

# TRADE OF PAINTING & DECORATING

PHASE 2

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Module 4

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## Wall Coverings

UNIT: 2

Lining and Vinyl Papers (Walls)

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## *Introduction*

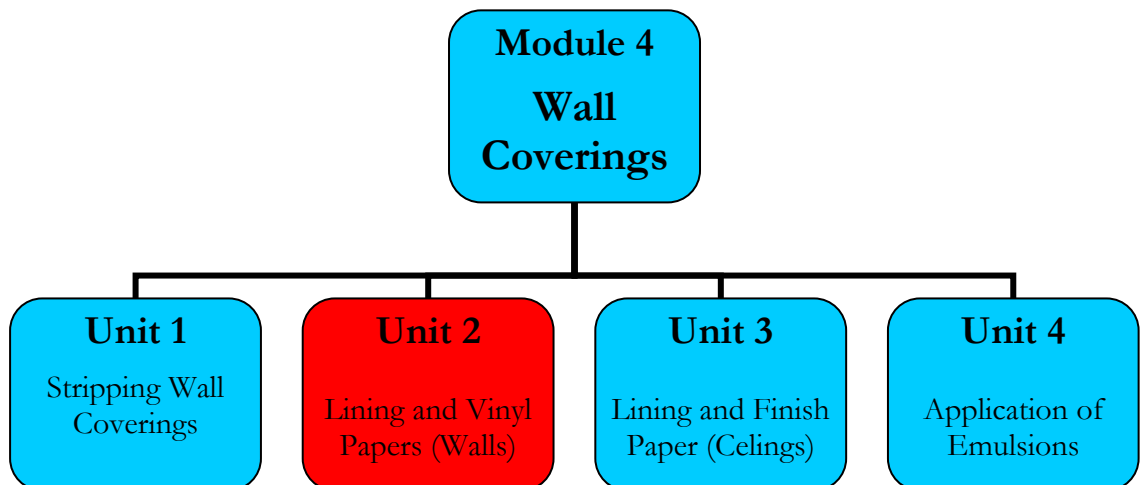
Paper hanging is a very old form of decoration and the act of hanging it has always been seen as a great skill. Like all forms of decoration it has had periods of being in and out of fashion.

The variety of wallcovering on the market is huge and a visit to any interior design shop will introduce you to them. New products are constantly being introduced and with the addition of these new materials come new adhesives and preparation techniques. The paperhanger must become familiar with all these and be constantly updated by the manufacturers or their agents.

Many people like wallpapers as a form of decoration and they feature in the domestic situation in a big way. Wallpapers with special children's designs are very popular for children's bedrooms with matching bedclothes while the older ones can have their favourite football club's design.

Hotels use them in a big way while reception areas of companies use very attractive mural types. Some wallpaper is of very delicate material and suitable for private decoration. Others are of a robust material bringing colour, design and protection to surfaces all at once.

Wallpapers and wallcoverings range in price from reasonable to very expensive and all this must taken into account when making a final selection. Coupled with this paperhanger must have the knowledge and skill to prepare the surfaces that are to receive the wallcovering.



### *Learning Outcomes*

**By the end of this unit each apprentice will be able to:**

- Hang lining paper on a given wall area
- Hang vinyl paper on a given wall area
- Return patterned paper around corner
- Cut paper around obstacles (doorframes, electrical sockets, etc.)
- State preparation of various surfaces prior to hanging wallcoverings

## 1.0 Hang Lining Paper on A Given Wall Area

### 1.1 *Types functions and application of lining paper*

**Lining paper:** A plain paper with no pattern and smooth on both sides.

Reasons for lining:

- To provide a uniformly absorbent surface for wallcoverings, especially surfaces of varying absorbency.
- To help hide surface irregularities prior to paperhanging or painting.

#### **Grades of lining paper and its uses:**

Grade 480: A lightweight paper for use on new and smooth plastered walls and ceilings. Ideal as a base for general wallpapers and for coating with emulsion.

Grade 600: A heavier version of 480, and generally used in the same circumstances.

Grade 800: A Medium grade paper for use on new and old but smooth walls and ceilings in good condition. This will cover fine cracks and minor surface imperfection. Ideal as a base for general wallpapers and for coating with emulsion.

Grade 1200: An extra heavy weight grade of paper, which provides strength and covers cracks and surface imperfections.

Grade 1400: The heaviest grade of lining paper available and it gives a superb finish on all wall surfaces. Ideal as a base for general wallpapers and for coating with emulsion.

#### **Wall rock fibre liner:**

Has replaced cotton backed lining paper and is ideal for covering up unsightly and poor plaster surfaces.

