



# HP PVC-free Durable Wall Paper installation tips and tricks

This document explains general recommendations for installing **HP PVC-free Durable Smooth Wall Paper** and **HP PVC-free Durable Suede Wall Paper**. HP has worked with the following organizations to develop these application instructions:

- Roman Decorating Products, LLC
- Gardner-Gibson, Inc.
- Wallcovering Installers Association (formerly NGPP—National Guild of Professional Paperhangers)
- Henkel
- PUFAS
- Bartoline

## About the product

HP PVC-free Durable Wall Papers are PVC-free<sup>1</sup> wallcoverings with a textile scrim backing, intended for durable, colorful, creative wall decorations that last with scrub- and scratch-resistant performance. Prints produced with HP Latex Inks enable healthier printing<sup>2</sup> and more sustainable printing. Odorless displays are UL GREENGUARD Gold Certified<sup>3</sup> using this FSC®-certified (C115319) paper.<sup>4</sup>

Prints produced with HP Latex Inks on HP PVC-free Durable Wall Papers are Type II (ASTM F793) compliant<sup>5</sup> for durability characteristics—ideal for use in environments subject to wear and tear.

HP PVC-free Durable Wall Papers are a permanent solution and are not intended for temporary wall applications on melamine, gator board, foam core, or other composite boards.

In addition to the instructions below, you may be interested in more detailed information on hanging wall fabric back paper. Please visit <http://www.wallcoveringinstallers.org/wia-university/courses/>.

## Pre-installation

Allow the prints and adhesive to acclimate under clean, dry, and protected conditions between 65 to 75° F (18 to 24° C) and 40–60% RH until the prints adjust to the environment. Inspect all materials prior to installation for the following: print image and size of panels are correct, panel numbering and sequence are correct, color matching of panels is acceptable, print surface is free from defects, and edges have enough space for overlap, trimming, and cutting.

Do not crease the material prior to or during installation, as creases may not disappear.

Make sure the walls are smooth, clean, dry, and free of mold, mildew, grease, or other stains. On new walls, drywall joints should be taped, mudded, and sanded smooth. Remove any nailheads, nicks, gouges, and other surface imperfections. For best results, old wallcoverings should be removed, and residual moisture content of the wall should be < 4%.

### Recommended tools

1. 3/8 in or 3/4 in knap rollers
2. Soft plastic smoother and/or brush smoother
3. Steel putty knife
4. Olfa rotary cutter, box-style cutter, or similar
5. Seam roller
6. Non-abrasive soft cellulose sponge

**Other:** drop cloths, buckets, pasting machine, paint trays, plastic bags for booking, table, etc.

### Priming walls

Precondition porous surfaces before wallcovering installation. Non-porous surfaces do not require priming. We recommend Metylan Ovalit VB paste for installation on non-porous walls. Follow priming instructions per the table below. Recommendations are based on installation on a gypsum drywall sheetrock surface. Allow adequate drying time before applying paste and wallcovering.

### Recommended primers and pastes (for products available in the Americas)

#### Gardner-Gibson

| Primer   | Paste  | Other instructions   |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dynamite 221 Acrylic Wallcovering Primer</li> <li>• Dynamite 222 White Acrylic Wallcovering Primer</li> <li>• Equivalent primer that contains a mold inhibitor</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dynamite 234 Premium Heavy Duty Clear Strippable</li> <li>• Dynamite 111 Heavy Duty Clay Non-Strippable</li> <li>• Dynamite 433 Heavy Duty Clay Strippable</li> </ul> | <p>Use short nap/foam rollers for primer and paste.</p> <p>Follow application rates per installer recommendation</p> <p>Do not use oil-based or alkyd primer sealer.</p> |

#### Roman Decorating Products

| Primer   | Paste  | Other instructions  |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roman PRO-935 Adhesion Promoting Wallpaper Primer</li> <li>• Roman PRO-977 Ultra Primer—two coats, allow each to dry overnight</li> </ul> <p><i>(If using Roman adhesive products on an existing wall, first seal with one coat of Roman Rx-35/PRO-999 or Roman PRO-935 Primer before priming, and allow to dry overnight.)</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roman PRO-732 Extra Strength Clay Base Wallcovering Adhesive</li> <li>• Roman PRO-888 Ultra Clear Adhesive</li> <li>• Roman PRO-774 Strippable Clay Adhesive</li> </ul> | <p>Primer application rate 400–450 ft<sup>2</sup>/gal, recommend allowing 24 hrs. at room temperature prior to pasting.</p> <p>Paste applied with 9-inch roller and 3/8 in or 1/4 in knap on both paper and wall.</p> <p>Application rate per installer recommendation.</p> |

