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## Wallpaper Hanging Instructions

The following text is available in French, German, Russian, Spanish & Chinese from our website.

# **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO HANG DE GOURNAY WALLCOVERINGS WITHOUT READING THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS**

**ALL DE GOURNAY WALLPAPERS REQUIRE EXPERT INSTALLATION. THE COMPANY  
DECLINES ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROBLEMS ARISING WHEN THESE INSTRUCTIONS  
ARE NOT FOLLOWED.**

### **BEFORE INSTALLATION THE WALLPAPER MUST BE CHECKED TO ENSURE IT MEETS THE CLIENT'S REQUIREMENTS & EXPECTATIONS**

The hand-made custom nature of our products means elements of their appearance are subjective and what is suitable for one client may not be suitable for another. If during the inspection you find anything of concern to you, notify us immediately and do not start your installation.

de Gournay will assume as the starting point for any subsequent conversations about installation or appearance concerns that the client has checked and approved the panels before the installation started.

de Gournay will not accept the return of orders that have been trimmed, pasted or installed. de Gournay will not accept claims for labour charges or other consequential losses under any circumstances.

#### ***Surface Preparation:***

Walls must be prepared properly for papering. Surfaces should be dry, smooth, flat and free of any loose material. The quality of the final result is dependent upon good preparation. New plaster and very absorbent surfaces must be properly sized.

- We do not recommend hanging on top of previous layers of paper, but where unavoidable check very carefully that all sub layers are firmly stuck down
- Do not attempt to hang wallpaper onto glossy, glazed or varnished surfaces without keying the surface thoroughly to achieve sufficient adhesion before proceeding, but preferably remove such a surface entirely.
- Do not use oil based priming products that remain flexible once dry because these may leech oil into the wallpaper and cause subsequent discolouration.
- Do not hang metal leaf gilded backgrounds onto walls that have a significant acid or alkali pH without first applying a suitable barrier layer product to isolate the wallpaper from the effects. Tarnishing of the metal leaf may well result if this step is ignored. Mould inhibitors, lime plaster and solid concrete structures for example are strongly alkali.
- Metal switch and socket gear must be electrically isolated from conductive metallic wallpapers and protected from wetting with wallpaper paste either of which if ignored may induce premature tarnishing.

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All walls should be lined with a plain white heavy grade paper lining paper. In the UK a suitable lining paper would be classified as “1000” or “1200” grade. If intending the installation to remain permanent for the medium to long term de Gournay recommend using a museum quality non-yellowing acid-free lining paper. The lining paper should be hung with the same adhesive as will be used to hang the final panels (see ‘paste’ below). Cross lining (also known as railroaded lining) is not necessary so long as the vertical joints between the lining panels do not meet up with the subsequent vertical joints between wallpaper panels. All joints between lining panels should be firmly butted without gaps and once dry there must be no discernable ridge between them. Do not use a primer on top of the lining paper. In arid and low humidity environments the lining paper may provide too absorbent a surface in which cases we recommend experimenting with sizing the lining paper with paste and allowing this to dry before attempting installation.

Paint from adjacent areas must not be allowed to spill or brush over onto the lining paper as this might prevent the wallpaper panels from adhering properly and because many of our wallpapers are partially translucent the over-painting might show through as a discolouration to the final surface.

If you are in the USA and finding it hard to locate suitable lining paper contact Paper-Hangings, [www.paper-hangings.com](http://www.paper-hangings.com) or de Gournay can supply lining paper directly.

### **Design Layout:**

de Gournay 'Tailored' orders are delivered with a copy of the final client approved *de Gournay Elevational Design Miniature* showing which panels are made to be hung where in the space. Ensure the installer has this to hand and understands it before starting. Check you have all the panels and seek answers to any questions you have before starting.

### *Reading your de Gournay Elevational Design Miniature (EDM):*

Each panel is numbered in sequence in pencil on the reverse to match the numbers shown on the top line of the EDM and this sequence reflects our recommended panel installation order. Panels are not marked to indicate the orientation of the design which is assumed to be evident from the pattern itself.

Each panel is bar coded and this bar code label must be carefully removed prior to pasting.

The dimensions of each panel are indicated usually to one side of the elevation but will be shown directly above or below irregular sized panels. The following notation is used.