Extremely strong and either side can be used. It does not require any soaking and can also be hung dry to a pre-pasted surface. A good quality ready made adhesive gives best results use on old and poor plaster, breeze and wood panelling and cement render, etc. All surfaces must be well prepared prior to hanging wallrock, and when hung it can be emulsion painted, or used as a base for overhanging other wallcoverings

**Super white:**

This is a medium to heavyweight pure white paper, which can be used on most wall and ceilings in good condition. It is particularly useful for use prior to hanging white or light coloured wall coverings.

**Lining plus:**

This is a heavy weight textured lining paper specially designed for applying decorative paint effects. Cannot be used as a base for wallpapers.

**Cross Fire:**

A safety lining paper. Fully tested and approved to Class "0" (BS476prts 6+7) It retains its class "0" even when painted over with emulsions or acrylics. Cost effective fire protection for walls and ceilings. Adds minimal cost to the decoration of a room.

**Hanging lining paper:**

- Always hang in the opposite direction to the wallpaper.
- All edges should be butted.
- Draw a horizontal line as a guide for the first length
- Measure and cut lengths allowing extra for trimming
- All lining papers must be well pasted and soaked before hanging. The heavier the paper the more time must be allowed. Paper not properly soaked will cause problems when hanging. Stretching on the wall, difficult to brush out etc,
- Pasted lengths must be folded in concertina fashion for ease of handling. Do not crease folds
- Always follow the paste manufacturer's instructions for the weight of paper used.
- Hang and smooth out with paperhangers brush, brushing down the centre and out to the edges
- Trim off excess paper.
- When hanging, butt join all lengths, avoiding any gaps or overlaps for a smooth finish, especially if hanging any lining material prior to overhanging other wallcoverings. Generally the heavier the grade used the better the finish for papered & painted finishes, but it will not cover up badly prepared surfaces. All linings must be given plenty of time to dry before painting or paperhanging takes place.
- Good preparation plus good lining will give a quality finish.

## 2.0 Hang Vinyl Wallpaper on a Given Wall Area

### Key learning points

- Understanding personal hygiene and clean working practice when papering
- Shading, batch and dye numbers, manufacturer's instructions.
- Characteristics and defects associated with vinyls

### 2.1 *Personal hygiene and clean working practice*

Special attention should always be given to ensure that the work area is kept clean at all times while hanging wallcovering. Good results cannot be obtained in sloppy conditions.

**Ceilings:** Any residue of paste left on the ceiling after hanging a length of wallcoverings must be sponged off immediately. If not, this residue will turn yellow after in a few weeks resulting in discolouration of the ceiling perimeter.

**Floors:** The floor of the work area must be kept free from paste and pasted paper cut offs. At best these will cause staining to the floorboards, while paper that has dried and adhered to the floor will have to be dampened and scraped off without damage causing loss of time and inconvenience. At worst, it causes a dangerous work situation with slippery material both under foot and on stepladders. Paste can also be carried by feet from the work area to other rooms which can soil carpets. Floors should be covered and kept clean.

**Pasting table:** Sponge edges regularly to ensure cleanliness. Wash table every evening.

**Clean Water sponge and cloth:** Keep small bucket of clean water and sponge for cleaning off after trimming, cleaning table, tools and washing hands when required.

### 2.2 *Shading, batch and dye numbers, manufacturers instructions*

**Shading:** Checking that all rolls of the same pattern are the same colour.

**Checking shade:** Carryout this task in daylight near a window.

- Using three rolls open out two metre lengths on pasting table
- Check pattern colour
- Remove two and replace with another two and check
- Repeat until all the rolls are checked

**Batch and dye numbers:** These are numbers that are printed on the back of wallpaper on a label inserted under the plastic protective wrapping. They are the code numbers of the colours mixed to print the wallpaper. Wallpapers with the same numbers are the only one that will be exactly the same colour. Numbers should be recorded for future reference.

**Manufacturer's instructions:** These are printed on a label with all the necessary information necessary for hanging

- Type of wallcovering
- Preparation for hanging
- Soaking Times
- Methods of cutting

### ***2.3 Characteristics and defects associated with vinyls***

Vinyl papers are PVC polyvinyl chloride fixed to a backing paper to assist hanging.

#### **Characteristics:**

- Washable
- Mild abrasion resistant
- Does not attract dust due to anti static properties
- Easily removed
- Roll length 10.05 m long x 520mm wide

#### **Vinyl defect:**

Vinyl is an impervious surface and because of this it dries very slowly, therefore mould can grow in the paste during this process. Pastes or adhesives used with vinyl must contain a fungicide and they must also be very strong to resist the pull of the paper as it dries.