### Recommended primers and pastes (for products available in Europe)

#### Henkel

| Primer   | Paste  | Other instructions   |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UniBond Super PVA<br/><i>(Diluted 5 Parts Water: 1 Part UniBond Super PVA)</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Do not use oil-based or alkyd primer sealer</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solvite Specialist Wallpaper Adhesive</li> <li>• Metylan Ovalit TM</li> <li>• Metylan Ovalit VB (non-porous walls)</li> </ul> | <p><b>Wet back side of the media with water using a sponge.</b> Wait 10 minutes. Apply paste using a 3/8 in or 1/4 in knap roller on the back of the wallcovering, and allow 15 minutes to acclimate. Once acclimated, apply the pasted wallcovering to the wall. Follow application rates per installer recommendation.</p> |

**Bartoline**

| Primer | Paste  | Other instructions   |
|--------|--|--|
|        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ready Mixed Wallcovering Adhesive (Professional)</li> </ul> | <p><b>Wet back side of the media with water using a sponge.</b> Wait 10 minutes. Apply paste using a 3/8 in or 3/4 in knap roller on the back of the wallcovering, and allow 15 minutes to acclimate. Once acclimated, apply the pasted wallcovering to the wall. Follow application rates per installer recommendation.</p> |

**PUFAS**

| Primer   | Paste  | Other instructions   |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decotric Primer LF</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Glutolin K10</li> </ul> | <p>Prepare a 1:10 mixing ratio of the paste per manufacturer's instructions. <b>Wet back side of the media with water using a sponge.</b> Wait 10 minutes. Apply paste using a 3/8 in or 3/4 in knap roller on the back of the wallcovering, and allow 15 minutes to acclimate. Once acclimated, apply the pasted wallcovering to the wall. Follow application rates per installer recommendation.</p> |

**Wallfix Contract Heavy**

| Primer | Paste  | Other instructions   |
|--------|--|--|
|        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ready to use adhesive - Wallfix Contract Heavy</li> </ul> | <p><b>Wet back side of the media with water using a sponge.</b> Wait 10 minutes. Apply paste using a 3/8 in or 3/4 in knap roller on the back of the wallcovering, and allow 15 minutes to acclimate. Once acclimated, apply the pasted wallcovering to the wall. Follow application rates per installer recommendation.</p> |

**Installation/application**

Make sure the wall is cleaned, prepped, and primed before attempting to install pasted wallcovering.

Optimum installation conditions are between 65 and 75° F (18 to 24° C) and 40–60% RH. For higher temperatures and relative humidities, allow more time for sizing primer and paste coats to dry.

Lay out the area to be covered as appropriate for the image or wallcovering to be hung. Double check the pattern, color, and sequence numbering of panels to ensure they are correct.

Wet the back of the paper with a sponge, prior to applying paste. Apply an even coat of adhesive to the backing of the wallcovering using a brush, roller, or pasting machine. Do not over-apply paste as minor bubbling may occur. Paste-the-wall is not a recommended application. When pasting several strips in advance, booking is recommended to ensure proper wetting of the backing. Fold each end toward the middle, pasted sides together, aligning the edges carefully to prevent the paste on the edges from drying out.

**Examples of recommended general cleaning agents:**

- Dawn dish soap
- Seventh Generation
- Palmolive dish soap
- Joy dish soap
- Disinfectants
- Bleach and water
- Ecolab A-456-II

**Examples of cleaning agents to avoid (spray cleaners):**

- 409
- Windex
- Ace
- Shout
- Clorox

Book the strips for a minimum of 5-10 minutes. Do not crease the wallcovering, and avoid stacking multiple booked strips as the added weight could cause creasing.

Install wallcovering using a plastic wallcovering smoother, working out air pockets or bubbles. Stop the installation if there is a question of panel color matching, and contact the print service provider. Remove excess paste immediately with clean water and a soft cellulose sponge. Use the soft side of the sponge if there is an abrasive side. It will be difficult to remove paste after it starts to dry. If following an overlapping method, use a minimum of 1 inch but preferably 2 inches. Expanding and shrinking is not an issue.