Key to Abbreviations	
<b>WH</b>	Full <i>Wall Height</i> to be covered
<b>VDH</b>	<i>Visible Design Height</i> as planned to exist after installation
<b>TDH</b>	<i>Total Design Height</i> of product at delivery to include extra that will be lost to trimming during installation. Additional design allowed Under & Over the VDH is shown before(150 <sub>U</sub> ) and after (150 <sub>O</sub> ) the VDH number respectively.
<b>PH</b>	Full <i>Panel Height</i> of product at delivery to include all extra allowed for trimming. Additional product allowed Under & Over the WH is shown before (150 <sub>U</sub> ) and after (150 <sub>O</sub> ) the WH number respectively.
<b>SEP</b>	A unit de Gournay use to quote multiple custom panel

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	sizes used in a project in terms of the size of the full panels drops.
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Where special sized sections vary from the standard panel width 'WW' for wall width to paper and 'PW' for panel width may also appear.

The numbers immediately beneath the design show the width of each panel after trimming, if this is required (see Trimming below). Depending upon product, the standard panel width may be 36" (915mm), 42" (1220mm) or 52" (1300mm). A run of panels in a mural design usually flows from left to right and the last panel will have been made wider than required to allow spare for trimming during installation. Such panels have two widths marked - the actual width required to cover the wall is the first number and the width of the panel including any extra allowed is the bracketed number that follows. .

The design in such an extra width section duplicates the design on the next panel in the sequence, which means a design mismatch will result if the extra section is hung. In the event of an incorrect wall measurement such a mismatch of design can be touched in and is preferable to a lack of wallpaper to complete the job.

The base line of the drawing shows actual wall widths taken from plans provided or *de Gournay* site measurements. Divisions between elevations and changes in wall direction are indicated with divisions above this line, while width measurements between each division are marked beneath it.

These panels have been designed incorporating extra paper on all sides to allow for the typical uneven nature of older rooms. In order for the final effect to match that specified on the drawing these areas must be trimmed.

### ***Straight Run of Panels:***

de Gournay Straight Run orders are not planned via a drawing They consist of a straight run of panels that are all of uniform size and must be trimmed to fit.

Check before starting that the panels are in the correct sequence (each is numbered on the reverse with the lower number always matching on its right hand side to the next one up in the sequence). Check that you have enough panels to complete the job.

The best results are obtained if the layout is planned before commencing to hang. Because the design is a mural panels must be hung in their correct sequence on continuous wall sections. Breaks in the wall (for example doors, windows or fitted furniture), which rise in height close to or above the design height give the opportunity for the sequence to be altered. Bearing this in mind while planning, consider the following; placing the preferred sections of design in the most visible areas; ensuring that panels are centred up on the main walls; ensuring any balustrade ends neatly against door or window frames; preventing important design elements being cut at the end of runs.

The quoted design height on a straight run of panels is a maximum and will vary below this across the full run of panels. If you wish the design height to rise no higher than a certain point on the wall you will need to ascertain which panel has the tallest pattern height at the outset and calculate your horizontal trim lines from this.

### ***Trimming:***

The edges on certain de Gournay wallpapers require trimming before installation and without this will

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not join correctly. Trimming requirements which vary by product are detailed below, but if in doubt please contact us for advice before proceeding.

*Chinoiserie Collection, Japanese & Korean Collection* wallpapers require trimming of the right hand vertical edge prior to hanging. The correct quantity to trim is evident from the position at which the design matches to that on the adjacent panel and should be approximately 15mm or just over ½". Under no circumstances can the edge of one panel be lapped over another after pasting and trimmed on the wall. This will severely damage the product.

*Papiers Peints Panoramiques Collection* wallpapers are delivered pre trimmed at both vertical edges.

*Plains Collection* with the exception of paper-backed Damask, all wallpapers are delivered pre trimmed. If the edges have become damaged in transit re-trim prior to installation. Paper-backed damask panels require trimming to both edges by approximately 15mm (just over ½") along the line created by the additional fraction of a design repeat. Great care should be taken when trimming Damask to use a very sharp blade and to handle the trimmed edge as little as possible to minimise fraying. India Tea Paper panels without design do not require trimming but the joints between panels must be overlapped if the pattern within the panel is to be repeated at the join. See detailed instructions below.

*Orchid Collection* wallpapers can be hung without trimming but will usually require further trimming to fit the intended wall space.