### 3.0 Return Patterned Paper Around Corner

#### Key learning points

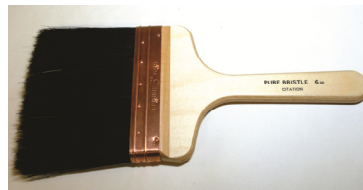
- Identification,, use and maintenance of paperhanging tools
- Health safety and hygiene, accident prevention, and scalpels
- Estimating the quantities of paper required for given areas
- Plumbing lines, pattern matching and returning corners

#### 3.1 *Identification, use & maintenance of paperhanging tools*

For best performance and results good quality tools should be used. They may seem expensive initially but they are long lasting and will prove to be a good investment in the long run.

#### Stock brush

It has a wooden handle and copper ferrule and the filling is a bristle mixture. Used to apply the paste. Also used to apply water based paints.



Stock brush

#### Paperhanging brushes:

Used to apply and smooth out the wallpaper. It must be kept clean at all times otherwise dirt will be transferred to the face of the paper.



Paperhanging brushes

**Plumb bob:**

Used for plumbing vertical lines. Used to accurately plumb the first length of wallpaper and in doing so ensures that all the following sheets are plumb.



Plumb bob

**Spirit level:**

Used to apply horizontal and vertical lines. Can be used instead of plumb bob.



Spirit level:

**Paperhanger's scissors or shears:**

Used for cutting and trimming the paper. A small scissors is always handy when cutting around small objects.



Paperhangers scissors or shears:

**Tape measure and folding rule:**

Flexible metal tape. Ideal for measuring surface areas.

Hardwood rule for measuring and marking for cutting on the paste table.



Tape measure and folding rule:

**Trimming Knives:**

A variety of types available for trimming the paper. Must be sharp.



Trimming Knives

Casing wheel

**Seam roller:**

Used to roll down joints of paper. Roller heads are made from timber or plastic. Angle type has one arm so that angle can be reached easily.



Seam roller

**Metal spatulas:**

Used in conjunction with trimming knife for accurate trimming.



Metal spatulas

**Tearing stick:**

Used instead of scissors when cutting lengths from the roll. Timber handle with sharp blade. Held down and paper pulled against blade.



Tearing stick

**Metal straight edge:**

Used with sharp knife for cutting paper on the pasting table or for double cutting in situ.



Metal straight edge:

### ***3.2 Health safety and hygiene, accident prevention, and scalpels***

Successful paperhanging cannot be achieved in dirty or untidy conditions.

Untidiness leads to accidents and tidying up regularly will prevent a build up of unwanted equipment or materials.

Wash hands regularly as pastes contain fungicide and if ingested may cause illness.

All the cutting and trimming tools associated with paperhanging are very sharp and must be treated with respect otherwise injuries will be caused.

Do not put uncovered blades in pocket

Follow manufacturer's instructions for snapping off blades

Retract blades when not in use

Keep scissors closed when not using or placing in tool box.

Wrap up used blades before dumping

### *3.3 Estimating the quantities of paper required for given areas*

The following are two methods for estimating the quantity of paper needed for a room.

Method 1:

- Measure round the room to find the total length of all four walls. Multiply this total by the height of the room. This will give the total area of the walls.
- Measure area of all doors, windows etc. by the same method and deduct this amount from the total area. This gives the actual area to be papered. This can also be called the net area.
- Divide the net area to be papered by the area of one roll of paper. A standard roll of wallpaper measures 10m x 520mm = 5m<sup>2</sup>.
- Therefore the net area to be papered will be divided by 5 This will give you the amount of rolls required.
- Add 10% to offset wastage and loss of pattern and bring to the nearest roll above the: amount required rolls.

Method 2:

- Starting from one corner and using a roll of paper as a guide, count out the number of widths required to go round the room back to your starting point. Let us assume that it takes 18 widths to go around the room.
- Measure the height of the room, and from this you can easily calculate the number of lengths that can be got from one roll.
- Let us assume that the answer to this is 3 plus some wastage.
- Therefore it can be seen that it will take 6 rolls (18 divided by 3) for the room. An extra roll is usually added to allow for error