After the adhesive has begun to set (approximately 20-30 minutes), roll the seams lightly with a seam roller as necessary. Avoid excessive pressure when rolling the seams to avoid squeezing out paste. Keep in mind that although the paste will seem fully dried after approximately 24-48 hours, it may take 1-2 weeks for it to finally settle.

**Note: It is important to wet the back of the paper with a sponge, prior to applying paste as this prevents the paste from absorbing into the paper and allows for better adherence to the wall.**

**Maintenance and cleaning of installed wallcovering**

**Cleaning instructions for HP PVC-free Durable Wall Papers**

Using the right cleaning solution is important when caring for your HP PVC-free Durable Wall Paper printed with HP Latex Inks. The ideal cleaning product is readily available, safe to use, and effective in removing contamination from the surface without risking damage to the wall paper or printed image. Choosing the wrong cleaner can lead to removal of color in the picture, abrasive damage to the wall paper substrate, or staining.

**Using the right cleaning product is critical.**

**How to find the right cleaning product**

In general, HP recommends using a solution of water and mild dishwashing soap (1 ounce of mild soap to 1 gallon of water or approximately a 1:100 ratio) and a soft non-abrasive sponge or cloth and gently rub the surface to clean HP PVC-free Durable Wall Paper. Then, completely rinse the washed area with clean water and wipe dry. If the surface also needs to be disinfected, HP recommends adding up to one cup of bleach per gallon of water (1:16 ratio) or using a quaternary ammonium-based disinfectant such as Ecolab A-456-II. To identify a mild detergent, look for a “dishwashing” or “hand” soap in liquid form. Please note that the label of “soap” and “detergent” can often mean the same thing, and may be used interchangeably. Carefully inspect the use applications of each cleaner. A better soap for cleaning the wall paper will likely indicate: mild, safe and gentle, does not dry out skin, non-toxic, or “tough on grease while soft on hands.” Even better, look for a soap that messages eco, eco-friendly, phosphate-free, additive free, pure, free and clear, etc.

Do not use dishwashing tablets or detergents designed for dishwashing machines. These tablets contain harsh abrasives that can damage your wall paper. Also, stay away from common household cleaners, laundry detergents, solvent-based cleaning agents such as lacquer thinners, nail polish remover, pine oil, mineral spirits, or multi-surface cleaners that typically have harsh solvents that can remove color from the wall paper. A good rule of thumb is if it comes in a spray bottle or powder, it’s best to avoid using it on your wall paper.



<sup>1</sup> Based on HP internal and third-party testing chemical analysis that demonstrates elemental chlorine to be at or below 200 ppm. Presence of chlorine is attributed to residual chlorine used in paper-making process, and not due to the presence of PVC.

<sup>2</sup> Based on a comparison of HP Latex Ink technology to competitors with leading market share as of December, 2013 and analysis of published MSDS/SDSs and/or internal evaluation. Performance of specific attributes may vary by competitor and ink technology/formulation.

<sup>3</sup> HP PVC-free Wall Paper printed with HP Latex Inks is UL GREENGUARD Gold Certified. UL GREENGUARD Gold Certification to UL 2818 demonstrates that products are certified to UL’s GREENGUARD standards for low chemical emissions into indoor air during product usage. For more information, visit [ul.com/gg](http://ul.com/gg) or [greenguard.org](http://greenguard.org).

<sup>4</sup> HP has a policy for offering Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®)-certified papers that are sourced from FSC®-certified forests and other controlled sources. BMG trademark license code FSC®-C115319, see [fsc.org](http://fsc.org). HP trademark license code FSC®-C017543, see [fsc.org](http://fsc.org). Not all FSC®-certified products are available in all regions. For information about HP large format printing materials, please visit [HPLFMedia.com](http://HPLFMedia.com).

<sup>5</sup> HP PVC-free Durable Wall Papers are compliant with the ASTM F793 standard (Type II) when printed at full coverage using Original HP 792 Latex Inks on the HP Latex 200 Printer series or HP 831 Latex Inks on the HP Latex 300 Printer series or HP LX610 Latex Inks on the HP Latex 800 Printer series or HP 881 Latex Inks on the HP Latex 3000 Printer. To avoid staining in unprinted areas, HP recommends cleaning the area within 30 minutes of any spill using a non-abrasive sponge with warm water and a mild dishwashing detergent.

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