*Eclectic Collection* wallpapers in Dyed Paper construction are delivered pre trimmed and should not be trimmed further. Other constructions used with this Collection will usually require trimming so please contact de Gournay for confirmation before proceeding.

Panels are cut by hand in our workshops and whilst great care has been taken to ensure that edges are as straight and as square as possible you should check all edges prior to installation and re-trim if required.

We recommend that after the installation is complete all off cuts are rolled up carefully and stored. They may be useful if in future you need to call on de Gournay to repair or replace any sections of design.

### **Adhesive:**

de Gournay adhesive formulated to suit our wallpapers and made in the UK is available to buy in two different formulas. **Type I** adhesive with a yellow lid is a lighter more liquid paste for wallpapers with a soft paper backing. **Type II** adhesive has a higher solids content suitable for papers with a non-woven backing or no backing at all and is identified with a red lid. Both pastes are water based and can safely ship to any global location - supply quote available upon request.

If you are unable to use de Gournay's own adhesive, we strongly recommend that you use a suitable adhesive for your product, installation method and local climate. In general terms this would be water-soluble, starch based and with a relatively low water content. The correct adhesive will help minimise marking in the event that it touches the surface of the panels by being relatively easy to remove, although an expert paperhanger should not get any paste on the surface in the first place; it will provide good slip to aide positioning and a generous working time without promoting delamination too rapidly and will achieve good adhesion. Generally cellulose based, self-mix or very liquid adhesives should be avoided

Suitable alternatives for de Gournay **Type I** adhesive are; **UK** - Albany Super Smooth

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Wallcovering Adhesive available from [www.brewers.co.uk](http://www.brewers.co.uk); **USA** – GH34 Paste for Unpasted Wallpaper available from [www.romandecoratingproducts.com](http://www.romandecoratingproducts.com).

Suitable alternatives for de Gournay **Type II** adhesive are; **UK** - Bartoline Extra Strong Professional Ready Mixed Wallcovering Adhesive available from [www.bartoline.co.uk](http://www.bartoline.co.uk) which can also be watered down (carefully to avoid lumps) by 20% to produce a light grade suitable for Type I use. For export orders contact Gareth Maskell +44 (0)1482 678 759 / [g.maskell@bartoline.co.uk](mailto:g.maskell@bartoline.co.uk); **USA** – Use Pro 880 Ultra Clear Strippable for all Gilded Grounds, and *Pro 838 Heavy Duty Clear Wallcovering Adhesive for all other products*, both available from [www.romandecoratingproducts.com](http://www.romandecoratingproducts.com) We do not use **Pro 838** for Gilded Grounds because it is strongly alkaline and can promote metal tarnishing in the metal leaf used in the wallpaper.

Generally ready mixed adhesives should be used at the consistency supplied and should only be watered down following the manufacturers instructions when a greater open time is required in very arid or warm environments. Achieving the correct consistency of adhesive is vital for a successful installation and it can only be found through experience and by tests made on off cuts. Always ensure that after mixing the paste is totally free of lumps.

Apply the adhesive liberally, preferably by roller directly to the back of the pre-trimmed panel being careful not to over-paste the edges where it may escape. Too little adhesive will reduce the slip available on the wall making accurate positioning of the design for the creation of flush panel joints difficult and will encourage undesirable stretching of the wallpaper. The soaking time will vary considerably depending upon which of our products you are installing and the consistency of the adhesive. Our paper laminated silk panels and hand made paper grounds require very little soaking and will be ready to hang almost as soon as they are pasted and booked. With these particular products expect to have a limited time (around 10 minutes) in which to hang the panel once pasted. If the panel is worked for too long the silk and paper will start to delaminate. Please ensure your installer knows which product they are dealing with and tests an off-cut before commencing.

It is imperative that before attempting to wipe the surface of any of our wallpapers that a test be carried out on an off cut. Some backgrounds can be wiped carefully with a clean damp sponge and others cannot under any circumstances. In the latter case marks should be left and covered once dry by other means (see *Special Effects* below).

### **Installation:**

#### **General Installation:**

All panels are delivered numbered and as far as possible should be hung in the sequence in which they are numbered. This applies equally to plain ground panels and for these additional care must be taken to ensure they are hung with all panels orientated in the same direction.