The following table can be used as a rough guide

Height from skirting. Measurement round walls, including doors and windows

**Measurement table**

| <b>Metres</b>  | 8.53 | 9.75 | 10.97 | 12.19 | 13.41 | 14.63 | 15.85 | 17.07 | 18.29 | 19.51 | 20.73 | 21.95 | 25.6 | 26.82 |
|----------------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|
| 2.13 -<br>2.29 | 4    | 4    | 5     | 5     | 6     | 6     | 7     | 7     | 8     | 8     | 9     | 9     | 10   | 11    |
| 2.30 -<br>2.44 | 4    | 4    | 5     | 5     | 6     | 6     | 7     | 8     | 8     | 9     | 9     | 10    | 11   | 12    |
| 2.45 -<br>2.59 | 4    | 5    | 5     | 6     | 6     | 7     | 7     | 8     | 8     | 9     | 9     | 10    | 12   | 13    |
| 2.60 -<br>2.74 | 4    | 5    | 5     | 6     | 6     | 7     | 8     | 8     | 9     | 9     | 10    | 11    | 12   | 13    |
| 2.75 -<br>2.90 | 4    | 5    | 6     | 6     | 7     | 7     | 8     | 9     | 9     | 10    | 10    | 11    | 13   | 13    |
| 2.91 -<br>3.05 | 5    | 5    | 6     | 7     | 7     | 8     | 9     | 9     | 10    | 10    | 11    | 12    | 14   | 14    |
| 3.06 -<br>3.20 | 5    | 5    | 6     | 7     | 8     | 8     | 9     | 10    | 10    | 11    | 12    | 12    | 14   | 15    |
| 3.21 -<br>3.35 | 5    | 6    | 7     | 7     | 8     | 9     | 9     | 10    | 11    | 11    | 12    | 13    | 15   | 16    |
| 3.36 -<br>3.50 | 5    | 6    | 7     | 8     | 8     | 9     | 10    | 10    | 11    | 12    | 13    | 13    | 16   | 16    |

**Ceilings**

### **3 4** *Plumbing lines, pattern matching and returning corners*

#### **Draw a plumb line:**

Never assume that every corner, window or architrave is straight. Measure the width of your paper. Then measure the same distance out from the corner in the direction you intend working. Come back 15mm towards the corner and make a mark on the wall close to the ceiling. Draw a plumb line using plumb bob or spirit level on the wall.

Similar method can be adopted if starting from window or architrave.

#### **Matching wallpaper:**

Most wallpaper's have a pattern and when wallpaper is hung in lengths, it is important that where they meet the pattern on the roll matches. There are three types.

- Random
- Straight
- Step

#### **Random pattern:**

A design that has no match. Stripes and textured type papers are an example.

Very little waste with this type of pattern.

#### **Straight pattern:**

A pattern or design that repeats on a horizontal line. This match is at the same level on each edge of the wallpaper



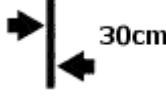


#### **Drop pattern:**

A pattern that does not repeat on a horizontal line. It appears at different levels us usually halfway between the vertical repeat. This is called a half drop pattern.






**Wallpaper symbols:**





Details of matching patterns on the wallpaper are indicated by the following symbols:

- 
Random pattern
- 
Straight pattern
- 
Drop pattern
- 
Reverse alternate lengths
- 
Direction for hanging

Three ways the adhesive can be applied when paper hanging.

- 
Paste the paper,
- 
Paste the wall
- 
Pre pasted paper

Before selecting wallpaper it is important to consider how much cleaning it may need. This can depend where it will be hung. Bathroom, kitchen, hallway etc. and the following symbols can be used as a guide:

- 
Spongeable
- 
Washable
- 
Extra washable
- 
Scrubable

Is there a sunny aspect to the room



Good colour fastness Will not fade



Reasonable colour fastness

The three following symbols give stripping guidelines.



Strippable



Wet strippable



Peelable.  
(The face is removed from vinyl leaving backing paper attached.)

### Returning corners:

Few corners are plumb so to compensate for this an overlap must be made. After hanging the last sheet before the corner measure the distance left between the last sheet hung and the corner. Measure it at the top middle and bottom of the wall. Paste and fold new length and fold using end to end method for marking and cutting. Add 10mm to the largest measurement and mark and cut this on the paste table (check before cutting to make sure cut is on the correct side of the paper)

Hang strip and trim top and bottom. The corner is covered slightly. Measure remaining piece and mark this measurement on the other side of the corner. Plumb line from this mark and measure from line to corner (top middle and bottom) Adjust line if necessary.

Hang second strip to plumb line and trim top bottom and angle where necessary. Apply overlap adhesive if hanging vinyl and sponge off.

**NB.** Always plumb the first sheet after returning a corner.

## 4.0 Cut Paper Around Obstacles

### Key learning points

Measuring, cutting, pasting, folding, hanging and trimming

### *4.1 Measuring, cutting, pasting, folding, hanging and trimming*

#### Cutting the paper

Measure one wall from skirting to ceiling and add a little waste to the top and bottom to allow for trimming. Use this length as a guide for cutting the rest of the sheets needed for the room.

#### Pasting:

Always take into consideration the quality of the wallpaper. If it is a light weight paper it should be pasted quickly and hung so that it will have little to soak. If it soaks too long it will have a tendency to tear.

