have many of the tools you'll need to do a good job. The tools and materials numbered 1 to 13 in the illustration are those that are used in any wallcovering hanging job. A few of the remaining tools numbered 14 to 23 will usually be needed. For example, if you're hanging pre-pasted wallcovering you'll need a water tray (14), for wall preparation you may need wall size (21) or you may need a pasting brush (18). (The numbered comments will show what you need and don't need.)

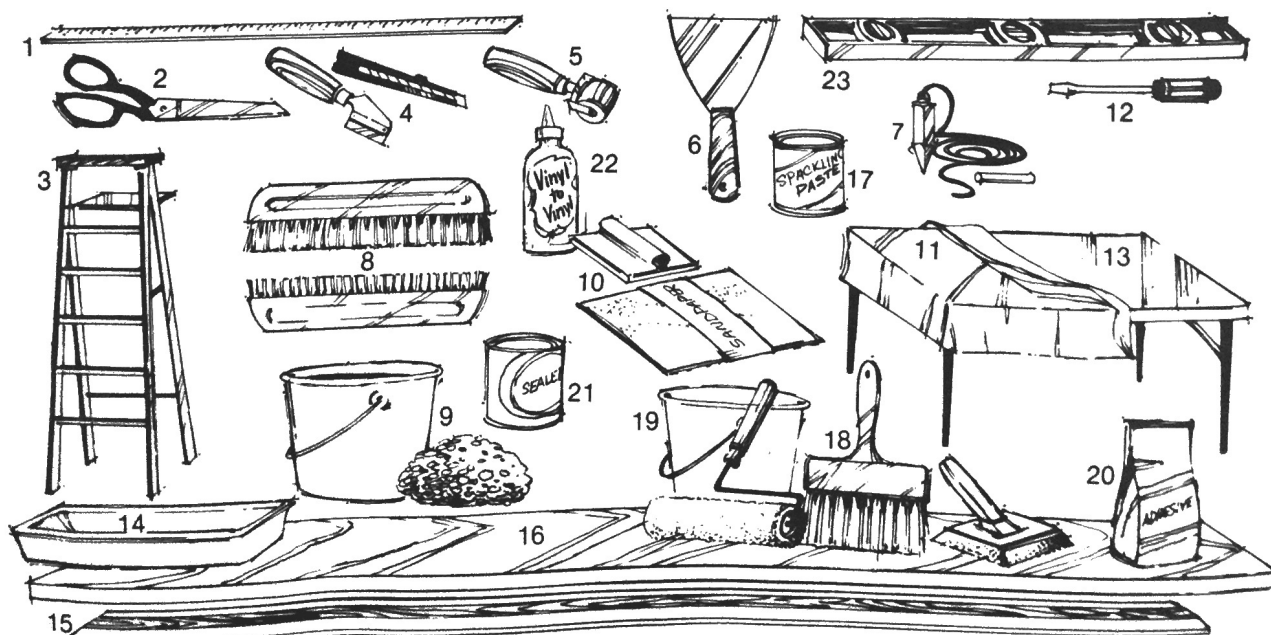
1. Yardstick—for measuring.
2. Scissors—for cutting and trimming.
3. Stepladder
4. Razor knife with plenty of single-edge blades—for trimming at ceiling, baseboard, frames, windows. A self-feeding type of razor knife is another recommended alternative.
5. Seam roller—for pressing and setting seams (except with flocked wallcovering!)
6. Wide wallscraper, at least 4"—for trimming with razor knife.
7. String, colored chalk and weight for plumb line or carpenter's level (23).
8. Smoothing brush—short nap for vinyl wallcoverings, long nap for wallpaper, grasscloths, fabrics and most other wallcoverings.
9. Large sponge and bucket—for rinsing down strips.

10. Sandpaper and sandpaper block—for sanding patched areas, glossy painted surfaces, and sand painted walls, etc.
11. Drop cloth or brown paper—For protecting floors, tables, etc. (Don't use newspaper; the ink may run.)
12. Screwdriver—For removing switch plates, fixtures.
13. Raised working surface (e.g. kitchen table, two card tables) unless you don't mind working on the floor! Cover working surface with brown kraft paper, or drop cloth. Never newspaper. The ink may smear your wallcoverings or flooring.
14. Water tray. For wetting pre-pasted wallcovering.
15. 5' or 6' Straight Edge. If wallcovering needs trimming.
16. 5' or 6' Cutting board. For trimming selvage edges of untrimmed wallcoverings.
17. Patching plaster or spackling paste.
18. Paste brush for unpasted wallcovering. Or roller or pad paste applicator.
19. Paste bucket for unpasted wallcovering.
20. Recommended adhesive for unpasted wallcovering.
21. Size (primer sealer)—if needed to prepare walls. (See page 5).
22. Vinyl-to-vinyl adhesive—for overlapping and special surfaces.
23. Carpenter's level.

## Key Working Tools

**IMPORTANT!** Your key working tools are the simple ones. The razor knife and the wallscraper with which you do all your trimming will be your best friends. Change blades often to keep you knife "razor" sharp. You'll use a natural or

good quality sponge throughout the job for rinsing each strip of wallcovering and wiping excess paste from ceiling and trim areas. (Be sure to change the water in the rinse bucket every 2 or 3 strips.)





# Getting Your Walls Ready

You're in a hurry to get to the fun part—actually hanging the wallcovering but slow down long enough to get the walls ready; it's the most important secret to making sure your beautiful transformation will stay that way, year after year. Wallcovering cannot cling to grease or dirt and many householders are shocked to learn that the kitchen walls aren't the only ones that harbor grease. Bathroom walls, too, collect a film from soaps, bath oils, cosmetics, hair sprays, etc. Wash down the wall with water to which you've added soap powder and some household ammonia, then rinse thoroughly. Now, if the walls have no cracks or holes to be patched and are painted with a good quality flat paint, you can get on to the next preparatory steps. But, if you're not sure it's a quality paint or if the paint is glossy, find below the type walls that you have and read the instructions for preparing those walls.

## Unpainted Walls

For unpainted drywall, tape or repair joints with seam tape and countersink nailheads if not already done. Fill and coat taped joints and nailheads with joint compound. Prime new drywall with a primer-sealer. (See proper section on this page.) If drywall is not primed, it can be damaged later when wallcovering is removed. Note: Allow a *minimum* of 24 hours drying time for primer-sealer to cure thoroughly.

## Painted Walls

First, remove any peeling paint with a scraper and sand the surface. Spackle the patched spots and any other cracks or holes. Use a primer-sealer on the patched areas. Since wallcovering will not adhere permanently to a surface painted with inexpensive latex, apply a primer-sealer to the *entire* wall if you are not sure about the quality of paint.

Glossy or semi-glossy surfaces are too slick to accept wallcovering adhesives. To "dull" them, wash with an extra strong Tri-Sodium Phosphate solution or a soap and ammonia solution and thoroughly rinse. Or, sand thoroughly with coarse sandpaper. Glossy surfaces can also be sized to accept the wallcovering. Consult your NDPA dealer for specially prepared products that can also be used on glossy surfaces so that wallcoverings will adhere properly.

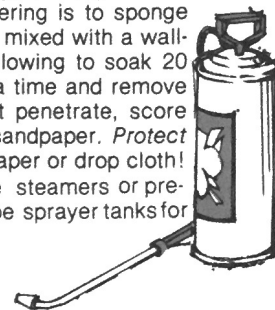
## Mildewed Walls

This pesky fungus growth assumes various colors—yellow, black, green, gray, etc., and flourishes in a moist dark environment (bathrooms, basements, closets). If walls have been exposed to moisture or if you notice discolored areas, eliminate any possibility of mildew before applying wallcovering. Wash walls with a mixture of equal parts of household bleach and water. Scrub area with a medium soft brush keeping surface wet till mildew stain is bleached out. Rinse thoroughly with clear water and let dry.

To prevent mildew forming under newly hung wallcovering use the paste or adhesive recommended by the manufacturer.

## Removing Old Wallcoverings

Follow the lead of the professionals. Remove old wallcoverings. Most professionals use a dry scraping technique and special scrapers are available at your NDPA dealer for scraping away several layers of wallcovering. Any residue remaining can be wiped off with an abrasive pad or steel wool and warm water. If steel wool is used, rinse thoroughly so that no particles of the steel wool are left on the wall. Fabric-backed and other strippable wallcoverings can be dry-stripped from walls. Pull a corner of the strip at the baseboard, give a gentle even tug and the entire strip should come off easily and smoothly. Some vinyl wallcoverings will strip off and leave their paper backing which is an ideal base over which to hang another wallcovering. So long as this backing is tight to the wall it acts as a lining paper and your new wallcovering can go directly over it. Another way to remove wallcovering is to sponge walls thoroughly with cold water mixed with a wall-paper remover additive. After allowing to soak 20 minutes, resoak one section at a time and remove with a scraper. If water doesn't penetrate, score face with a scraper or coarse sandpaper. *Protect floor* with plenty of brown kraft paper or drop cloth! Many NDPA dealers also have steamers or pre-packaged solutions in garden-type sprayer tanks for rent that do an excellent job.



## Hanging Over Existing Wallcoverings

If you must hang over existing wallcovering make certain it is tightly fastened to the wall. If there are any bubbles, cut an X in the paper over the bubble. Then glue wallcovering down tightly. Be sure to secure loose seams and edges. All surfaces of existing wallcovering should be as smooth as possible.

Level any uneven places with spackle, allow to dry and sand smooth. Some wallcoverings require sizing or primer-sealer before new wallcovering can be hung on them. Consult your NDPA dealer.

