

TRADE OF PAINTING & DECORATING

PHASE 2

Module 4

Wall Coverings

UNIT: 3

Lining and Finish Paper (Ceiling)

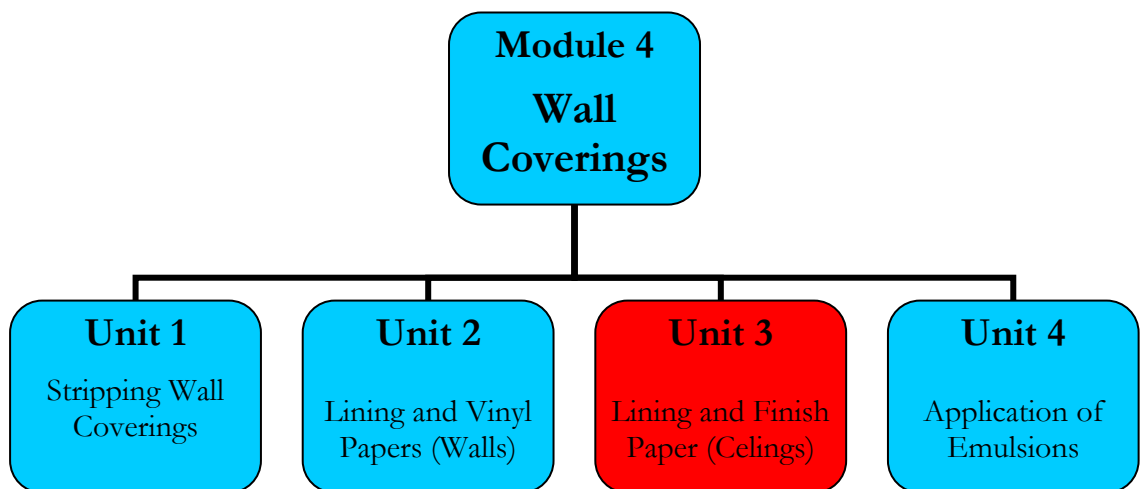
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Introduction

Wallpapering ceilings is another skill that expands the range of decorative effects that can be offered to the customer. A strong lining paper can give a smooth finish for ceilings that are cracked and that would be very costly to have re-plastered. The use of wood chip papers is a very economical way of hiding surface defects.

A blown vinyl can offer a wide range of raised patterns while traditional anaglypta's always add an extra dimension to the decoration of a room. All these papers can be painted over successfully many times adding to their popularity.



Learning Outcomes

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

- Prepare surface in preparation for lining paper
- Demonstrate correct procedures when measuring and pasting paper
- Hang lining paper on a prepared ceiling
- Hang woodchip paper on prepared ceiling

1.0 Prepare surface in preparation for lining paper

Key learning points

- Dangers associated with working overhead
- Selecting suitable types of access
- Working safely from scaffolds and ladders
- Health, safety and hygiene, accident prevention, attitudes to safety
- Surface preparation prior to lining paper

1.1 *Dangers associated with working overhead*

To gain working access to a ceiling a safe scaffold must be erected. The type of scaffold will depend on the height of the ceiling and to comply with the regulations a guard rail must be in place. Painters and paperhangers will walk backwards during the course of their work creating a hazard.

- Under the new regulations there is no safe height
- Without a rail it is very easy to miss your step and fall
- Walk area must be kept clear at all times
- Put up notice outside door to advise people that work is taking place in the area
- Care should always be taken when working on ladders or scaffolds behind doors that open in. Lock them if possible
- There is a good selection of lightweight scaffold available to suit any purpose.

1.2 *Select suitable type of access*

To hang paper to a ceiling a scaffold for access must be erected so that the paperhanger can walk the length of the room uninterrupted. Depending on the height of the ceiling access to the scaffold must be provided. The paperhanger will have a pasted and folded length of paper plus paperhanging equipment so easy access to the platform must be available.

- For low type scaffold. A step ladder
- For higher scaffold. A rung ladder tied to the scaffold

1.3 *Working safely from scaffolds and ladders*

Reference: Working safely from heights 2006

1.4 Health, safety and hygiene accident prevention

Work cannot be carried out in untidy or careless conditions. Dirty conditions also create health hazards.

Health and hygiene:

- Keep area clean
- Wash hands before meals
- Remove any leftovers of food after meals
- Wash and change overalls and aprons at least weekly

Accident prevention:

- Keep area tidy
- Check all ladders and planks regularly
- Remove any unnecessary materials
- Fold up off cuts of paper and dump. Do not let them fall on scaffold planks causing a hazard
- Remove waste paper each evening to avoid spontaneous combustion.

Attitudes to safety:

Are developed over a period of time and constant adherence to the safety guidelines become common practice. Making the workplace a safe place to work in is everyone's duty.

1.5 Surface preparation prior to applying lining paper

Ceilings must be well prepared before hanging paper otherwise the paper will be detached during drying.

Raw plastered surfaces:

- Glasspaper and dust off to remove all nibs, and other loose matter.
- Make good all defects with filler.
- Apply one coat of size/plaster primer
- Hang lining paper

Ceilings now finished in emulsion in reasonable condition.

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

Emulsion paint in good condition is a common surface for papering but it must always be prepared. Washing is essential to remove grime, nicotine stains etc.

- Wash down ceiling with water and detergent.
- Fill all cracks and surface imperfections with plaster filler and remove nibs by scraping.
- Rub down with medium abrasive.
- Touch up with oil or emulsion paint.