#### Pasting:

- Cover working area with a clean dust sheet
- Set up pasting table
- Place paste bucket on a sheet of newspaper on the drop sheet in a reachable position under the table
- Use of stick and stock brush on bucket. Never leave brush in paste.
- Spreading of paste correctly (down to the middle and out to the sides).
- Never draw the brush back as this will allow the paste to creep under the paper and on to the edge of the table creating a situation that can mark the face of the paper.
- No misses in pasting. Pay particular attention to edges and corner of paper.
- Use of small clean brush for pasting back dry edges after paper is hung.
- Check soaking time for different types of paper as they vary considerably. More than one length of paper can be pasted before hanging commences and this will depend on the type of paper and the work rate and skill of the paperhanger.
- Do not leave the brush in the paste as this leads to paste getting on you hands and being transferred to the paper. Wash out and hang up brush overnight.
- Keep wallpapering brush in apron pocket. Do not put it on the floor at any time as it will pick up dirt and transfer it to the face of the paper.

**Folding:** Sheets that are to be hung vertically. (General wallpapers)

End to end folding:

- Position the head (top) at one end of the paste table and continue to do this for the rest of the sheets. This is a simple way of establishing the top of the sheet for hanging after pasting.
- Paste the amount of the sheet that lies on the table, and fold approximately the top one third. By doing this with each sheet you will always know the top of the length.
- Continue pasting the rest of the sheet and fold the lower back towards the first fold making sure it never comes in contact with the face of the paper



End to end folding

Concertina folding: Papers to be hung horizontally (lining papers and ceiling papers)

- Paste table length of paper
- Make folds of 200mm to 300mm
- Paste and fold remainder of paper and fold in the same way



Concertina folding

**Hanging:**

- Place a step ladder parallel to the wall to be papered
- Picked up the pasted length and lay over the left arm before climbing stepladder.
- Open out top fold and slide into position on wall to the already drawn plumb line making sure that the head of the paper is correctly placed.
- Slide the paper until it hangs plumb
- Brush down the centre and out to the sides removing all air bubbles
- Open out the remaining paper and complete the brushing
- Continue in the same manner with the remainder of the sheets.

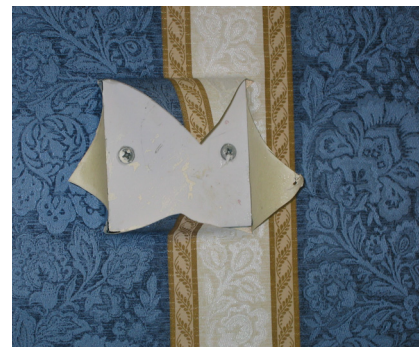
**Trimming:**

After each sheet is hung it must be trimmed carefully. Fold up off cuts immediately and place in bag or in one corner of the room to be picked up later. Do not discard carelessly as they become a hazard if they become attached to floors stepladders etc.

- When trimming near ceiling run the curved side of the scissors into the angle where the paper is to be cut to make an impression.
- Pull back the paper sufficiently to allow it be cut carefully along the mark
- When trimming with scissors near skirtings or architraves it can be marked in the same way or by holding a pencil against the wall and drawing across the length leaving a pencil mark slightly proud of the wall. Pull back the paper and cut along this line

**Trimming around light switches, sockets etc.****Angle cut:**

- When working near electrical fittings turn off power
- To cut around a rectangular or square switch etc.
- Bring wallpaper down over the switch plate etc
- Mark centre of switch plate and push point of scissors through
- Make four cuts to the corners of the switch plate
- Loosen the plate slightly
- Cut off waste and tuck in remainder behind switch plate
- Tighten switch plate
- Wipe clean



A square switch

### Trimming around round switches etc (Star cut):

When working near electrical fittings turn off power

To cut around a round switch, fitting etc. that cannot be removed.

- Bring wallpaper down over the switch plate etc
- Mark centre of switch plate and push point of scissors through
- Working from the centre make a good number of small cuts to the edge of the switch etc.
- Smoothen down well and trim off.
- Wipe clean



Round switch

Trimming can also be carried out with a variety of trimming knives which are very sharp and give a good clean cut. The blades should be changed regularly to keep a sharp edge available when trimming.

All methods should be practiced as no one way is best. It depends on the materials and the conditions of walls and woodwork.

### Papering around architrave:

When you reach the door area match the paper on top and allow it to fall over the door and architrave.