## When to size a wall

Size serves as a base for preparing old or new surfaces for wallcovering and can usually be brushed, rolled, or sponged on the wall. Size acts as a sealer to tie together any paint pigment or other troublemaking materials on the surface and separate them from the wallcovering. It also helps slide the wallcovering into position and is added assurance that the wallcovering will stick and that your seams will not open later. The size you use is determined by the wall surface and the type of wallcovering you plan to hang. Read both the wallcovering and paste manufacturer's instructions and consult your NDPA dealer.

## When to apply primer-sealer

This is an undercoat which must be used to seal drywall and unpainted plaster walls and any patched or spackled areas before hanging. Get your NDPA dealer's recommendation for the right primer-sealer. Priming is also recommended to prevent "show through" if you are going to put lightweight or transparent wallcovering on a multicolored painted wall. Many primer-sealers are also size coatings and do not necessarily require another size on top of them before hanging wallcovering.



# Getting Your Walls Ready (cont.)

## When to use lining paper

Lining paper is basically blank wallcovering stock which can be applied to properly prepared walls. It can be in canvas, strippable type (even prepasted) and super heavyweight. Lining paper is often recommended by manufacturers for hanging foils, mylars, unbacked fabrics and grasscloths. It minimizes the possibility of mildew and staining and maximizes adhesion and in some cases provides a smoother surface. Whether the lining paper is strippable or not, it is usually hung horizontally. This is not mandatory, but it's a safe way to be sure the seams of the lining paper

and wallcovering do not fall on the same vertical line. Cut inside corners same as with wallcovering. Use the same adhesive for lining paper as you are using for your top wallcovering and be sure it is thoroughly dry before hanging the wallcoverings over it (usually 36 hours).

The super heavyweight strippable type of lining paper can be used directly over properly primed and prepared paneling, tile, cement block and peg board. It bridges the cracks and grooves making them undetectable after your wallcovering is hung over the lining paper.

## Inspection and layout

No matter what type of wallcovering you've selected, it's a good idea to inspect each roll *before* you begin hanging. Although every possible precaution has been taken by the manufacturer and your NDPA dealer to make sure you receive only the best merchandise, occasionally a flaw or color deviation slips by. The easiest means of inspection is

simply to reroll each roll, checking out the material as it passes by. This will not only prevent a disappointment when you're well into the job but will also help "uncurl" the wallcovering and make it easier to work with when you actually start hanging.

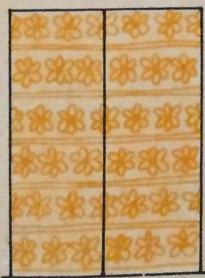
## Pattern matches

If your wallcovering is patterned, check the kind of pattern match you have. With a straight across match the point of match goes directly across the strips. A flower or plaid design, for example, continues in successive strips to form an overall design. The same part of the pattern in the first and

following strips should be the same distance from the ceiling line.

A drop match design does not run in a straight line across the wall but runs diagonally. The design is staggered so only every other strip is identical at the ceiling line.

Note that every other strip is the same when you have a "drop match" pattern (see below).

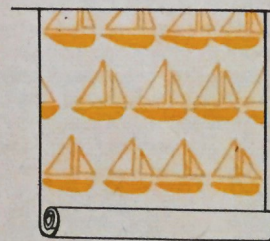


**Straight Across Match**  
(Every strip is the same at the ceiling line)

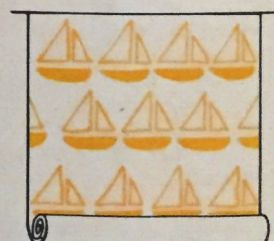


**Drop Match**  
(Every other strip is the same at the ceiling line)

Be sure to start the first strip so that the pattern design is aesthetically pleasing at the ceiling line. For example, do not split an object at the ceiling line (see below).



**Wrong**



**Right**  
(Starting point at the ceiling)

## Reversing Strips

When hanging non-patterned or textured wallcovering, the manufacturer usually suggests reversing each strip as the wallcovering is hung. When this type wallcovering is printed

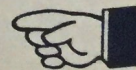
the color may be heavier at one edge than the other. By reversing each strip, dark edges will butt to dark edges and light to light, minimizing any color shading.



## A preparatory step and a tip

Before you go any further, remove all switch plates, outlet plates and light fixtures from the wall.

If you're going to paint the ceiling or floor-moulding, or any of the adjoining walls, paint first and let dry a minimum of 24 hours *before* you start to hang.





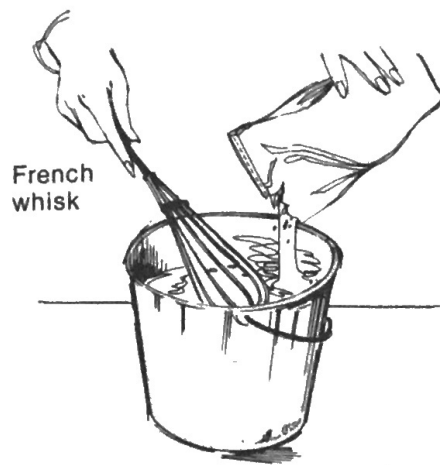
# PASTING

## Unpasted wallcovering

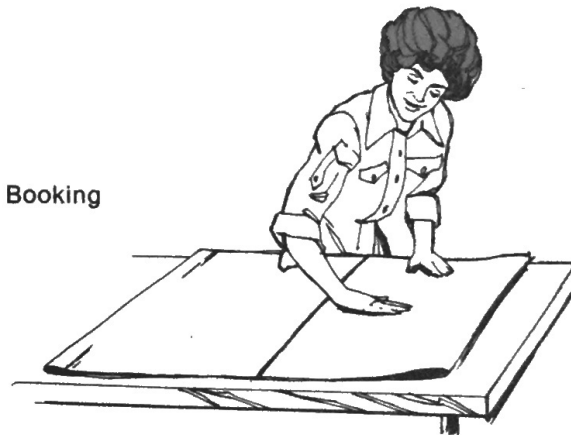
If your adhesive is not pre-mixed prepare it according to package instructions. Use cold water and mix until the paste is absolutely lump-free and about the consistency of gravy—thin enough to brush smoothly, thick enough to permit sliding the paper on the wall. The best tool for mixing the paste is your hand. Another excellent tool is a French whisk (Kitchen beater—see illustration).

Turn strip pattern side down on a clean work surface. Paste only one strip at a time. Use a large paste brush or applicator pad or roller and follow a figure 8 motion to apply paste evenly. Be sure to cover entire area and paste in good lighting because unpasted areas will show up as blisters on the wall.

After applying paste to about two thirds of the strip, fold the top of the strip about two thirds of the way down, allowing paste to rest against paste, pull the remaining unpasted strip onto the table, paste that portion and then fold that bottom portion of the strip in the same way back to the folded top edge (this is called "booking"). Do not crease. Allow 3 to 5 minutes after pasting to permit the wallcovering to "relax" before hanging (some manufacturers require longer soaking time). This will give the wallcovering time to expand or shrink on the work surface rather than on the wall causing mismatching or parting of the seams when dry. Booking is a very important step in your hanging. An additional benefit with booking is that it makes each strip of wallcovering easier to handle and to hang.



Booking



## Prepasted wallcovering

### 2 ways to wet the strip

There are two methods for wetting prepasted wallcovering. One popular method is to fill a water tray (inexpensive and available at your NDPA dealer) with lukewarm water and place on a towel or dropcloth at the baseboard where first strip is to be hung. Set ladder diagonally in front of water tray. Loosely re-roll the first strip from bottom to top with pattern side in, pasted side out. Submerge the rolled strip in water for the length of time indicated by the manufacturer. Then pull the strip slowly out of the water tray, climb ladder, and carry top of strip to the ceiling line.

Still another method is to use the water tray at a convenient table exactly as described when working at the baseboard. After pulling the strip slowly from the tray you lay the pattern side on the table, "book it" as described in third paragraph of "Unpasted Wallcovering" section (page 7), and carry immediately to the wall.

**NOTE:** Prepasted wallcovering has been fully pasted at the factory with the proper type of paste and we don't recommend any further pasting since the paste you use may not be compatible with the paste already on the wallcovering.



After allowing prepasted strip to soak for the proper time, pull slowly from water tray and lift to ceiling line.



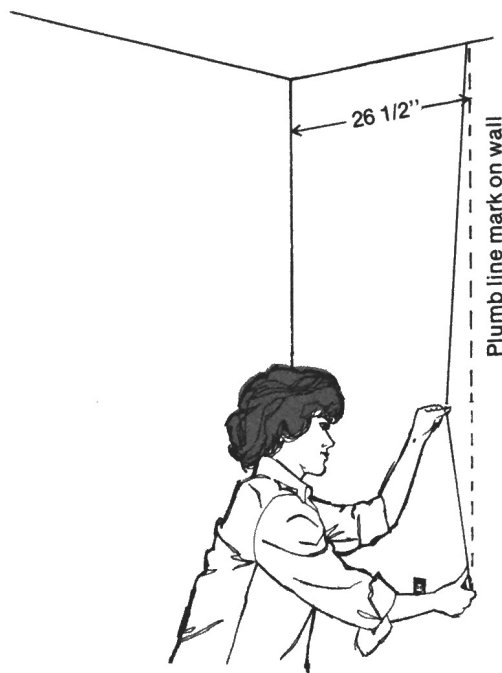
# Hanging

We're ready to start hanging now and since so much wallcovering today is pre-trimmed and pre-pasted, we're going to assume that's the kind you're working with. If your wallcovering is *untrimmed* turn to page 18 for instructions on how to trim the rolls *before* pasting. If your wallcovering *isn't prepasted*, no problem. Page 7 also gives instructions on how to paste. Then come back here and follow us around the room.

