

How To Apply Bespoke Designed Pre-Pasted Wallpaper: TSWS9PP



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Tools for the job

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|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| i. Worktable. | iv. Large wallpaper tray, or a clean paint roller and bucket. | vi. Clean sponge. |
| ii. Wallpaper scraper. | v. Clean water, or for an optional 'belt-and-braces' approach use a weak adhesive paste (a.k.a: "size"). | viii. Sandpaper. |
| iii. Clean sharp knife. | vii. Clean cloth. | ix. White matt emulsion (optional). |
| | | x. PVA (optional). |



Preparation

Remove any furniture and potential obstacles that may be in your way before you begin. Ideally you will want to give yourself as much working space as the room will allow. Remove the existing old wallpaper as well as any old lining paper carefully, taking care not to damage the wall surface.

The end result of your preparation is to end up with a smooth, straight and clean wall surface, free from dirt, grease and dust particles. All holes and imperfections must be filled and sanded to restore the wall to an even surface with no indentations or unevenness which may affect the adhesion of your wallpaper - plus the finished impact of your graphics won't look at their best if spoiled by a poor uneven surface for the design to hang onto!



- a. Clear the area of unnecessary obstacles: wherever possible remove radiators and wall fixtures for easier application and a better overall finish to your wall graphics.
- b. Protect any areas which can't be removed from your work area, such as carpets and large heavy furniture, with covers and dust sheets.
- c. Using a clean wallpaper scraper carefully peel away the old wallpaper taking care not to damage the wall surface beneath. For hard to remove wallpapers you may find it easier to lightly soak the wallpaper with a sponge and clean water first to loosen the wallpaper adhesive, alternatively use a wallpaper steamer as directed by the steamers user instructions
- d. Once all the old wallpaper and liner has been completely removed, level out any uneven wall areas ready for application of the new wallpaper. Fill holes, scrapes and imperfections with a suitable filler; remember to build suitable drying time into the time allocated to the job!

Once dry, sand the affected areas down to a smooth, even finish (both on the wall and to any damaged surrounds such as skirting or sockets which may also need some fresh paint when finishing off).



- e. Ensure the entire wall surface is sound and straight and wipe with a clean moist cloth to remove remaining loose dust and particles from the surface. We recommend painting the entire wall area with a matt emulsion to even out any colour tonal differences on the wall surface which may show through the wallpaper and then applying a coat of PVA to seal the surface. This will provide a better surface for re-positioning/lining up the wallpaper design during wet application.
- f. An additional tip to help adhesion it is recommended to apply a thin coat of weak adhesive paste to the wall surface and allow to dry on the wall before applying your wetted wallpaper. The wall surface is now ready to receive the wallpaper.

Useful preparation tips

- **Artwork / Design:** Careful measurement of the wall area prior to designing your wallpaper is essential for the design to fit perfectly. As most walls are not a perfect size, horizontally or vertically, ask your designer to allow at least 20mm extra to the longest measurement when creating the artwork to allow for this. By allowing this extra 'play' in the printed artwork your design will be able fit onto the wall without the risk of leaving unsightly gaps at the top, bottom, left or right of the wall as the wall size will differ from one end of a wall to the other. **NB:** It is extremely difficult to make complex designs/shapes line up perfectly across walls, so avoid designs that flow across adjoining walls.
- **Printing:** This product is designed to work on a whole range of Latex and Eco Solvent printers. To make the wallpapering process as smooth and trouble free as possible, the media must be given enough time to dry before use, particularly with solvent inks. With very heavy ink coverage, the printed media should be allowed to stand very loosely wound for at least 24 hours to allow outgassing. Always check the print before trimming or pasting. If the heavy ink areas feel soft, or mark easily, it needs more time to cure. This is less of an issue when printing with Latex inks. We have produced a range of bespoke profiles to help get the best out of the product, please contact the sales office for more details.
- **Trimming:** Always ensure all trimming is done extremely accurately, i.e.: perfectly straight, clean cuts for the left and right paper edge joins. Accuracy becomes especially important when symmetrical or repeating patterns are used as inaccurate trimming will result in mismatched patterns and/or unsightly gaps or overlaps in your joins.

