



HANGING INSTRUCTIONS

ABACA WALLCOVERINGS

STOP: DO NOT CUT OR INSTALL UNTIL YOU HAVE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS!

Thank you for choosing Studio Zen Wallcoverings. Abaca wallcoverings are crafted from natural abaca fiber — derived from the leaf sheaths of the banana plant — hand-woven and laminated onto a paper backing. Abaca is prized for its exceptional strength and natural luster among plant-based wallcovering fibers. **Seams will always be visible** — this is an inherent and expected characteristic of all natural woven wallcoverings. Professional installation is strongly recommended. Visit www.ngpp.org to find a qualified installer.

PREPARATION

Before you cut and hang, please be sure you have:

1. Verify your order. Confirm you have the correct wallcovering pattern, colorway, and sufficient quantity to complete the entire job before cutting anything.
2. **Inspect all material upon receipt and before installation.** Unroll and examine every bolt in good lighting prior to cutting or hanging. While every order is carefully inspected before shipment, damage can occasionally occur in transit. Any concerns must be reported to Studio Zen Wallcoverings before installation begins.
3. **The Three-Strip Rule — strictly enforced.** After hanging the first three (3) strips, stop and inspect before proceeding. If any defect is identified at this point, halt installation immediately and contact Studio Zen Wallcoverings before hanging additional material. **NO CLAIMS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR MORE THAN THREE (3) STRIPS INSTALLED ON THE WALL.** All claims must be submitted within 30 days of invoice date. No labor claims will be accepted at any time.

BUILDING & MATERIAL CONDITIONS: The building must be weather-tight with HVAC settings (including pressure, temperature and relative humidity) the same as those of an occupied building for three days prior to, throughout installation and three days after installation. The walls must be structurally sound including elimination of sources of moisture accumulation into the wall or wall cavity. The wallcovering must be in a clean and dry condition and must be stored at normal occupied building temperature and humidity for at least three days prior to installation. All adhesives and primers must be new, good quality, commercial grade materials, which have not been contaminated.

WALL PREPARATION

1. The walls to be covered must be properly prepared to ensure that the wallpaper will adhere to the wall surface. Even the strongest adhesive can only work when the wall surface is clean and properly prepared. Walls must be smooth, dry, and free of grease, mold, mildew, and loose paint.
2. Studio Zen Wallcoverings recommends that installers use a hard, acrylic, pigmented, wall-protecting primer that is **SPECIFICALLY made for WALLCOVERING INSTALLATION and WALL PROTECTION. DO NOT USE R-35.**
3. Allow the primer to dry thoroughly before hanging.



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Liner Paper — Optional but Strongly Recommended: Studio Zen Wallcoverings strongly recommends a high-quality liner beneath all abaca wallcoverings. Tint the primer to a tone similar to the wallcovering — this minimizes the visual impact of seams, which are always visible with natural woven wallcoverings.

INSTALLATION

ADHESIVE

1. Use a **clear, premixed vinyl adhesive**. Do not use clay-based adhesives. Do not dilute.
2. Apply adhesive evenly to the **back of the wallcovering** using a roller, working from the centre to the edges. Apply adhesive to the wall at seam locations before hanging to ensure full coverage at the most critical points.
3. **No adhesive or water may contact the face of the wallcovering.** Paste and water will permanently stain and discolor natural abaca fibers. If paste contacts the face, blot once with a clean dry cloth — do not wipe or rub.

BOOKING

1. After pasting, loosely roll or fold the wallcovering — **do not crease** — and allow to book for **2–5 minutes**. This allows the paper backing to absorb moisture and the strip to become flexible for hanging. Do not over-soak — excess moisture can cause the abaca to separate from the backing.
2. Do not stack or pile pasted strips. Hang one strip at a time.

SHADING — PLAN BEFORE CUTTING

1. **Shade all rolls before cutting any strips.** Open each roll and lay panels side by side to identify tonal variation. Abaca is hand-dyed and shading differences between rolls and within a single roll are normal and expected.
2. Arrange strips from light to dark for the most even distribution. Strips with notably different tones can be repositioned to less prominent locations.
3. The installer may reverse alternate strips to minimize shading — this is at the installer's discretion. Hang in the same sequence as cut from the roll.

TRIMMING & SEAMING

1. **Table trim all strips** using a metal straightedge and a very sharp razor blade. Change blades after every cut — a dull blade will fray the abaca fiber edge and create a ragged, visible seam.
2. Butt seams tightly — do not overlap. **Seams will be visible** — this is the nature of all natural woven wallcoverings. Plan layout to position seams in less prominent locations where possible.
3. **Do not use a seam roller** — it will flatten the fiber nap and cause permanent discoloration along the seam line.

HANGING

1. Establish a plumb line before hanging the first strip.
2. Use a soft-bristle smoothing brush. **Do not use a hard-edged smoother or seam roller** — these damage the natural fiber surface.
3. Work one wall at a time. Handle material with clean, dry hands — oils from skin can permanently stain abaca fibers.



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4. Abaca's natural strength makes it more manageable around outside corners than other grasscloth-type wallcoverings — however, always apply extra adhesive at corners and ensure the fiber does not crack or fray when bent.

MATERIAL & CARE

Studio Zen Abaca wallcoverings are crafted from natural banana plant fiber. They are not washable and require gentle ongoing care.

NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS

Seam visibility. Visible seams are inherent to all natural woven wallcoverings. They are not a defect and cannot be eliminated.

Light sensitivity. Natural abaca fiber and dyes may fade with prolonged direct sunlight. UV-filtering window treatments are strongly recommended.

Humidity & moisture. Not suitable for bathrooms, kitchens, or areas with consistently high humidity. Abaca is porous and will absorb moisture.

Traffic. Not suitable for high-traffic areas. Natural fibers fray and abrade when bumped repeatedly.

CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

Routine dusting. Vacuum regularly using the soft brush attachment at the lowest suction setting. Work in the direction of the fiber weave.

Spot cleaning. Abaca is **not washable**. Do not apply water, damp cloths, or any liquid cleaner to the face. Use a clean dry soft brush for dry surface debris only.

Stains. Do not treat with water or solvent — moisture will permanently mark and stain abaca fiber. Consult a professional conservator before attempting any treatment on the wallcovering face.