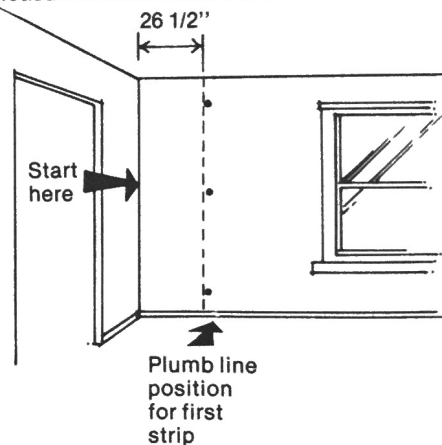
## Marking a plumb line

The least conspicuous corner of the room is a good starting point. To make sure your first strip of wallcovering is hung truly vertical, measure a distance from the corner that is  $1/2$  inch less than the width of the wallcovering. Mark, with a pencil, three such measurements—near the ceiling, mid-way down the wall and near the baseboard. Now tack a weighted string that has been chalked at the ceiling line or moulding so that it drops to the mark that is nearest to the corner of the three measurements taken. Hold the string taut at the bottom and snap against the wall. You will line up your first strip with the resulting chalk line (if you don't have chalk handy, secure the string, after it is still, with another tack or tape at the baseboard. Then pencil a vertical line with your yardstick along the path of the string.)

An excellent alternative to using a chalked string to make a plumb line is to use a carpenter's level—the longer, the better. Make your three measurements exactly as described above, mark with a pencil and then use the carpenter's level to draw a straight vertical line with the pencil at the mark nearest to the corner. Always use a *pencil* to draw these lines, ink from an ink or marking pen may bleed through the wallcovering after it is hung.



Measurement assumes use of 27" wallcoverings



Making a plumb line using a carpenter's level





# The First Strip

Place the wet or pasted strip high on the wall so that it overlaps at the ceiling joint approximately two inches. Line up one edge of the strip with plumb line so that the other edge laps into corner of the wall.

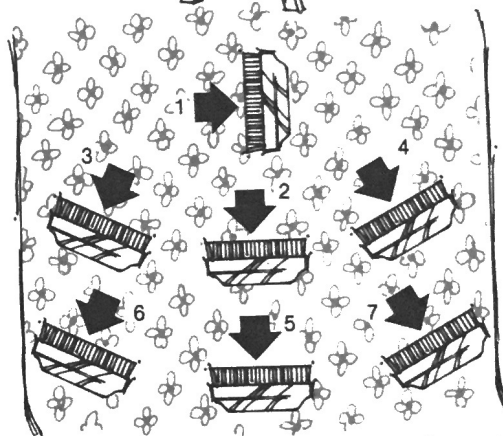
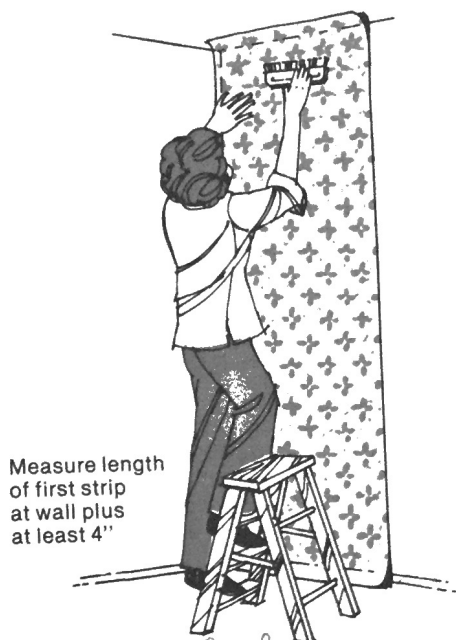
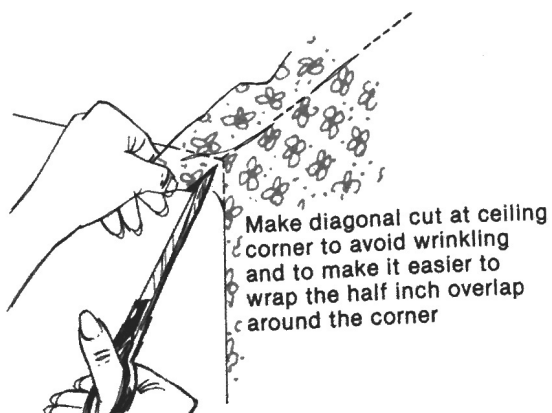
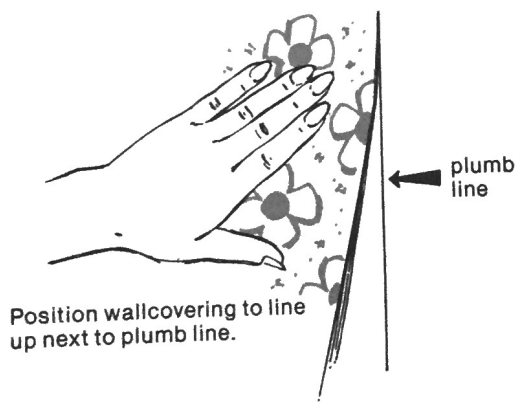
Give the upper section of the strip a couple of horizontal strokes at the ceiling line to force it into ceiling corner. Follow with down strokes as illustrated. Your NDPA dealer can recommend the right smoothing brush for the type of wallcovering you're hanging.

Step down from the ladder and slide the lower section (open first if folded) carefully into position using the palms of the hands. Check for alignment with the plumb line, then smooth again using down strokes as illustrated. Then use your scissors to snip a diagonal cut at the ceiling corner (see illustration).

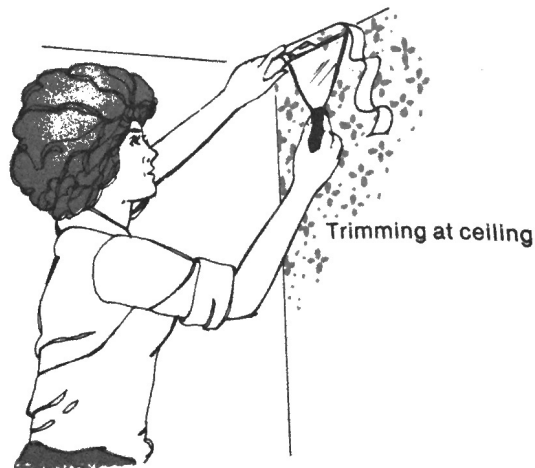
When paper is positioned even with the plumb line, smooth again over the entire strip. Remove any air bubbles and be sure the 1/2-inch overlap is firmly secured into and around the corner of the wall.

Now use your wall scraper as a guide for your razor knife and trim at the ceiling and baseboard. Rinse wallcovering thoroughly to remove any excess adhesive. Be sure to also rinse any adhesive off the ceiling and baseboard.

Use wall scraper as guide for trimming at ceiling and baseboard. Cut on side of scraper away from wall. Note that the scraper is always held between the wallcovering and the razor knife. Move the scraper along the wall, but always keep the blade of the razor knife in contact with the wall. This will assure a straight, even cut.



Professionals brush strokes in the direction and sequence indicated. Avoid any horizontal strokes except at the ceiling line. Excess paste must be wiped off immediately with a damp cloth or sponge.





## Hanging The Second Strip

To hang the second strip, take the roll to the wall and after matching the pattern to the edge of the first strip, again measure and cut a length two inches above the ceiling line and two inches below the baseboard. After the new strip has been properly soaked or pasted bring the two strips together so patterns match and form a seam by butting the edges without overlapping. Start at the ceiling line but try to match the first three feet of the strip you're hanging to the strip already on the wall. Slide the strip into position before excessive smoothing. To avoid the possibility of stretching wallcovering, use the palms of the hands and work at the center of the strip as much as possible when positioning each strip.

As you hang strips (and it's always best to finish with one roll before starting on the next), rinse each entire strip with a wet sponge to remove any paste on the surface. Be sure to thoroughly rinse ceilings, baseboards, moulding, etc. to remove any excess paste. *Use clean water for rinsing. Change rinse water after hanging two or three strips.*

After each wall is completed, use a seam roller and roll the seams with a firm but not excessive pressure. Keep the seam roller clean and free of paste.

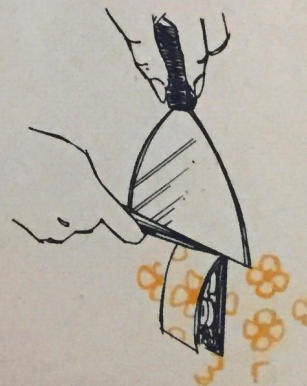
**Reminder:** Do not roll seams of flocked or embossed paper. See page 20.



## Handling Special Areas

### Electrical Outlets & Switch Plates

Turn off electrical current. Remove the switch plate or outlet plate, if you haven't already done so, and hang right over the outlet. With your cutting knife, carefully cut away the wallcovering around the hole and then replace the plate or fixture.



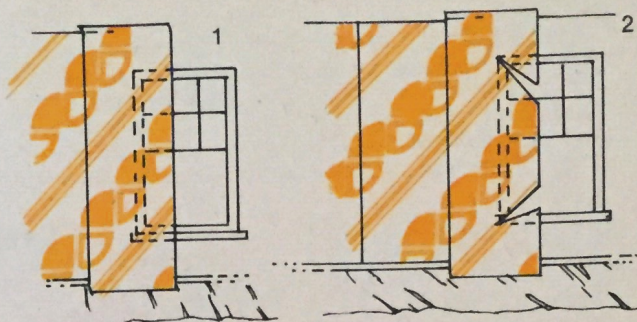


# Handling Special Areas (cont.)

## Windows & Doors

Don't try to pre-cut the wallcovering to fit around doors and windows before you hang it. *Paper right over the edge* when you come to a door or window (see illustration 1). After cutting excess away with scissors, make diagonal cuts at the corners (see illustration 2). Then use a scraper and razor knife to trim around window or door frame (see illustration 3). Continue to match the pattern without interruption above and below window by using matching sections from full-width strips.

