

MOISTURE, MOLD AND PERMEABILITY

Vinyl wallcovering can act as a vapor barrier and consequently should **not** be installed on walls that are susceptible to excessive condensation or moisture infiltration. This may be more likely to occur in Humid and Fringe Zone 1 climates.

To reduce the risk of fungal growth within the wall or wall cavity we strongly recommend the use of microvented, permeable wallcovering. The following conditions should be observed:

- *The building's exterior envelope must be weather-tight, and the HVAC system must be operating before and during installation.
- *The wall surface to be covered must be completely dry and free of any indications of prior mold/mildew growth before installation.
- *The wallcovering supplied by Len-Tex may be made permeable (minimum 8+ perms) by a microventing process.

Permeable wallcovering cannot compensate for water intrusion caused by poor building envelope design, faulty construction, building system failure or improper maintenance practices.

CONFIRM THE PRODUCT

Before cutting this material, please confirm the accuracy of the pattern, color and yardage; no returns will be allowed for cut material. You may confirm the wallcovering is microvented by holding in front of a bright light so the penetrations are visible.

PREPARE THE WALLCOVERING

When applicable, confirm that consecutive bolt (roll) numbers are being used. If transported during winter months, the wallcovering must be allowed to warm to a minimum of 70°F to insure a problem-free installation. The building temperature must be 70°F prior to beginning work.

PREPARE THE WALL

All surfaces must be clean, dry, smooth and structurally sound. Sand-finish plaster must be scraped smooth. Cinder or cement blocks must be plastered or cemented smooth before application

of the wallcovering. Newly plastered walls must be completely dry before application – verify using a “moisture detector,” making sure the walls are dry to the satisfaction of the architect.

Proper surface preparation is key to having great results and success. We recommend priming wall surfaces with a Zinsser primer chosen specifically for the job. When installing microvented wallcovering use Zinsser Shieldz “VP” primer system or equivalent.

When mold and mildew is a concern, we suggest the use of Zinsser Shieldz “Plus” primer, or equivalent. By following these instructions, the wallcovering will install easier, last longer, and maintain strip-ability. For assistance with problematic wall surface preparation call Zinsser at 1-888-855-1774.

APPLY THE ADHESIVE

Microvented wallcovering is made breathable by microscopic penetrations. Use Shieldz “VP” primer with Zinsser Sure-Grip “VP” adhesive, specifically designed for this product, or equivalent. To prevent adhesive “bleed-thru,” the wallcovering adhesive must be applied undiluted – do not thin with water.

For Type I wallcovering, use Zinsser Sure-Grip 122 or 128 vinyl wallcovering adhesive, or equivalent. We suggest using a roller to apply the adhesive to the back of the wallcovering and “book” for 3 – 5 minutes. As an alternative, you may apply the adhesive directly to the wall allowing it to “tack-up” before installing the wallcovering (dry hang).

For Type II wallcovering, use Zinsser Sure-Grip 128 or 134, or equivalent, and if mold and mildew is a concern, use Sure-Grip PLUS adhesive, or equivalent. **Do not dilute adhesives!** Apply using a commercial pasting machine or by roller.

For difficult installations, such as columns or outside corners, particularly with Type II wallcoverings, use Zinsser 134 or 138 heavy duty clay-based adhesive, or equivalent. You may find that you need to apply adhesive to both the wall and the wallcovering; allow both surfaces to “tack-up” and wrap corners, columns, etc.

INSTALL THE WALLCOVERING

Before installing, **examine pattern for color and repeat in design.** Some patterns should be lined up, matched and/or alternately reversed depending upon color and texture in order to insure color uniformity. Hang first strip even with plumb line. Use strips in exact order as they are cut from the roll. Fill in over and around doors and windows as you come to them with strips cut in consecutive order from the roll. **Cut and install three (3) strips only.** After the first three (3) strips have been installed, inspect all for color shading. If satisfactory, proceed with work. If not satisfactory and you are unable to determine the reason for any shading, stop work and get in touch with your supplier.

It is most important that permanent lighting be in existence prior and during installation of all wallcovering. Do not install with temporary "pigtail" lighting. Manufacturer accepts no responsibility for hanging of additional material.