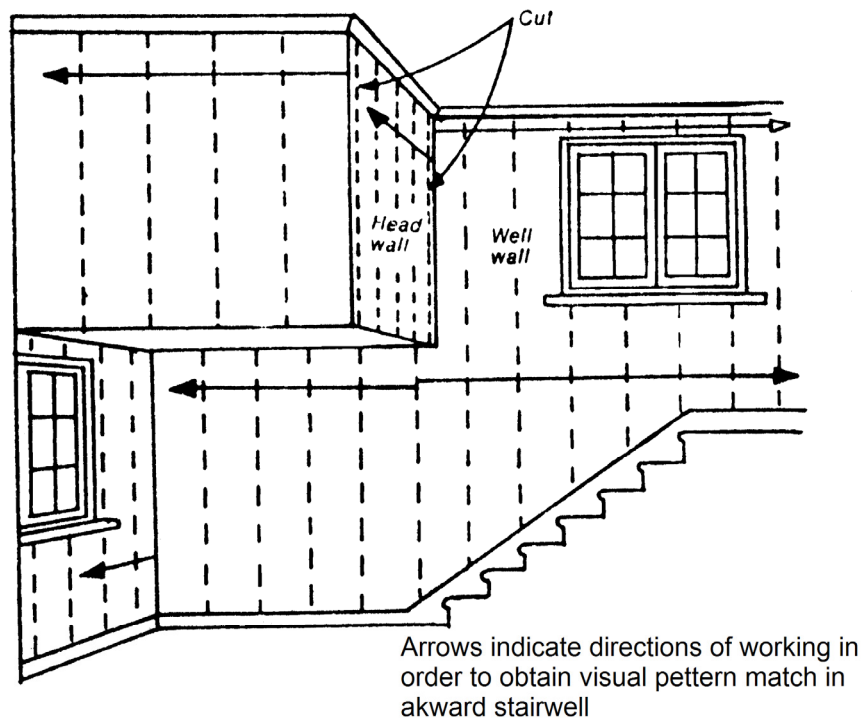
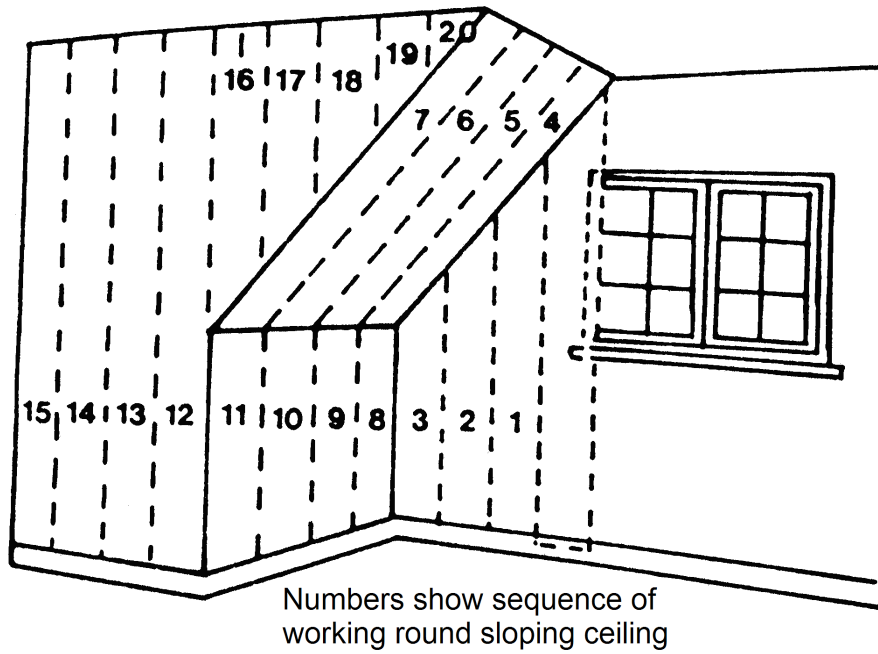
- Lift the paper and using the paperhangers brush push the paper down on to the architrave.
- Mark the top corner of the architrave and make a diagonal cut with the scissors to this point.
- Continue down matching and butting the remainder of the sheet.
- Brush into the angle of the architrave and wall
- Mark and trim off.
- Sponge woodwork.



Diagonal cut

**NB.** Always sponge off any residue from ceilings and woodwork immediately after trimming

Papering awkward areas:



## 5.0 Preparation of various Surfaces Prior to Hanging Wallcoverings

### Key learning points

- Preparation of bare surfaces prior to hanging wallcoverings
- Preparation of previously treated surfaces prior to hanging wallcoverings
- Reasons and materials for sizing
- Surface preparation
- Relating to and helping potential clients estimate and choose wallcoverings
- Paperhanging faults and their diagnosis

### 5.1 *Preparation of bare surfaces prior to hanging wallcoverings*

#### Alkali resisting primer: (oil based)

- Specially designed primer for surfaces that are alkaline in nature. Must be applied to all alkaline surfaces prior to applying oil paint otherwise saponification (paint turned into a soapy solution).
- Can also be applied to bind powdery surfaces.
- Non reversible coating.
- Will take any form of decoration.
- Can be painted or papered over.
- Drying time 3-4 hours.
- Recoating time 16- 24 hours.
- Thinned with white spirit / turps.
- Can be applied by brush, roller or spray. Best by brush.