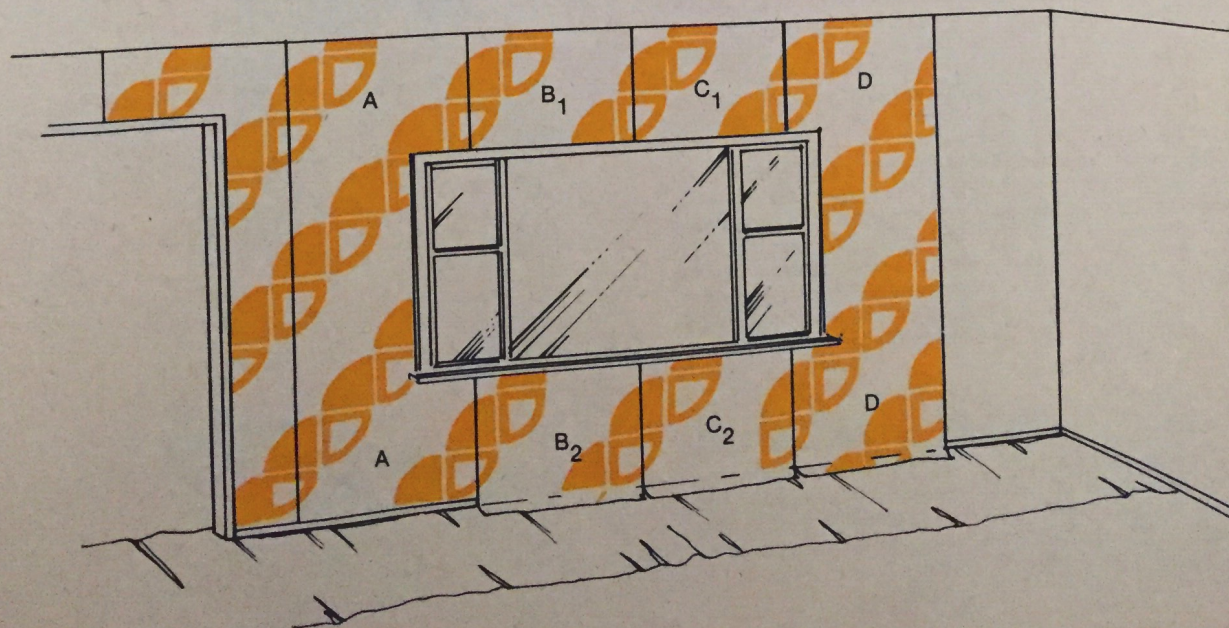
*Note: Treat a fireplace in the same manner as a window or door.*



## Oversize Wide Windows

When you have a wide window that requires more than two strips of wallcovering across the top and you're hanging a patterned wallcovering, a mismatch of 1/4-inch to 1/2-inch can often result at the last bottom strip when you hang your next full strip alongside the window.

(See illustrations) This happens because when the first strip (A) is hung it may have a tendency to slightly stretch as you hang around the window. As each succeeding short strip below the window (B2 & C2 in illustration) is hung, the pattern goes further off, becoming very apparent when the next long strip (D) is hung around the righthand side of the window. This mismatch of strip "D" can be *minimized* by the following steps. Do *not* trim the excess wallcovering on strips "B2" and "C2" at the window sill or the baseboard. Hang strip "D" as you normally would and *then* make slight up or down adjustments on the bottom strips (B2 and C2) to minimize the mismatch. Once you are satisfied, trim the excess wallcovering on strips "B2", "C2" and "D". Remember, you *cannot* completely eliminate the mismatch, but you can minimize it by using the preceding steps.





# Handling Special Areas (cont.)

## Inside Corners

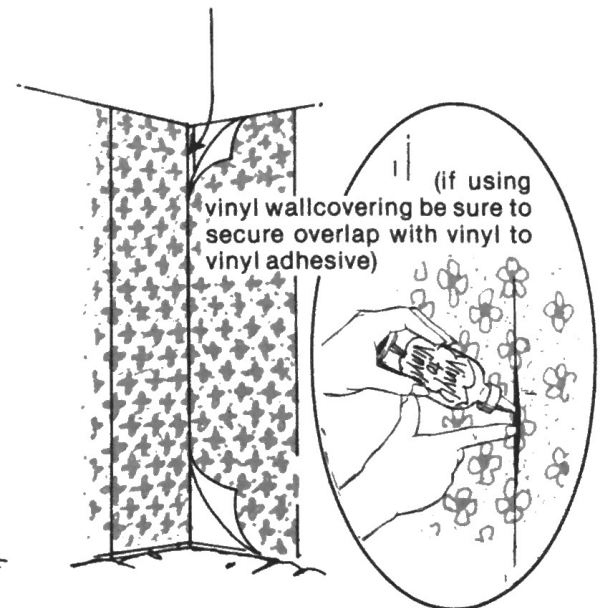
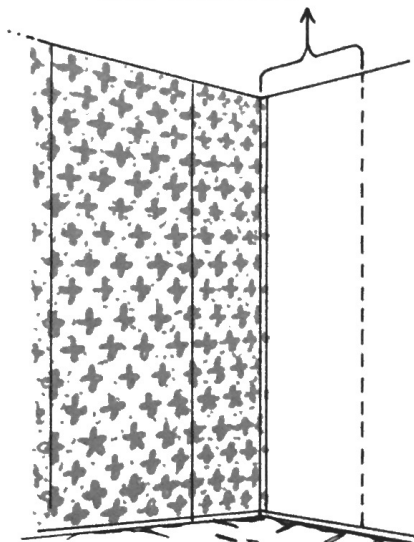
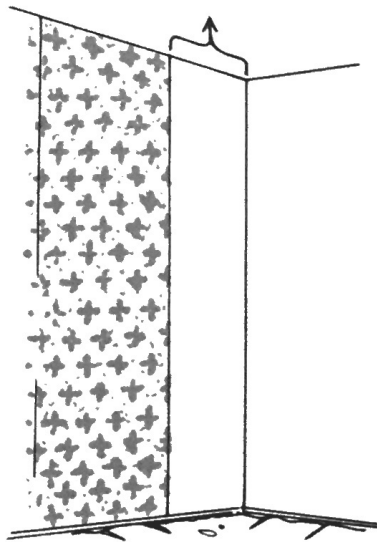
When you come to an inside corner, measure the distance from the edge of the last strip hung to the corner. Add one half inch to this measurement. Mark this measurement the length of your next strip and cut it, saving the leftover piece. Now hang the first strip, slitting it diagonally at the ceiling and baseboard for ease of handling where it goes around the corner. Now measure the remaining piece and drop

a plumb line this distance from the corner. Hang your remaining piece using your new plumb line as a guide. This strip will overlap the half-an-inch portion of the preceding piece that came around the corner. If you are hanging a vinyl wallcovering be sure to secure this overlap in the corner with vinyl-to-vinyl adhesive. Rinse off any excess adhesive immediately.

1 this measurement plus 1/2" should be cut the length of next strip so that the strip will wrap 1/2" around corner

2 measure width of remaining portion of strip and make a new plumb line this distance from corner

3 remaining strip will overlap the 1/2" that wrapped around the corner



(if using vinyl wallcovering be sure to secure overlap with vinyl to vinyl adhesive)

Snip with Scissors

## Outside Corners

Unless adjoining walls to an outside corner are badly out of line, the most practical way to proceed when you come to the corner is to *wrap* the strip you're hanging around the corner (snip the two inch overhang at ceiling and baseboard so it will be easy to wrap the strip around the new wall).

Since no ceiling or corner is truly straight you may have to tolerate a slight pattern drop or slant at the ceiling line when butting the next strip on the new wall.

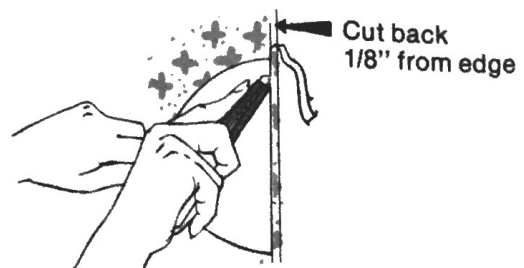
For this reason, when you know you'll be hanging around an outside corner you should start on the longer wall. This way any pattern drop at the ceiling line caused by an imperfect corner will be on the shorter wall and inconspicuous. One very important thing to remember when hanging around outside corners is to eliminate any trapped air at the corner. To do this, simply be sure that when you wrap around the corner edge you smooth the wallcovering strip tight.



Be sure to smooth wallcovering tight

## Ending at an Outside Corner

When you are not going to cover the wall adjoining the outside corner be sure to cut back 1/8" from the edge of the corner—this will eliminate fraying or peeling from the edge. This 1/8" will not be noticeable since it will be the same color as the paint on the adjoining wall.



Cut back 1/8" from edge



## Handling Special Areas (cont.)

### Ceilings

Always hang the ceiling before the walls. Hang strips the short way across the room. Shorter strips are easier to handle. Ask someone to help you — then one person can hold the strip of wallcovering while the other one positions the strip being hung; never stand totally underneath the strip (see illustration). It's also easier if you make a scaffold by placing a plank between two ladders.

