



HANGING INSTRUCTIONS

WOOD VENEER WALLCOVERINGS

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

Thank you for choosing Studio Zen Wallcoverings. For best results, we recommend that a professional wallcovering installer hang these wallcoverings. To find a professional in your area, contact the National Guild of Professional Paperhangers at www.ngpp.org.

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. Wood veneer wallcoverings are a natural product — inspect carefully for any transit damage before proceeding. Any concerns must be identified 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.** Damage or issues discovered after more than three strips are installed are considered installer responsibility. 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 and completely free of debris.
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.
4. Apply an acrylic or latex primer/sizer **specifically formulated for wallcovering installation** over the base primer once fully dry.



Liner Paper — Optional but Strongly Recommended: Studio Zen Wallcoverings strongly recommends installing a high-quality liner paper beneath all wood veneer wallcoverings. A liner absorbs excess paste, prevents moisture from penetrating the face, and creates a stable base that guards against seam splitting, edge lifting, and veneer warping. While optional, omitting a liner is one of the most common causes of installation failure with natural wallcoverings.

INSTALLATION

ADHESIVE

1. A **clay-based adhesive is recommended** for wood veneer wallcoverings. Because clay adhesive has a lower water content than vinyl or premixed alternatives, it poses less risk of over-saturating the veneer during installation. For lighter-colored veneers, a clear premixed adhesive is also acceptable.
2. Prior to pasting, **dampen the back of each strip lightly with a clean sponge**. This step is important — it allows the wood fibers to soften and expand gradually, reducing the risk of cracking or splitting when the strip is handled and positioned on the wall.
3. Apply adhesive evenly across the full back surface using a roller, ensuring edges are thoroughly covered. Do not use a pasting machine. **The face must remain completely free of adhesive**. Should any paste reach the face, blot gently with a barely damp cloth — do not wipe, rub, or scrub. Even light cleaning may lift the veneer finish.
4. Do not thin or dilute the adhesive. Excess water in the paste can weaken the bond between the veneer and its paper backing.

BOOKING

1. Once pasted, loosely roll each strip for booking — **never fold or crease**. Wood veneer will crack permanently at any fold point. Keep the rolled ends rounded and allow the strip to rest for **5 to 10 minutes** before bringing it to the wall. This resting period is essential for the adhesive to properly wet out the backing and for the veneer to reach optimal flexibility for hanging.

TRIMMING

1. The edges are pre-trimmed at the factory. **Do not double-cut wood veneer wallcovering** — trimming the material will skew the pattern. Butt seams directly.
2. Trim edges with a **VERY sharp razor blade**. **Change your blades frequently**.

SEAMING & HANGING

1. **Hang wood veneer wallcoverings straight — do not reverse strips**. Reversing alters the grain direction and disrupts the visual continuity of the installation.
2. Seams should be butted together. Use low-adhesive painter's tape (e.g., 3M Blue) along the edges of previously installed strips to keep seam surfaces clean during installation.
3. Hang strips in the exact sequence as cut from the bolt. Paste and hang one strip at a time.
4. When working around corners, ceiling lines, baseboards, or door frames, we suggest using a template or pre-cutting the material. Woods can be wrapped around external corners — wrap by a minimum of 6".

TIPS



STUDIO ZEN WALLCOVERINGS

METAL LEAF · SILK · TEXTILE · HANDCRAFTED WALLCOVERINGS

1. Use a soft-bristle brush or soft rubber roller to apply the wallcovering to the wall. **Do not use a metal knife, stiff sweep, or any tool with a pointed edge.** A pointed tip can catch and lift individual veneer pieces, particularly on patterned installations. Avoid overworking seams.
2. **DO NOT allow paste or excessive water to contact the face of the wallcovering.** Both will permanently alter the color of the wood veneer on the face of the paper.
3. Paste, trim, and hang one strip at a time.
4. Consider using a light painter's tape to cover the edges of previously installed strips so that paste from the seams will not settle on installed material.
5. Subtle shading differences between strips are a natural characteristic of wood veneer wallcoverings and tend to even out as the material acclimates.

TROUBLESHOOTING

1. **Air bubbles that will not smooth out:** Re-dampen the affected area with a clean sponge, blot away excess moisture, then work the area again with a soft roller. In most cases this will release the bubble and allow it to lie flat.
2. **Persistent bubbles:** If dampening does not resolve the issue, apply gentle heat with a heat gun on a low setting while carefully smoothing the surface. Work slowly and keep the gun moving to avoid scorching the veneer.
3. **Last resort — relief cut:** If a bubble remains after the above steps, score a small relief cut with a fresh razor blade, apply a small amount of additional adhesive using an artist's brush, and press the veneer flat with a soft roller.

MATERIAL & CARE

Studio Zen wood veneer wallcoverings are crafted from genuine natural wood and require careful handling to preserve their beauty. Please read the following carefully.

NATURAL CHARACTERISTICS

Light sensitivity. Wood veneer may fade or shift in tone with prolonged exposure to direct sunlight. We recommend UV-filtering window treatments in rooms with strong or sustained light exposure.

Humidity & moisture. Wood veneer is sensitive to fluctuations in humidity. Excessive moisture can cause warping, swelling, or edge lifting. Not suitable for kitchens, bathrooms, or high-moisture environments. Maintain stable indoor climate conditions after installation.

Natural grain variation. Subtle differences in grain pattern and shading between strips are inherent characteristics of real wood veneer. These are not defects and tend to unify as the material acclimates.

Avoid direct contact. Keep the veneer surface free from oils, grease, and household cleaning products. These will permanently alter the appearance of the wood finish.

CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

Routine dusting. Dust regularly using a clean, dry feather duster or the soft brush attachment of a vacuum cleaner on its lowest setting. This is the most effective way to maintain the appearance of your wallcovering.

Spot cleaning. For surface marks, blot carefully with a very lightly dampened cloth — always test on an inconspicuous area first. A soft gum eraser may be used for dry residue. Never saturate the veneer surface with water.

Stains. Address immediately. Blot gently from the outside inward — never rub or scrub. Do not apply water, solvents, steam, abrasive pads, or household cleaning sprays of any kind. Excess moisture will permanently damage the wood veneer.