### 5.2 *Preparation of surfaces prior to hanging wallcoverings*

#### Plastered Surfaces:

- Abrade and dust off to remove all nibs and other loose matter.
- Make good all defects with filler.
- Apply one coat of size/plaster primer as recommended by manufacturer.
- Line to improve quality of surface
- Hang wallpaper



**Walls and Ceilings now finished in emulsion in fair condition.**

- Remove all loose or flaking matter.
- Cut out and make good all cracks and faults.
- Prime with plaster primer as necessary and hang material.

**Note:** A great deal of wallpaper is hung successfully on top of emulsion and in many instances this is a perfectly straightforward job. Providing the substrate is of good quality and in good condition, generally it should provide a ground with just enough surface texture to promote adhesive and give a foundation of moderate and more or less uniform suction. In a house, with perhaps only two or three coats of emulsion on the surfaces, this simple specification should be quite satisfactory. It is when the emulsion has been renewed several times and there is some reason to believe that the stability of the finish is not best form of treatment arises.

If, as is usually the case, stripping is out of the question, a coat of paint or sealer may be advisable, though it should not make the surface impervious to moisture.

After preparation some papers can be hung directly onto the emulsion ground.

Walls and ceiling now finished in gloss paint in good condition.

- Thoroughly wash and rub down the surface.
- Make good as necessary.
- Line.
- Hang wallcovering.

**Note:** Although on paper, this is a simple specification, the treatment must be thorough to ensure a successful result. The washing and rubbing down should be done with a fairly strong solution of sugar soap and abrasive in order to etch the surface, and care must be taken that the paintwork is properly rinsed after this treatment.

The preparatory requirements as set out above would also apply to walls that have been previously prepared with the following additions.

Strip all existing wallcovering.

Wash surface to remove existing paste residues.

**N.B.** Putty should not be used as a stopper, to fill gaps on top of skirtings etc. where the surface is to be papered as the oil will seep out staining the paper.

### 5.3 *Reasons and materials for sizing*

Wallpaper cannot be hung on a raw surface as the paste would be absorbed quickly into the dry surface causing lack of adhesion of the paper.

The function of size is to provide a ground or uniform suction on raw plaster. It is a cheap method of priming.

- Glue size can be applied under starch paste
- A thin coat of cellulose paste under cellulose paste

#### **Paperhanging terms:**

**Sizing:** The application of a thin coat of paste or size to a porous surface to ensure even absorbency before hanging wallpapers.

**Release agent:** A coating containing waxes, applied to a prepared surface to make the subsequent removal of paper easy.

**Shading:** Checking that each roll of the same pattern wallpaper is exactly the same colour. Batch numbers must be the same, and rolls compared before commencing paperhanging.

**Butt joining:** The most common method of hanging wall coverings, the edges touch without a gap or overlap.

**Plumbing:** The use of a plumb bob and line or spirit level to draw an exact vertical line.

**Star cut:** The method of cutting wallpapers to fit around obstructions on the surface, which cannot be removed.

**Slip:** The characteristic of a paste or adhesive that allows the wallpaper to be slid into position or repositioned while hanging.

### 5.4 *Surface preparation*

Some very old surfaces that have not been decorated for many years may pose a problem. Some of the paints may have broken down completely and are very dusty to touch. This type of surface needs thorough preparation.

Remove all loose material by brushing with hard brushes and scraping

Apply a coat of stabilising primer and leave to dry for a day. This will bind any loose particles and prime the surface in readiness for paperhanging.

**Stabilising primers:**

- Designed for use on powdery or unstable surfaces.
- To penetrate and bind loose particles together
- Only apply after thorough preparation.
- Can be clear or pigmented.
- Supplied ready for use.
- Apply by brush.
- Can be painted or papered over.
- Drying method oxidation.
- Touch dry in 1-2 hours.
- Recoat in 16-24hours.
- Wash out brushes in white spirit.

Alkali resisting primer is a paint that will also give a good foundation on raw surfaces prior to paperhanging.

If a customer requests a room to be papered which has a dry lining finish they should be advised that a coat of this material will help with the removal of the paper eventually. Being oil based it will withstand the penetration of water and steam during its removal avoiding damage to the face plaster of the dry lining.

On old work check for nail heads that may have rusted. Remove them or clean and touch up with oil based metal primer.

**5.5 *Estimating and choosing wallcoverings***

Wallpapering is probably the most versatile form of decoration. It can introduce colour and design quickly to transform a home or workplace.

Some people are not aware of the potential of wallcoverings and need good advice and encouragement to help them over their initial fears.

The design books that the manufacturers produce to show their products are generally of a very high quality and visually attractive.

Some of these materials are very expensive but their long lasting and decorative qualities are worth it and this is a point that should be made to the customer.

Showing a finished job is always most helpful. Some fabric shops have co-ordinate schemes and these are generally the best way to convince people of the quality of these schemes.