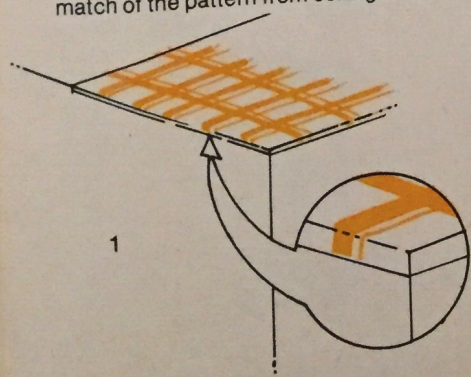
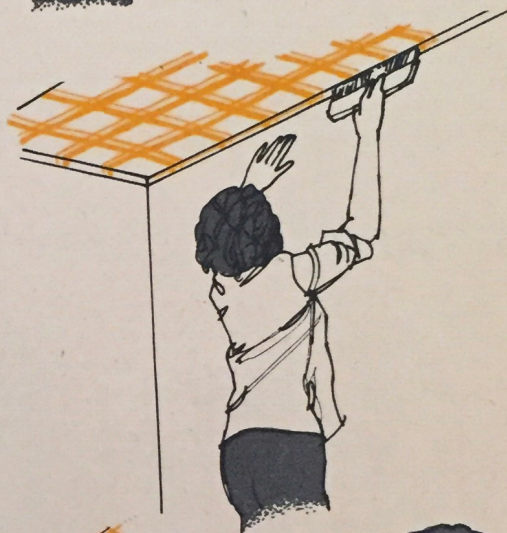
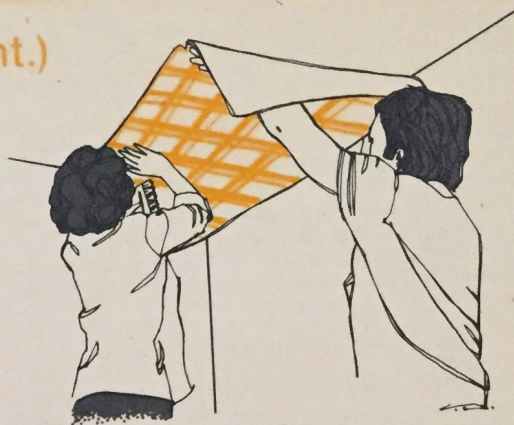
Make a guide line for the ceiling in the same way you plumb walls. Deduct 1/2-inch from the width of the ceiling wallcovering and measure from each side of the ceiling. Place tacks at each end and attach chalk line. Plan to end the ceiling wallcovering on the less critical side of the room, perhaps just above the main entrance. Be sure to remove any electrical fixtures.

Cut, paste and fold ceiling strips as for wall hanging, adding about 4 inches to ceiling width to provide a two inch overlap on end walls. Line up the first strip on the plumb line which will give you a 1/2" overlap on the adjoining wall. Be sure to snip the corner with a diagonal cut (see page 9). Smooth as you position the wallcovering along the plumb line (see page 9). Important tips to remember are to keep a smoother in your hand and always keep your hands no farther apart than two feet. If you start reaching, chances are the wallcovering will start to fall. *Keep your hands close together.* Continue with additional strips to complete the ceiling, butting seams as on walls. Rinse strips as you go with a wet sponge. Change rinse water frequently. After strips have been hung 10 to 15 minutes roll and lightly press seam with a seam roller. Trim excess wallcovering from walls *if you are going to cover ceiling only*. But, when you are planning to hang the side walls trim the ceiling wallcovering so there's 1/4" left on each wall.

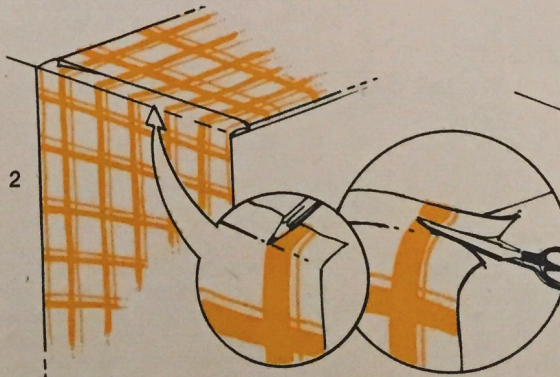
### Matching a Wall to a Ceiling

If your ceiling wallcovering has a pattern and you plan to use it on the walls as well, keep in mind that only one wall can be matched to the ceiling. You'll want this to be the wall most frequently looked at. For example, in a bathroom this wall would normally be the mirror or vanity wall.

For this wall, trim the ceiling wallcovering so there is an excess of 1/4"-inch left for the wall (see illustration 1). When you hang strips for this wall start with a match on the ceiling, force the strip tightly into the corner, and smooth strip to the wall (see illustration 2). Then **score** the overlapped wallcovering with a pencil at the corner of the ceiling, peel the strip back from the ceiling and cut on the penciled line with a scissors (see illustration 2—inserts). Press the strip back into the ceiling corner (see illustration 3). (Be sure to use an adhesive recommended by your NDPA dealer for the 1/4" wallcovering overlap at the ceiling line.) You have now achieved a match of the pattern from ceiling to wall.

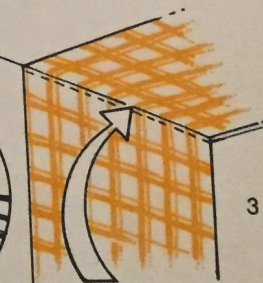


1/4" strip onto wall



score with pencil

pull back and cut with scissors



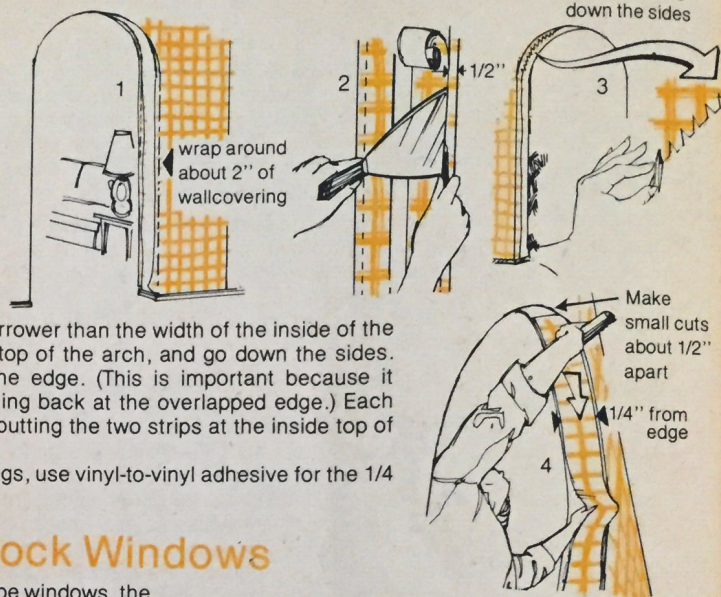
Finished matched strip with 1/4" overlap — wall strip over ceiling strip



## Handling Special Areas (cont.)

### Wrapping an Arch

To hang around an arch, simply wrap about two inches of the wallcovering strip around the inside of the arch (see illustration 1). Trim down this two-inch wraparound to 1/2 inch from the edge of the wall (see illustration 2). If the arch is curved, take your scissors and make small cuts about 1/2 inch apart (see illustration 3). This will eliminate any wrinkles in the wallcovering on the inside of the arch due to its curvature.



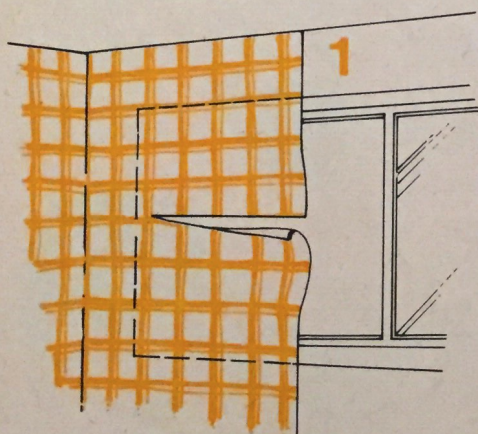
### Hanging Inside of an Arch

To hang inside the arch, cut a matching strip half an inch narrower than the width of the inside of the arch. Cut your strip long enough to start hanging from the top of the arch, and go down the sides. When hanging, overlap 1/4 inch, leaving 1/4 inch from the edge. (This is important because it eliminates the possibility of the wallcovering fraying or peeling back at the overlapped edge.) Each side strip will match the adjacent wall and the mismatch of butting the two strips at the inside top of the arch will not detract from the overall appearance.

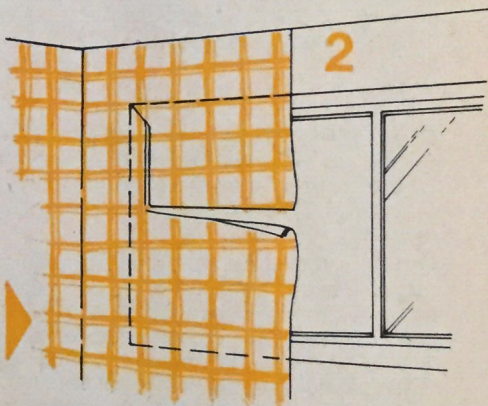
As mentioned previously, if you are hanging vinyl wallcoverings, use vinyl-to-vinyl adhesive for the 1/4 inch overlap on the inside of the arch.

### Hanging Casement & Glassblock Windows

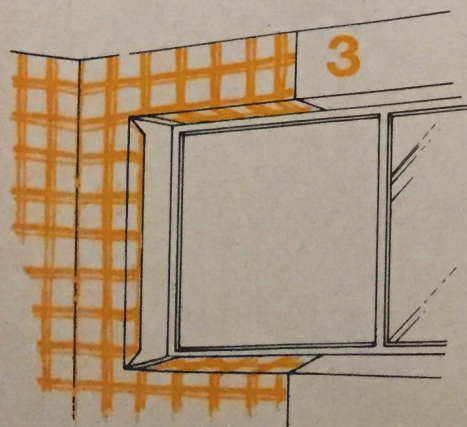
While there are a number of methods for hanging casement type windows, the following is one of the easiest methods.



