

ASSEMBLAGE

PATTERN STRATUS : Wallpaper Hanging Instructions

Assemblage recommends installing 'STRATUS' in a railroad or horizontal orientation. This is only a recommendation and is not required.

This instruction sheet is not intended as a complete course in wallpaper installation. It is strongly recommended that only a highly talented paperhanger who is well versed in the installation of untrimmed, handmade wallpapers install this material.

Product Note:

- Material **SHOULD NOT BE CREASED** or **FOLDED**. Does not bend well around inside or outside corners.
- STRATUS is designed to be 'paneled' and must be trimmed at the jobsite.
- Additional yardage should be ordered at the onset since 'paneling' will create additional waste.
- All paperhanging estimates should be done on a **STRIP-BY-STRIP** basis.

Scoring or cutting is suggested when wrapping corners. A Benjamin Moore paint color can be suggested for covering any white paper areas that appear as a result of scoring or cutting.

Wall Preparation and Priming:

Note: Installation over unsealed walls can lead to job failures, among which are 'bleed-through' staining and wallpaper release. As with building a home, the foundation is key to product longevity. Also, the smoother and flatter the wall surface, the better will be the finished job. 'Pimples' can telegraph through the wall covering. Wavy, bulged, rippled walls can cause seams not to 'butt' properly and will detract from the overall appearance of the product.

- Plaster walls or walls previously painted with high quality paints should be sealed with a flat oil based primer such as Zinsser Oil Shieldz. Allow to dry for 48 hours.
- Walls with bare drywall, patches, average to poor paints or builder's flat paints should be sealed with 2 heavy coats (WET ON WET) of Zinsser Gardz and allowed to dry for at least 24 hours.
- If a DARK colored wall covering is being applied, Primer may be tinted to reduce the effect of a split seam. Allow an extra 24 hours drying time when tinted primer is installed.

Liner Not Recommended:

Liner is not required nor is it recommended under this product. This product works best over a totally sealed wall (Gardz – 2 coats wet on wet or oil based Shieldz. The sealed wall increases the open time of the paste so that several sheets can be installed in fairly rapid succession without the need to 'refresh' the pasted wall.

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Handmade wall coverings are unique. Variations in the product are to be expected and do not constitute defects. It is the paperhanger's responsibility to blend these irregularities into a presentation that gives balance and rhythm to the room or area into which this product is installed.

HINT: Trim all but the last strip to size leaving the last strip wider to compensate for irregular corners.

Dry Trimming: Material must be kept at room temperature for at least 24 hours prior to installation.

- Use a fresh edge of a single edge blade for each cut.
- Straightedge **MUST** be clamped to the paperhanging table for each trim cut.
- Do not remove clamps until selvage has been completely removed. (Some thick pigments may require a double strike with the blade.)
- Lift, do not slide, the straightedge on the material.
- After trimming a strip, LOOSELY re-roll (at least an 8" - 9" inside diameter) the sheet from bottom to top with the pattern side in. Generally, trim enough strips to completely cover a wall from corner to corner. Allow extra width on the last strip to compensate for corner irregularities.

DOUBLE CUTTING IS NOT RECOMMENDED:

Due to the varied nature of each wall covering surface, double cutting is not recommended. If double cutting is deemed mandatory due to wall irregularities, then 'slip-sheeting' of the overlapped panel is essential in eliminating paste contamination into the handmade surfaces. Also, double cuts must be 'padded' with a product such as "Steve's Double Cutting Pad" due to the nature of the substrate and the varying densities of pigments. Commercial double cutters WILL cause pigments to crack and flake at the seams. The paperhanger **MUST** test his or her particular technique on extra wallpaper **PRIOR** to starting the actual installation.

Dry Hanging:

- This material is to be DRY HUNG since the product cannot be "booked!" Outside corners **CANNOT BE WRAPPED**.
- Suggested adhesives: Pro-774 strippable clay, GH-34, Pro-838, Pro-880. Strippable clay has proved the easiest to notice on the surface of the wallcovering.
- With a 3/8" nap roller, apply a uniform moderately heavy coating of adhesive to the wall taking care to brush-in all corners (ceiling, baseboards, doorframes, inside corners). Make sure that no lumps or granular contaminants are present. These will 'telegraph' through and detract from the aesthetic charm of the wall covering.
- Allow paste to 'tack-up' 4-10 minutes. Note: the better the wall has been sealed, the longer the open time. If wall starts to show dry spots, refresh the paste but try not to add more to the wall.
- Hang to a laser line since pasting the wall can hide drawn plumb lines.
- Wrapping a 12" canvassing brush and / or a nylon smoother with a micro fiber towel or soft cotton cloth will help avoid scratching the surface during installation.
- Each sheet is handmade and unique so reverse hanging should not be required.
- Trimming at perimeters (ceiling, baseboard, window frames, door frames, etc) can be done by gently pressing the paper into them with an unprotected nylon smoother followed by pressing a metal broad knife into the corner to achieve greater definition. **DO NOT SLIDE** smoothie or broad knife along corner margins! Relief cuts must be made at window and doorframes **BEFORE** pressing material into the corner. Complicated cuts (i.e.:crown moldings, etc.) require the use of a template cut to the exact size of the decorative panel being installed. Scrap commercial vinyl works well for this purpose. Transfer all cuts from this template to the panel to be installed.

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- If you must stop in the middle of a wall, scrape off all remaining paste and wash the surface completely free of paste residue. On the following hanging session, paste the wall as above but also cut-in carefully to the previously applied sheet.
- Since the substrate of all ASSEMBLAGE wallpapers is a non-woven, dimensionally stable product, no growth or shrinkage will be encountered. With the proper base preparation the paperhanger should be able to 'nudge' a seam together even after 15 - 30 minutes. Open seams are usually caused by:
 - A. Warped, bent or worn out wallpaper straightedge.
 - B. Improper handling of single edge trimming blade.
 - C. Grooved paperhanging boards causing the trimming blade to wander.
 - D. Wavy wall surfaces.
- Remove paste from surface soon after contact with a clean sea sponge soaked in clean water with a pH of 7 (generally tap water is pH 7) or distilled water. Follow by drying with a clean soft cotton or micro fiber towel.
- If, after installation, a split seam is detected, applying a dilute solution of Gouache and distilled water using a fine bristled artist's brush (capillary action will 'wick' the solution into the seam). Wipe the seam horizontally with a damp micro fiber cloth so that no Gouache colorant remains on the surface. As with any seam touch-up, ALWAYS DO A TEST on a scrap to see if any adverse reactions occur. A slightly gapped seam is always preferable to replacing 2 sheets because the touch-up colors bled into the paper.

Maintenance & Cleaning:

Walls should be cleaned primarily by vacuuming with the dusting brush but can be cleaned with clean water and Magic Eraser Sponge. As with any cleaning always do a test on a scrap of the wall covering to determine the best approach