

Wallpaper Properties

MATERIALS

Solid Sheet Vinyl	Solid Sheet Vinyl wallpapers are printed on a 100% vinyl material and are commonly embossed to give them a luxurious textural effect. These wallpapers are quite durable and are usually scrubbable, making them easy to clean and maintain. They are also peelable which means the wallpaper will peel off the wall easily, leaving some of the backing on the wall, which can typically be removed with soap and water or in some cases a wallpaper removal solution may be necessary.
Non Woven	Non-Woven wallpapers are an advanced technically improved wallpaper material that was introduced to the market over eight years ago and is fast becoming the preferred substrate for wallpaper. Made of a fibrous material, non-woven wallpapers are easier to install and even easier to remove! They will dry-strip from the wall, usually leaving the wall smooth and abrasion free. Many Non-Wovens are vinyl free making them an environmentally friendly wallpaper option.
Grasscloth	Grasscloth wallpapers are hand crafted and unique; made of natural and exotic materials harvested throughout Asia. Grasscloths create a natural and highly textural look on walls that is understated and timeless. Most grasscloth wallpapers are made of 100% natural materials making them environmentally friendly. It is recommended that stains on grasscloth wallpaper be attended to with clean water and a damp white cloth/sponge. Professional cleaning may be necessary.
Paper	Wallpapers printed on paper are not as common as in previous years, but are still present in the marketplace. Paper wallpapers are environmentally friendly and showcase flat inks and designs very nicely, but due to the delicate nature of paper, these wallpapers have proven to tear easily during the removal process.
Acrylic Coated Vinyl Coated Paper	Acrylic/Vinyl Coated wallpapers are printed on paper and treated with a coating for durability and washability/scrubbability. These wallpapers are easily maintained and are unaffected by long term exposure to humidity making them ideal for kitchens and baths.
Expanded Vinyl	Expanded Vinyl wallpapers are printed with a special ink that expands with heat giving them a raised surface effect known as "blown" creating a soft but dimensionally textured wallpaper. Most "Paintable" wallpapers are examples of an expanded vinyl wallpaper, but also is a common printing technique used to create faux effects like bricks, woods and stones.
Heavy-Weight Vinyl	Heavy-weight Vinyl wallpapers are deeply embossed using a thick vinyl material. These wallpapers offer a very luxurious look and feel and are commonly used in Italian wallpaper manufacturing.
Fabric-Backed Vinyl	Fabric-Backed Vinyl wallpapers have a fabric backing which makes them highly durable. Because of their ability to be bumped and scratched without being damaged, these are most commonly used for commercial jobs where high levels of durability are a must.

PASTE

Prepasted	Prepasted wallpapers have a cured adhesive applied to the backing, which is activated with water. These wallpapers must be booked before hanging. For detailed hanging instructions for prepasted wallpaper see our HOW TO HANG PREPASTED WALLPAPER guide.
Unpasted	Unpasted wallpapers have no paste applied to the backing so paste will be needed. Unless specifically mentioned in the instructions that come with the wallpaper, these can be hung with standard wallpaper pastes available at your nearest paint and wallpaper store. We recommend hanging these using the paste-the-wall method, but you should check the instructions to see if the manufacturer recommends pasting the backing, in which case you will need to book the wallpaper. For detailed instructions about hanging unpasted wallpaper, see our HOW TO HANG UNPASTED WALLPAPER guide.

Wallpaper Properties (*continued*)

MATCH

Straight Match	Wallpapers with a straight match have a pattern that is continued across the width of the wallpaper. This means that the pattern continues across the seam and matched to the same point of the pattern on the next strip.
Drop Match	Wallpaper patterns with a drop match do not repeat across the width from strip to strip. The next strip will need to be dropped either a quarter or half of the repeat on the next strip to match the pattern from strip to strip. If you need to drop half of the repeat it is called a "Half Drop" and if you need to drop a quarter of the repeat it is a <i>Quarter Drop</i> .
Random or Free Match	Wallpaper with a random match has no design repeat, this means that it does not matter where you match the next strip of wallpaper, it will always continue the design. Textures, grasscloths, and stripes are all examples of patterns with a random match.
Repeat	The design repeat of a wallpaper tells you how many inches the pattern is vertically, until it repeats itself again. Patterns with no repeats (like textures) will have little waste, but larger designs (with repeats above 21") may require more wallpaper. There is more waste since you need to match the pattern from strip to strip and can lose up to the pattern repeat on each strip to match them properly.

WASHABILITY

Scrubbable	Scrubbable wallpapers can be scrubbed with a sponge, scrubbable wallpaper has a higher level of durability than washable wallpapers. You can use soap or mild detergent on scrubbable wallpaper.
Washable	Washable wallpapers can be lightly cleaned with a sponge or a damp cloth. You should take care when cleaning washable wallpapers, but if you are gentle, they should clean easily.
Wipe with a Damp Cloth	These wallpapers should be washed gently with great care, they are more fragile than others and you should be careful cleaning.

REMOVABILITY

Strippable	Strippable wallpapers can be dry stripped from the wall without leaving any backing behind. These are the most removable papers in the market and usually are printed on a Non-Woven substrate.
Peelable	Peelable wallpapers will peel off the wall, leaving some of the backing behind. The backing can be often removed with soap and water, but sometimes a wallpaper removal solution may be necessary.