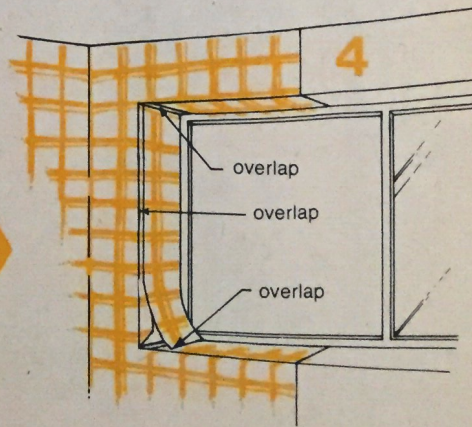
**First Step**—When you reach the casement window (here working from left to right), hang the strip of wallcovering that will overlap the casement as shown making sure that the strip is tightly hung. Trim off excess at ceiling and baseboard as usual. Make a horizontal cut with your scissors midway between the top and the bottom of the casement. Cut to within about one inch of the left side of the casement.



**Second Step**—From the end of your horizontal cut, make a vertical cut upward, then at a 45 degree diagonal to the upper corner of the casement. Do exactly the same thing downward to the lower corner of the casement.



**Third Step**—To cover the casement, press both the upper and lower flaps of wallcoverings onto the top and bottom of the casement recess, smooth and trim at the window frame. The narrow vertical flap should then be pressed onto the left edge of the casement.



**Fourth Step**—To finish the job, measure and cut a matching piece of wallcovering to cover the side of the casement. Be sure this piece is placed 1/4" from outer edge to eliminate fraying and long enough to overlap by about 1/4 of an inch the flaps on the top and bottom. *Note: If using a vinyl wallcovering, use special adhesive available at your NDPA dealer for overlaps.* After hanging and trimming this piece, continue hanging your wallcovering over the other side of the casement by the same method.



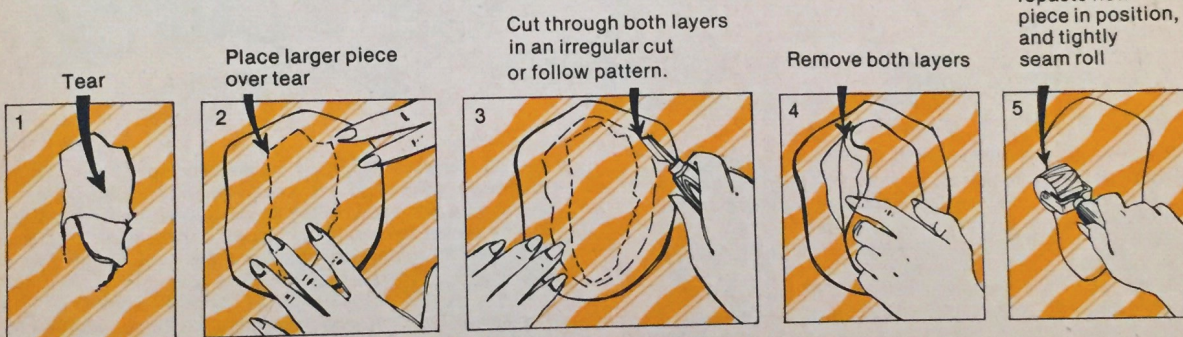
## Handling Special Areas (cont.)

### Hanging Behind Radiators

If there isn't room to get behind the radiator with a smoothing brush, use a wooden yardstick or radiator brush to smooth wallcovering against the wall. Don't leave wallcovering hanging loose. Cut off excess length before smoothing behind radiator.

### Repairing a Tear

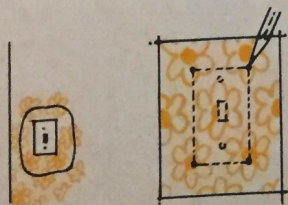
To repair a tear, place a larger piece of *pasted* wallcovering over the tear so that it makes an exact match with the wallcovering on the wall. Then double cut with a razor knife through *both* layers of the wallcovering around the tear (see illustration). Remove both layers, clean the exposed wall area and repaste the new outer piece into the area. After 15 minutes lightly seam roll the fitted edge. (An irregular, wavy, cut possibly following the design in the wallcovering will make your cut less noticeable and will "disappear" better into the pattern).



### Covering Switchplates

Switch plates, electrical outlets, etc. should not take away from the appearance of a wallcovering job. If possible, they should be finished with the same material as hung on the wall for that professional "designer look."

#### Procedure:



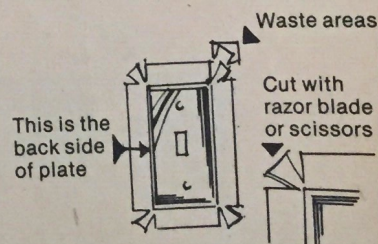
Take a dry scrap piece of wallcovering and cut out the design which matches the area around the switch (see illustration). Then place this dry piece over the mounted switch plate and mark the corners with

a dot made with a sharp pencil point. (see illustration) Remove plate and then paste the front side of the plate and the back-side of the wallcovering with a "vinyl-to-vinyl" adhesive (some chrome and plastic switch plates may require a prime coat so the adhesive will hold).

Then cut the corners as shown with a razor knife or scissors.

NOTE: Be sure you have the corner marks lined up.

After cutting, wrap the excess wallcovering around the plate and press firmly down (holding till it sticks thoroughly)—then rinse and let dry.



After allowing switch plate to dry thoroughly then take a razor blade and cut out the openings (for the small screw openings, a small nail can be used to puncture through the wallcovering). Put plate back on the wall for a perfect match.

### Regluing Loose Edges

To re-glue loose edges, pull away enough of the strip to get a thin coat of the proper adhesive underneath. Press down firmly for a few minutes, smooth out air bubbles and wipe away excess adhesive with a damp sponge.



Clean area, repaste new piece in position, and tightly seam roll



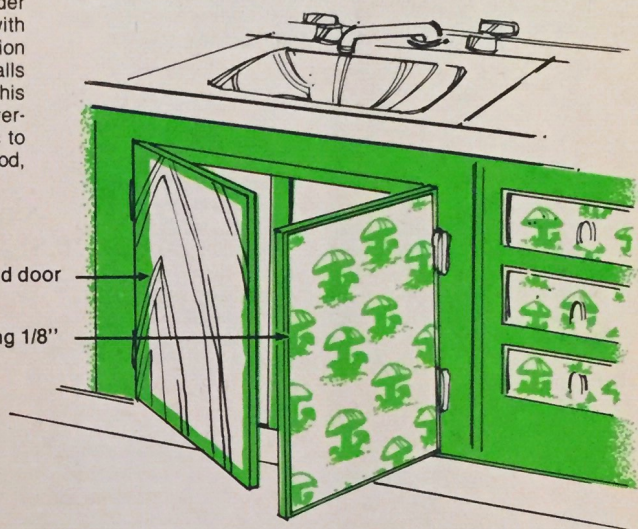
# Hanging For The Decorator Look

## Covering Doors & Cabinets

To cover doors, folding screens, or cabinets with wallcovering first remove any hardware. Then paint a one-inch border around the door with a color that blends or contrasts with the wallcovering. After paint is thoroughly dried, position the wallcovering to match the pattern on any adjoining walls and trim the wallcovering 1/8" from the outside edge. This will eliminate any fraying or peeling back of the wallcovering. Ask your NDPA dealer what primers and adhesives to use when applying the wallcovering to varnished wood, plastic or metal surfaces.

Paint a one-inch border around door

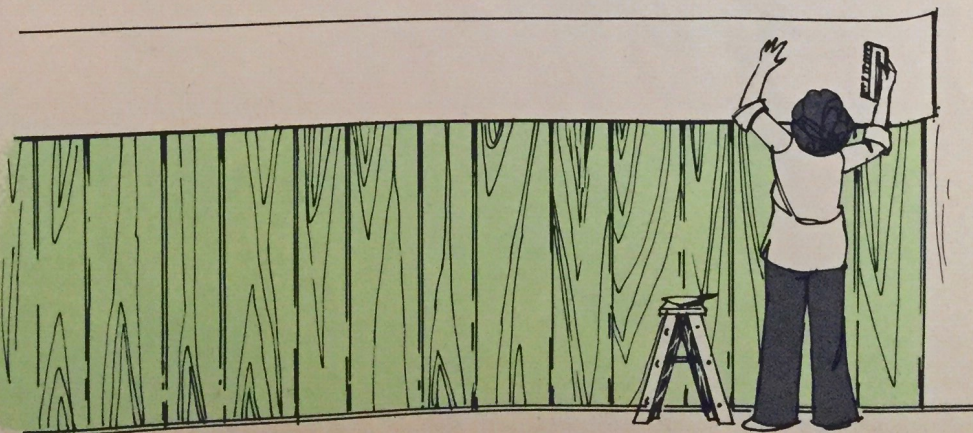
Trim back wallcovering 1/8"



## Covering Over Paneling & Wall Tile

There are a number of methods for covering paneling (real wood, photo finish, plastic, laminate, etc.) and tile (plastic, metal, ceramic, etc.) with wallcoverings, but there are two methods that are the most foolproof. The first method is to wash and rinse the surface thoroughly. Then apply a primer sealer (consult your NDPA dealer for the proper type) and patch seams with ready mix spackling compound. (Sometimes two coats of the spackling compound are necessary if the grooves between the tile or paneling are deep.) Allow the spackling compound to dry thoroughly, sand, and then reapply primer sealer. Once this has dried thoroughly, you'll have a smooth surface over which to hang your wallcover-

ing. You can even hang over the tile capping! The first step for the second method is to also wash and rinse the surface and apply a primer sealer (again, consult your NDPA dealer for the proper type of primer sealer). Then, apply a super heavy weight strippable lining paper (see page 6) with ready mix vinyl adhesive making sure your seams do *not* line up with the grooves of the paneling or tile. Allow 36 hours for drying and then hang your wallcovering directly over the lining paper; again laying out so your wallcovering seams do not fall on the same seams as the lining paper. The super heavy weight strippable lining paper bridges over these grooves to give you a smooth surface.