2.0 Procedures When Measuring and Pasting Paper

Key learning points

- Types of paste adhesives and mixing
- Calculating quantities, and economical use of materials
- Measuring, cutting, pasting, folding and trimming

2.1 *Types of paste, adhesives and mixing*

Cellulose paste:

- Highly concentrated water soluble powder
- A cold water paste.
- Clear
- Mixes easily. Add to water while stirring with stick or whisk
- Ready for application after a few minutes
- Supplied as a powder in sachets
- Different types. Regular to extra strong
- Offers good slip
- Check manufacturers chart for strength of mix
- Unlikely to stain paper
- Contains fungicide

Starch paste:

- A cold water paste.
- Made from flour
- Strong adhesive
- Supplied as a powder in sachets
- Mixes easily. Add to water while stirring with flat stick or whisk
- Offers good slip
- Contains fungicide
- Can stain paper

Ready made/Tub paste:

- They require no preparation
- Can be thinned with water if required
- Good slip
- Suitable for heavy wallpapers

2.2 *Calculating quantities and economical use of materials*

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

Method 1:

- Measure the length of the ceiling and multiply it by its width. This will give the total area of the ceiling.
- Divide this area to be papered by the area of one roll of paper. A standard roll of wallpaper measures 10m x 520mm = 5m².
- 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:

- Decide the direction the paper will be hung in
- Starting from one corner and using a roll of paper as a guide, count out the number of widths it will take to cross the room
- Let us assume that it takes 12 widths Let us assume that the answer to this is 3 plus some wastage.
- Therefore it can be seen that it will take 4 rolls (12 divided by 3) for the room. An extra roll is usually added to allow for error

2.3 *Measuring, cutting, pasting folding and trimming*

Cutting the paper: Measure one length and add a little extra for trimming. Use this length as a guide for cutting the rest of the sheets needed for the ceiling

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. If it is a heavy paper then time must be allowed for soaking:

- 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.

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.

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

3.0 Hang Lining Paper on Prepared Ceiling

Key learning points

- Use of crutch to assist in holding paper overhead

3.1 *Use of crutch to assist in holding paper overhead*

A crutch is used to support the paper folds when hanging ceiling papers. Generally made from a back end of a roll of wallpaper. The open end closed with tape



Use of crutch

Method of hanging:

- Mark a guide line through the centre of the round light fitting in the opposite direction the finished paper will be hung
- Paste and fold paper in concertina fashion
- Use back end of the wallpaper as a support (crutch) for the folds
- Starting at one wall, open out two folds of the paper and raise overhead
- Keep the supported folds close to the ceiling
- Slide the paper into position along guideline
- Brush out this section down the middle and out to the edge
- Open out another fold and brush out
- Continue until the opposite wall is reached
- Trim both ends

By starting centre way on the ceiling it means the cutting around the ceiling fitting is made easier as half the star cut only needs to be made

Continue with the next sheet butting it to the first, and continue pasting and folding the remainder of the sheets until ceiling is completed.

These instructions are a guide but the shape of a room or the particular type of light fitting (sunken type, fluorescent tubes etc.) can change this.

It is always recommended to study the room first before deciding the best method of working.

4.0 Hang Woodchip Paper on Prepared Ceiling

Key learning points

Clean working area at all times

Advantages of working with a partner when applying paper to ceilings

4.1 *Clean working area at all times*

It is always to ones advantage to keep the area clean and tidy. Working overhead can pose its own problems and they should not be added to by untidiness. A clean area is a hygienic and safe one.

4.2 *Working with a partner when applying paper to ceilings*

Grades: Fine, coarse, medium, super coarse, super medium and chunky

- Generally applied to poor surfaces to hide the irregularities
- An economical method of creating a texture finish. Depending on the desired effect one of the above can be selected.
- No need to line before hanging woodchip
- When dry it can be easily painted over with emulsion

The method of hanging the wood chip paper is the same as for lining. Butting can be difficult because of the wood chips so when hanging allow a very slight gap.

When the paper has dried and painting is being carried out this slight joint can be filled by brushing paint into it, concealing it.

When hanging lightweight paper to a regular size domestic ceiling it is reasonable to expect the paperhanger to do so alone. When heavier papers are introduced and the height of the ceiling is increased then assistance of another paperhanger is required as some of these papers when pasted become very heavy and one person would be unable to manage

With larger areas it will be found that help is needed

- Erecting the scaffolding
- Help with measuring and cutting long lengths
- Rotating the pasting

- **Summary**

The ceiling of a room if decorated properly can become the focal point of the room. Selecting a good pattern and with good application technique an old ceiling can be transformed. Recommending this to clients is very important as people do not realise that ceilings as well as walls can be papered.

The preparation of the surface prior to hanging must be carried out efficiently and thoroughly if a successful long lasting decorative finish is to be successful.

Suggested exercises

- Hang lining paper to prepared ceiling
- Hang woodchip paper to prepared ceiling

Self test

- Q.1 Name three types of wallpaper paste
- Q.2 What is concertina type folding and where would you use it?
- Q.3 When paperhanging, where is a crutch used?
- Q.4 State two dangers when working overhead
- Q.5 List three grades of woodchip paper

Suggested reading

The wallpapering book. ISBN 38345 07 106

Author: Julian Cassell and Peter Parham

S O L A S

An tSeirbhís Oideachais Leanúnaigh agus Scileanna
Further Education and Training Authority

*27-33 Upper Baggot Street
Dublin 4*