2 Application

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It is advisable to cut your wallpaper graphics *exactly* to size and butt the trimmed edges together on the wall. Alternatively allow extra artwork 'bleed' between strips then overlap the wallpaper edges and splice/trim on the wall. Splicing on the wall probably offers the tightest fitting joints but for inexperienced installers poor splicing on the wall will result in damaging the wall surface/plaster and may damage the joined edges of your design resulting in 'hacked' looking joints and subsequent paper lifting.



a. Draw faint plumb line guides on the wall to the size of the strips to ensure your application will fit and be vertically straight across the entire wall.



c. Prior to applying wetted wallpaper, work from left to right offering up each strip without wetting the paste side. Start at the ceiling and align with the vertical plumb line. Figure out height and width variations across the entire wall surface in the design stage and prior to actual application, double checking the extra artwork you allowed at the top and bottom of your design is aligned and will cover the entire wall area without leaving gaps top or bottom, left or right.

d. Once you are happy the wall design can be positioned and aligned across the entire wall, soak the required pre-pasted strip of wallpaper with the water using one of two methods;



i. Fill a bucket half way full with water then spread the wallpaper out design side down (paste side up) on the work table. Generously apply clean water (or optionally use a weak adhesive paste: aka: "size") over the entire pre-pasted side using a paint roller leaving no dry areas, or...



ii. You can build your own immersion wetting tray using the roll's box and a thick covering film to waterproof the box - the tray must be large enough to fit the entire width of the wallpaper strip. Fill your tray with clean water and loosely roll the wallpaper so it will all fit into the tray. Allow the strip to soak in the water for no longer than 15 seconds or you may remove the paste. Change the water after every 4 or 5 strips.



e. With the wallpaper laid out on the work table (after removing the wallpaper from your self-made tray if using the immersion tray technique) gently bend a section of the paper back and attach it to the middle then back again and again so that the entire piece of paper is folded accordion style without any creases and lightly held to one another.



f. Dampen your sponge. Pull back one section and place it at the top of the wall leaving enough of the extra design as judged necessary from stage 2c. Press the first strip of wallpaper onto the wall. Use the sponge to press and stroke the paper onto the wall. Make sure there are no creases, cracks, bubbles or tears.



g. Pull back the next section from the folds. Press it down and with the sponge smooth the paper. Continue on with the rest of the wallpaper strip.



h. With a sharp knife and a hard straight edge neatly trim excess paper off the top and bottom edges. Trim around sockets, switches and other fixings by carefully trimming out the required shapes leaving enough extra wallpaper to tuck neatly behind the fixings. Wait for the strip to dry and then re-attach fixings firmly back onto the wall.

i. Take your next strip of wallpaper and repeat steps 2d through 2h accurately aligning the patterns so that it looks continuous to the eye from a short distance. Continue in this manner until the walls are completely covered.

Useful application tips

- It is crucial to a good result that all trimming is done extremely accurately or your joins will look unsightly. i.e.: if the cuts for the joins aren't absolutely straight the design won't match up between joins, and unsightly gaps or overlaps will become apparent after application to the wall.
- Always use a very sharp, clean knife so your trimmed edges are as cleanly edged and perfectly straight as possible.
- Smooth the wallpaper slowly and make sure to use a sponge not your hands to avoid handling marks on the wallpaper.
- If immersion wetting your strips don't leave the paper in the water for very long as it will remove the adhesive.



Making good

Finishing off the job is important as it leaves your customer with the right impression and shows your work at it's best!

- Ensure all wallpaper edges and trims around sockets etc. are stuck firmly and finished neatly.
- Clean off surrounding areas and touch up skirting boards with fresh paint for a great finish to your work.