SEAMING

Seaming of vinyl wallcoverings may be done in one of the following two methods:

The first method is to butt the material. This holds the cleaning to a minimum which is especially important when working with deep textures and dark color. The best butt seams require pretrimming with a straight edge on a cutting table.

The second and advised method is to overlap strips on the wall and cut through the overlap taking care not to score the drywall. Lap the strips about (2) inches and using a straight edge and appropriate double cutter, cut through the double lapped thickness. Remove the top and bottom strips and work into a tight seam using a seam roller, WallWiz, polyethylene, or PVC smoothing blade.

Note: Do not use steel blade knives for smoothing wallcovering or seams. Vinyl wallcovering surface is softer than steel blades and damage to wallcovering surface will occur.

As each strip is installed, carefully wash excess adhesive from seams. Use a sponge dampened with clean, warm water, changed frequently, and dry with a clean soft towel. Adhesive residue will discolor seams or leave a dull vertical area. If this occurs refer to Cleaning section of the Len-Tex Corporation website at www.lentexcorp.com for further cleaning procedures. Adhesive not cleaned promptly from surface of wallcovering will be very difficult to remove – DIF GEL or similar product will help in these conditions.

Taping seams with 2" masking tape before lapping and cutting will eliminate any potential problems with adhesive residue.

Always carry wallcovering around corners approximately 6", making no corner cut. If a corner cutting is unavoidable, do not overlap and cut – butt each strip separately resulting in a tight corner seam. Trim excess material from base moldings, door and window frames with a suitable razor knife and cutting guide.

WARRANTY

Len-Tex wallcoverings come with a 5 year limited warranty. For full details of warranty coverage please refer to our website: www.lentexcorp.com. Zinsser "Plus" system comes with a written 5-year mold & mildew-proof guarantee. Call 1-888-855-1774 for details.

For a comprehensive understanding of mold occurrence and prevention please visit: www.wallcoverings.org or request from your distributor a copy of "Mold – Cause, Effect and Response".

As with any quality product, proper care and routine maintenance of your wallcovering will safeguard your investment by helping to maintain its original beauty and finish, thereby extending its useful life. All Len-Tex wallcoverings are finished with water based protective topcoating for enhanced cleanability.

The following general cleaning instructions should serve as a guide for normal maintenance practices.

GENERAL CLEANING

Ordinary dirt and smudges can be removed by using a mild soap, warm water and bristle brush if necessary to remove dirt from the crevices of deeply textured patterns. Clean from the bottom of the wall upward and allow to soak for several minutes. Rinse thoroughly from the top of the wall down using clean water and a clean sponge (change rinse water often). Dry wallcovering with a soft, lint free cloth or towel. Repeat, if necessary.

SPECIAL CLEANING CONDITIONS

For more difficult stains that are only surface deep, the use of a stronger detergent such as Fantastic, Formula 409 or similar non-abrasive household cleaner or isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol is recommended. Stains should be removed as quickly as possible to eliminate any possible reaction between the staining agent and wallcovering. Timeliness is especially important for removing stains that contain colorants or solvents such as ball point ink, lipstick, etc. Scrape off as much as possible and rub gently from the outside edge of the stain to the center to prevent spreading of the stain.

SANITIZING CARE

Virex® Tb commercial cleaning solution can be used on all Len-Tex wallcoverings. When used as directed, this one step cleaner, deodorizer and disinfectant shows proven resistance after multiple cleanings.

The use of a dilute solution (5%) of chlorine bleach is acceptable for sanitization purposes. It is important to limit the set time and dry the surface after sanitization is complete. If other products

are specified at your site, test a small inconspicuous area prior to cleaning to ensure there will be no damage to the wallcovering. You may also contact Len-Tex for testing using your cleaner.

Never use abrasive cleansers or steel wool as they can mar the surface. Do not use solvents such as nail polish remover as they will remove the topcoat finish.

Note: When using rubbing alcohol, first test on an inconspicuous area. **Never mix cleaning agents together – violent reactions can occur.**