



HANGING INSTRUCTIONS

CORK WALLCOVERINGS

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

Thank you for choosing Studio Zen Wallcoverings. Cork wallcoverings are crafted from natural shaved cork laminated onto a paper or fabric backing. Cork is thick, dimensionally sensitive, and requires careful handling — it will chip and crack at corners if forced. Professional installation is required. 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: A quality liner paper provides a stable, uniform substrate for cork installation and significantly improves adhesion. Cork is heavier than most wallcoverings — a properly primed liner reduces the risk of edge lifting and seam separation.

ACCLIMATION

1. Acclimate the wallcovering and all adhesive in the installation area for at least 72 hours prior to installation. Maintain temperature between 68–75°F and relative humidity at 50% or less. Verify wall moisture content does not exceed 4% using a moisture meter. Do not proceed if active moisture, mold, or mildew is present.

INSTALLATION

ADHESIVE

- 1. Use a clear, heavy-duty premixed adhesive.** Do not dilute. Cork absorbs adhesive more than paper-backed materials — apply a generous, even coat.
- 2. Apply adhesive to the back of the wallcovering** working from the centre to edges. Book loosely for **5–6 minutes** — do not crease. Fold pasted side to pasted side without applying any pressure.
- 3. Adhesive and water must never contact the face of the cork.** If paste reaches the face, allow it to dry completely, then carefully flake it off with a soft dry brush. Do not use water or solvents on cork.

TRIMMING

- 1. Cork is pre-trimmed at the factory** but shipping may compromise edges. You may table-trim wet strips using a 6-foot straightedge and very sharp single-edge razor blade. **Change your blade after every cut** — a dull blade will tear rather than cut cork cleanly.
- 2. Do not attempt to wrap cork around outside corners.** Due to the thickness and rigidity of cork, wrapping corners will cause chipping and cracking. Plan seams to fall at corners, or use an appropriate trim detail. Vertical joints should not occur closer than 6 inches from inside or outside corners.

HANGING

- 1. Establish a plumb line** before hanging the first strip. Hang one strip at a time — always place cork into wet adhesive.
- 2. Butt seams tightly** — do not overlap. After positioning, allow seams to set for approximately 6 minutes, then **lightly roll seams** with a seam roller. Do not apply heavy pressure — excessive rolling will push out the underlying adhesive.
- 3. Use a plastic smoothing tool** to work out air bubbles. Check for complete adhesive transfer to the backing — there must be full, even wet transfer for a secure bond.
- 4. Remove any paste from the face immediately with a dry cloth only.**



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MATERIAL & CARE

Studio Zen Cork wallcoverings are crafted from natural cork and require specific care to maintain their texture and appearance.

NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS

Natural variation. Cork is a natural material with inherent variation in color, texture, and pattern. This is a characteristic of the material, not a defect.

Light sensitivity. Cork may lighten or darken slightly with sustained UV exposure. UV-filtering window treatments are recommended.

Humidity. Maintain stable indoor climate. Excess humidity can cause cork to swell. Not suitable for bathrooms or high-moisture environments.

CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

Routine dusting. Vacuum regularly using a soft brush attachment on its lowest setting. Cork texture collects dust readily.

Spot cleaning. Use a barely damp cloth with very light pressure for surface residue. Do not soak. Do not use solvents, bleach, or abrasive cleaners on cork.

Stains. Blot immediately — do not rub. Do not apply water or solvents. Some stains may be permanent on natural cork. Consult a professional conservator before attempting any treatment.