It is worth bearing in mind that most papers and fabrics are not meant to be used in areas that might be subject to high wear or particular conditions such as high humidity or condensation, and this needs to be borne in mind when advising a client.

## 5.6 Paperhanging faults and their diagnosis

### Paperhanging faults:

|                                 | Tearing during hanging | Creases | Discolouration | Lack of Adhesion | Joint springing | Joint showing | Blistering |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|
| Sour paste                      |                        |         | *              | *                |                 |               |            |
| Trapped air                     |                        | *       |                |                  |                 |               | *          |
| Uneven brushing                 |                        | *       |                |                  | *               | *             | *          |
| Over brushing                   |                        | *       | *              |                  |                 | *             | *          |
| Mis-use of seam roller.         |                        |         | *              |                  |                 | *             |            |
| Overlapping.                    |                        |         |                |                  |                 | *             |            |
| Stretching.                     |                        | *       |                |                  | *               | *             |            |
| Incorrect cleaning of washables |                        |         | *              |                  |                 |               |            |
| Lengths reversed.               |                        |         |                |                  |                 | *             |            |
| Separating duplex               | *                      |         |                |                  |                 |               | *          |
| Trimming                        |                        |         |                |                  |                 | *             |            |
| Uneven emboss                   |                        |         |                |                  |                 | *             |            |
| Mixed shades                    |                        |         |                |                  |                 | *             |            |
| Faulty Inking                   |                        |         |                |                  |                 | *             |            |
| Shady ground                    |                        |         |                |                  |                 | *             |            |
| Loose colour                    |                        |         | *              |                  |                 |               |            |
| Mis-prints                      |                        |         | *              |                  |                 |               |            |
| Ruptured emboss                 | *                      |         | *              |                  |                 |               |            |
| Mill folded                     |                        | *       |                |                  |                 |               |            |
| Porous base paper.              | *                      |         |                |                  |                 |               |            |

|                         | Tearing during hanging | Creases | Discolouration | Lack of Adhesion | Joint springing | Joint showing | Blistering |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------|
| Inadequate Preparation  |                        |         | *              | *                | *               |               | *          |
| Impervious surface      |                        |         | *              | *                | *               |               | *          |
| Uneven surface          |                        | *       |                |                  |                 | *             |            |
| Porous surface          |                        |         |                | *                |                 |               |            |
| Friable surface         |                        |         |                | *                | *               |               |            |
| Efflorescence           |                        |         | *              | *                |                 |               |            |
| Dampness                |                        |         | *              | *                |                 |               |            |
| Chemical action         |                        |         | *              |                  |                 |               |            |
| Water soluble stains    |                        |         | *              |                  |                 |               |            |
| Mould growth            |                        |         | *              |                  |                 |               |            |
| Pattern staining        |                        |         | *              |                  |                 |               |            |
| Tarnishing of metals    |                        |         | *              |                  |                 |               |            |
| Slow drying             |                        |         | *              |                  |                 |               | *          |
| Hanging on polystyrene  |                        |         |                | *                | *               |               | *          |
| Incorrectly mixed paste | *                      | *       | *              | *                | *               |               | *          |
| Incorrect paste         | *                      | *       | *              | *                | *               |               | *          |
| Over-pasting            | *                      | *       |                |                  | *               | *             | *          |
| Misses in - pasting     |                        | *       | *              | *                | *               | *             | *          |
| Paste dried             |                        |         |                | *                | *               |               |            |
| Over soaking            | *                      | *       | *              | *                | *               | *             | *          |
| Under soaking           |                        | *       |                |                  |                 | *             | *          |
| Paste marks             |                        |         | *              |                  |                 | *             |            |

## *Summary*

Paperhanging will always be a sought after skill and with the amount of new materials on offer today people have a wonderful choice. It is a way of introducing colour, design and texture to an area very quickly.

The preparation of the surface prior to hanging the wallpaper is extremely important and must be thoroughly carried out. Poor preparation will show on the finish thereby spoiling it.

An important point to remember is that when the wallpaper is hung it is the finished article and no other additions can be made. Therefore it must be hung with precision in a clean environment for best results

## *Suggested exercises*

- Prepare and line wall areas
- Hang lining paper
- Hang patterned vinyl wallpaper and return corner.

## *Self test*

- Q 1. What is meant by sizing?
- Q 2. Explain: Butt jointing, Plumbing lines, Shading, Star cut?
- Q 3. List four paperhanging tools
- Q 4. Explain the following wallpaper patterns
- Straight,
  - Drop and
  - Random
- Q 5. List four grades of lining paper
- Q 6. Why use an overlap adhesive?
- Q 7. In paperhanging terms what is meant by slip

## *Suggested reading*

The wallpapering book. ISBN 38345 07 106

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S O L A S

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