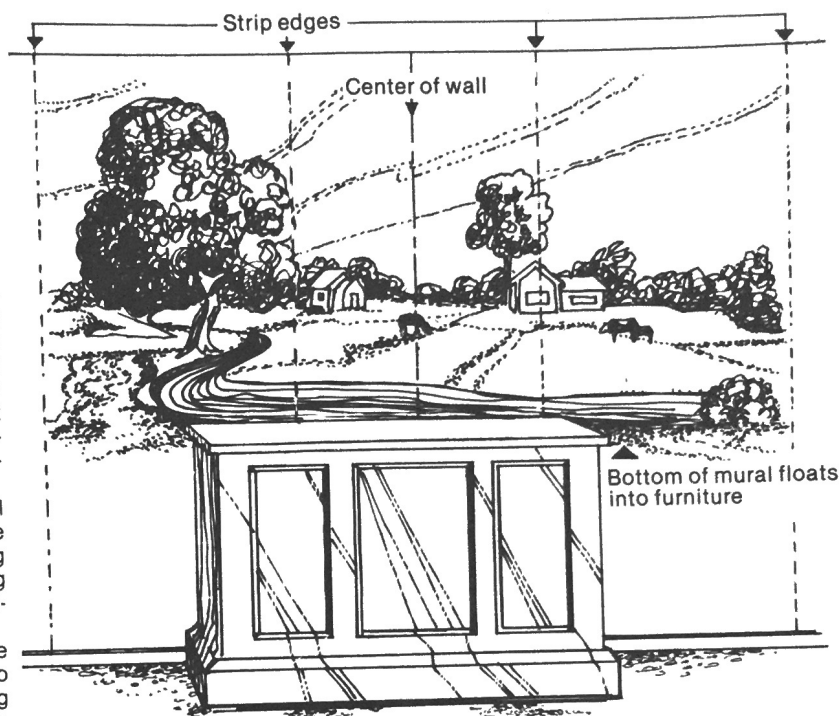




Murals come in panel strips that are precut with extra material at top and bottom so panels can be raised or lowered on the wall. A common mistake with murals is to hang the scene too high. The scene should "float" into the furniture. If the scene does not cover the entire wall, you can buy background panels (individual strips or rolls) to fill out the area on each side. Pencil a vertical line at the midway point of the wall. If the mural has an even number of panels mark the width of the panels from this line to left and right and draw new verticals. Continue till you have marked panel widths to each corner of the wall. If there are an odd number of panels measure *half* the panel distance left and right from the center vertical then continue measuring full panel widths left and right to the corners.

The corner strips will probably not measure full panel widths but this measurement will be the width of the *starting* background panel. Using this measurement take a plumb line and hang corner to corner as you would with regular wallcovering.

Before hanging, draw a horizontal line where the bottom of the mural should start. (Be sure to use a pencil and not a ball point or marking pen). Be sure it starts at the top of a furniture piece or slightly below.

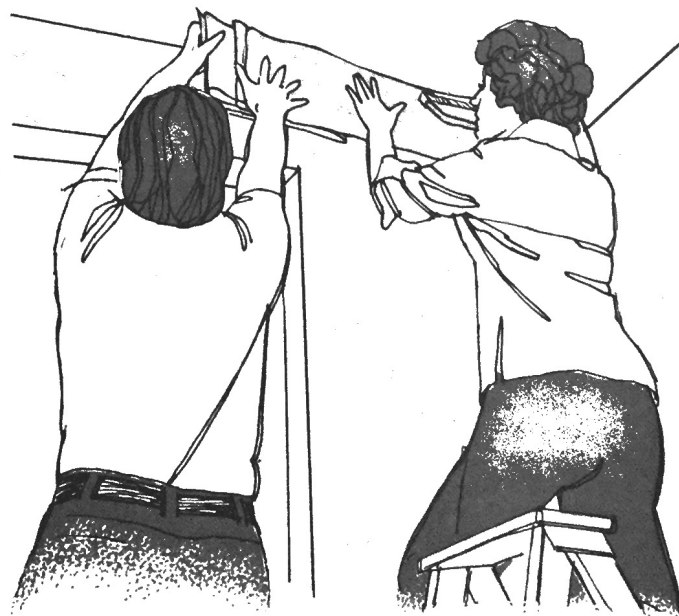
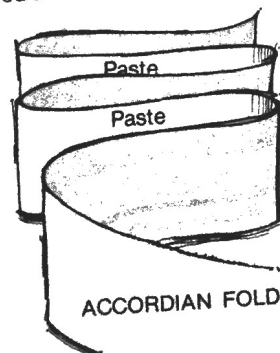


Graphics are another name for murals. They are usually murals where the pattern or scene goes from ceiling to floor. Not all of these type murals come in ceiling to floor

strips like conventional murals. Instead, many come in large squares or rectangles (for example, 54" x 36"), but they are hung just as any other wallcovering.

### Borders

Borders are used to complement wallcovering or as a contrast to painted walls. To hang, start at an inconspicuous corner with an accordion fold, paste-to-paste and pattern-to-pattern. Fold but do not crease. Gradually unfold border as you smooth it into position on the wall and thoroughly rinse as you go. Ask your NDPA dealer about the type of adhesive to use when hanging borders over vinyls and other wallcoverings. It helps to have someone hold the long folded strip as you are smoothing it into position.





# Trimming Untrimmed Wallcovering

There are two methods for trimming off the excess unprinted edge from wallcovering that has not been factory pre-trimmed (such as handprints, murals, grasscloths, fabrics, etc.) With either method, the tools you'll need are a five or six foot metal straightedge, a razor knife with extra razor blades, and a five or six foot soft cutting board with the wood grain running the length of the board.

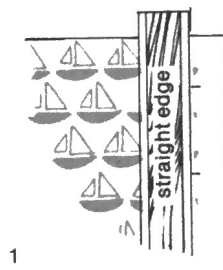
The first method is to trim the wallcovering dry (before pasting). Lay the wallcovering strip pattern side up on the cutting board. Place your straightedge on the pattern side of the trim marks (see illustration 1). (If you are trimming very delicate wallcoverings, such as flocks and foils, place your straightedge on the *outside* edge to avoid marking or creasing the wallcovering face.) Then measure with a metal ruler from the outside edge being sure you are splitting a design pattern that will match up to the other side (see illustration). (Do not necessarily follow the trim marks that may already be printed on the edge of the wallcovering—they may not be accurate.) Using this measurement, mark the edge of the strip lightly with a pencil at at least three points.

Now, line up your straightedge with the pencil marks. (Place the straightedge on the pattern side of the marks *unless* you are trimming delicate wallcoverings such as those mentioned above. In that case, place it on the outside edge.) Place your left hand on the straightedge about one third the way from the right hand end. With your fingers together and your thumb at a right angle to them, apply slight downward pressure to the straightedge so it will not slip out of position. Then with your right hand, place your razor knife against the straightedge in a vertical position (see illustration 3 and 4). Be sure the knife is held in the palm of your hand and do *not* cut at an angle to the straightedge (this would produce a slight bevel and the seams will not butt perfectly on the wall). Draw the knife firmly, cutting entirely through the wallcovering. As you proceed, move your left hand toward the other end of the straightedge, but do *not* lift your knife from the cutting board or wallcovering. This will always assure you a true and even trim. When you come to the end of the board, lift the knife and straightedge and pull the remainder of the strip onto the table. Repeat and continue the same procedure as on the first part of the strip. Change your razor blade after cutting each full strip.

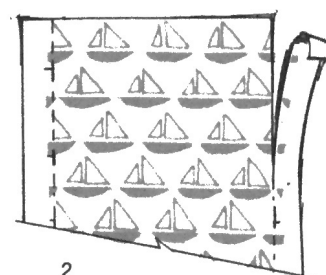
The second method for trimming untrimmed wallcovering is to do it after it is pasted. Except for the strip being pasted and "booked," this method is exactly the same as the first. (For "booking" directions, see page 7.) Since you will be cutting through two layers of wallcovering, it is important to line up the edges of the strip perfectly when you "book" (see illustration 5). Depending on the wallcovering, with this method the straightedge is placed on the outside edge of the strip to avoid creasing the folds of the "book."

Remember, when you measure and mark your wallcovering for trimming try to split a design pattern so that it will match up to the other side. Often, before you even start, it is best to simply cut off about a foot from the end of the roll, trim one side and match up. This will help you determine exactly how much to trim off each side of the strip.

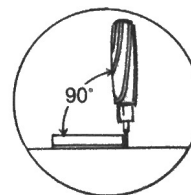
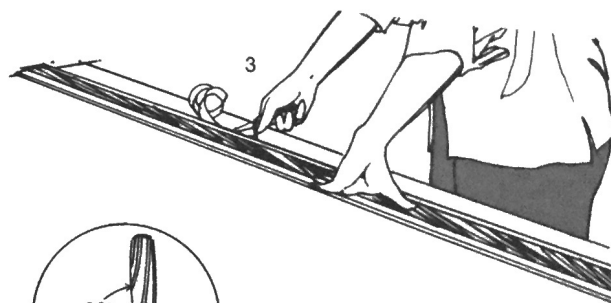
Consult your NDPA dealer on which trimming method he recommends for the untrimmed wallcovering you have selected.



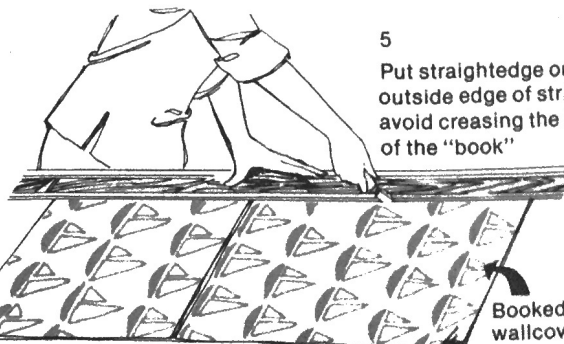
1 Straightedge on the pattern side of trim marks



2 Splitting a design pattern that will match up to the other side



4 Be sure blade is at 90° angle to cutting surface



5 Put straightedge on outside edge of strip to avoid creasing the folds of the "book"

Booked wallcovering



# Pasting The Wall

This method of applying adhesive is gaining much popularity because of the care of application and hanging of certain types of wallcoverings (such as mylars and foils). However, there are two very important cautions you should be aware of before you consider using this method. Read these first before going on to the instructions for this method.

1) Never paste the wall if the wallcovering you are using will expand, stretch or shrink. Most wallcoverings manufactured and sold today will expand or shrink on the wall and this will later result in the opening or puckering of seams. Or spaces and gaps may appear showing the wall beneath at the ceiling or baseboard line where the wallcovering was trimmed.

2) Never apply paste to an unsealed (primed and/or sized) surface. If the surface is not primed and/or sized properly, the adhesive you apply will "dry" too quickly and thus may not be "wet" enough to absorb into the backing of your wallcovering to hold it to the wall. (Consult your NDPA dealer for the proper preparation products for priming and/or sizing your walls.)

The best method for pasting the wall is to first mark vertical lines with a pencil where each wallcovering strip will fall on the wall. Then apply your adhesive (probably a ready mix variety—consult your NDPA dealer) with a quality 3/8 inch medium nap roller cover. Coat only the area that will be covered by your first strip plus an extra half inch beyond the vertical line. The adhesive should be applied just as you would paint being sure you apply a nice even stipple coat. You will also need a nylon paint brush to coat the wall surface next to the ceiling and the baseboard. Then take your strip of wallcovering (allowing the usual extra two inches at the ceiling and baseboard) and re-roll it *pattern* side in. Start at the ceiling line and with your smoother carefully bring it down smoothing as you go. It is very important that you keep your eyes on either the plumb line or on the edge of the strip already hung rather than on the strip you're hanging. Otherwise the strip you're hanging may not fall straight and you may not be able to slide it as easily into place for a perfect match. Your smoothing should be done a foot at a time and always with a downward stroke as you unroll the strip.

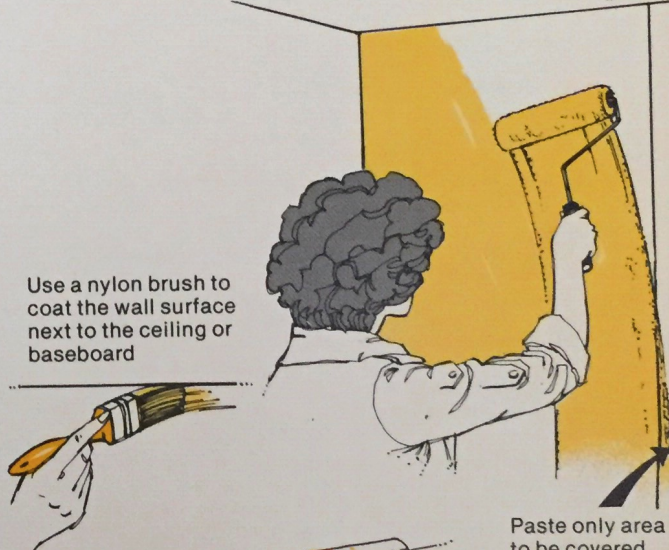
Next, trim the excess wallcovering at the ceiling and baseboard and rinse thoroughly. You'll also want to rinse your smoother since it will pick up some paste from the extra half inch of wall that was pasted and not covered by the strip. On your next strips, follow the same procedure as on the first. Unless your wallcovering is a flock or stainable, apply the adhesive a half an inch onto the face of the wallcovering strip already on the wall. This will assure adequate paste at the seam.

Again, keep clean rinse water and a good sponge (don't use paper towels or rags) handy at all times. Change your rinse water frequently (after every two or three strips).

Mark vertical lines with a pencil where each wallcovering strip will fall



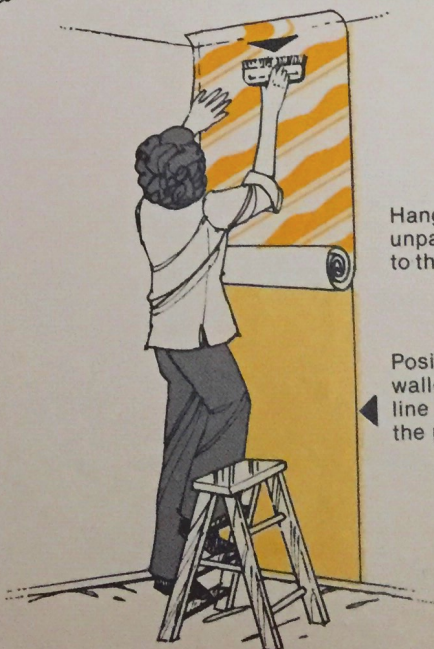
Use a nylon brush to coat the wall surface next to the ceiling or baseboard



Paste only area to be covered by the strip you are to hang, plus 1/2" beyond the vertical line.

Hanging the first unpasted strip to the pasted wall

Position the wallcovering to line up with the plumb line





# Special Things You Should Know About Glamour Wallcoverings

**VINYLS** are wallcovering with a continuous flexible film applied to a fabric or paper backing. Many are pre-pasted. Paperbacked vinyls come strippable and non-strippable. Fabric backs are strippable. All non-pasted require a vinyl adhesive. Since there are several kinds—powder, liquid, pre-mixed—get your NDPA dealer's recommendation.

**"WET LOOK" VINYLs:** Hang as you would regular vinyl wallcoverings—but wall preparation is more critical to obtain a smoother wall since the glossy look of a "wet look" vinyl will highlight any defect on the wall. Also care should be taken not to touch or "finger" the wallcovering while it is drying on the wall (in some cases the adhesives take 3 to 4 days to dry) or your imprint will show when it dries.

**FOILS AND MYLARS** require a perfect surface. Read manufacturer's directions carefully. Many recommend a lining paper (see page 6).

Foils conduct electricity if allowed to come in contact with exposed wires. Turn off current and cut foil clean around electrical outlets for safe clearance with any metal.

Because of the delicacy of some foils and mylars, many times the adhesive should be applied to the wall (see page 19). Use a pre-mixed type of vinyl adhesive. It is best applied with a short, medium nap 3/8" roller, rolling paste on smoothly to an even texture. Roll no more than 1/2" beyond the area to be covered by each strip. *Immediately* after rolling, hang the strip and, before paste dries, work out air bubbles with a *soft* smoother or medium nap paint roller to avoid scratching the surface. If an air bubble develops that cannot be smoothed to wall, puncture it with a pin and press down. Be sure to rinse off excess adhesive *immediately*. Many mylars require drying with a soft cloth after rinsing to avoid water marks.

**FLOCKS** have raised fibers, usually nylon, applied in a design to simulate the look of velvet. To preserve the velvet look, avoid hard over-brushing in smoothing the flocked wallcovering to the wall. Never use a seam roller to press down seams. Gently tap with edge of a smoothing brush.

If any paste gets on the face of the flock, remove immediately by rinsing with a clean damp sponge.

Cut and hang one strip at a time rinsing as you go. After flocked wallcovering is completely dry, set the direction of the flocked fiber by gently brushing with a soft brush. Start at ceiling line and use long vertical strokes.

**GRASSCLOTH AND CORK:** These imports are "nature's" products and generally have a paper backing. Use conventional wheat paste but avoid excessive soaking that might cause the material to separate from the paper backing. Lining paper is also generally recommended (see page 6).

**TEXTILE FABRICS AND BURLAPS** should be applied with a non-staining paste. Trim, paste and hang one strip at a time and avoid excessive soaking. Fabrics must be pre-shrunk if they have no backing. After pre-shrinking test a sample to determine how heavily paste should be applied and if paste can be washed away without leaving a stain. Generally apply paste to wall. Lining paper is usually recommended. (Your NDPA dealer can advise you.) A **SOFT ROLLER, PAD SMOOTHER OR CLEAN HANDS** ARE BEST FOR SMOOTHING FABRIC INTO PLACE. **SEAM ROLLERS ARE GENERALLY TABOO ON FABRICS, GRASSCLOTHS, FOILS, FLOCKS AND MYLARS. THEY CAN EASILY FLATTEN OR BURNISH THE SEAMS. YOUR FINGERS OR THE GENTLE TAPPING OF A SMOOTHING BRUSH WILL KEEP SEAMS DOWN.**

**SYNTHETICS (TYVEK, FASTBAC, REMAY, ETC.):** These are the new breed of strippable wallcoverings. Their surfaces are very smooth and durable and many come pre-pasted. These wallcoverings generally do not change their physical shape after pasting. Check with your NDPA dealer on the proper adhesives for the "new" synthetic wallcoverings.

## Care of Wallcoverings:

Wallcovering, properly hung, will last for years. Most of today's wallcoverings, even elegant-looking flocks, are washable. Clean your wallcovering with a sudsy solution of mild soap and lukewarm water. Wash with sponge starting at bottom of wall, working upward, using overlapping circular strokes. Thorough rinsing is always essential. To increase washability, stain resistance and color retention on some wallcoverings, such as fabrics, can be coated with a clear plastic coating. See your NDPA dealer for these products.



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