All panels are bar-coded at one end on the reverse with an adhesive label. This panel section should be trimmed off during installation. If for any reason the area with this label might not be trimmed away then the label must be removed prior to pasting.

The first panel should be hung to a vertical plumb line whilst remembering that many of our wallpapers are semi translucent so the lining paper should be kept as free of pencil or other marks as possible.

The height at which the first panel is hung establishes the design height for the entire room when the product being installed is a mural. This is because the lateral flow of design from one panel to the next

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means that the correct join can only be made at one point. If the product has been tailored using a *de Gournay Elevational Design Miniature* the panels have been engineered to fit the wall and the correct quantity of paper as specified by the drawing must be trimmed off each to achieve this. The trim built into the panels provides for unevenness in walls and against “running out” of the base lines but is not designed to cope with incorrectly supplied measurements

All tools that will touch the face of the paper should be immaculately clean and dry at all times. Sponges should be rinsed clean after each use.

Panels can be wrapped around outside (convex) angles, but they must be cut vertically into all sharp internal (concave) angles. Joints on outside angles or in exposed positions should be avoided as these areas will be prone to fraying in future.

A fresh blade should be used for every cut.

Panels should be solidly butt jointed leaving no gap after drying. In order to achieve this we recommend that panels be firmly butted during installation leaving a joint fractionally proud to the touch. Some time after hanging as the panel starts to dry this joint should be firmly rolled with a seam roller. The slight ridge should “sit down” flat and done correctly will have been enough to prevent any shrinkage from leaving an unsightly gap between panels. The exact degree of shrinkage changes with the product and the adhesive used.

### *Additional Installation instructions for paper-backed Damask only:*

Damask panels should be table trimmed using a straight edge as described in *Trimming* above. If in doubt as to the exact trim line a slight over trim is preferable to an under trim because it will show less at the seam. In the width of one panel there are two full design repeats plus a 15mm design over-lap on both sides. This design over-lap is trimmed off prior to installation to ensure a sharp clean edge but the woven silk surface will fray if this edge is handled after trimming. We recommend that loose threads on the trailing edge of the most recently installed panel are locked under the next panel. Remaining loose threads can be removed with a small flame if necessary. The woven surface is 100% silk and will burn instantly in the flame leaving a small black soot spot which once cold can be picked off cleanly with a sharp point. When using this method please take great care not to rub the charred residue into the surface of the panel otherwise it will mark.

Paste the back of the panel on the table using a generous amount of *adhesive*. Allow the panels to soak fully which will result in a small degree of expansion and then use the slip permitted by the generous paste layer to position the design for best match. The correct paste will allow up to 15 minutes working time with the panel so there is no need to feel rushed.

Paste spilled onto the surface of the silk must be removed immediately using a clean damp cellulose sponge. Clean water will soak but will dry without marking the surface of the silk. Be very careful not to rub design areas, although satin ground areas can be rubbed with light pressure in the direction of the weave without damaging the silk.

This product is a hand laminated paper-backed woven fabric. Every care has been taken to ensure that the product is square with a consistent design repeat but because of the natural stretch in the fabric it will not be perfectly so. In order to minimise the effect of the inevitable design repeat mismatches between panels the design at the seams should be matched in the most visible locations first, usually in middle of the wall at eye level rather than at the top or the bottom. Expect the design repeat to vary by up to 1% in length being approximately 11mm per vertical design repeat

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### *Installation technique for plain India Tea Paper panels only:*

The panels have been pre-trimmed. If further trimming is required be aware that cutting too much off will make the vertical paper sections in the design at the panel joins narrower than in the centre of the panels. Panels are hung in the normal manner described above by pasting the reverse of each length. Each panel contains vertical and horizontal seams created where the hand-made paper sheets have been allowed to overlap one another. The seams are paler because surface antiquing carried out during production acting more abrasively on these raised areas has removed more of the surface colour. The vertical seam between panels can be butt jointed, but to continue the effect of the seams within the panels the joint can be overlapped to produce a raised seam. Once completely dry the overlapped seam should be gently sanded with aluminium oxide paper to recreate the pale highlights on other vertical seams. The horizontal seams are not intended to match from one panel to the next.

### *Working Practices:*

de Gournay recommends for extra wide (48" (1220mm) and 51" (1300mm)) or very long panels and for all damask panels that a team of two installers works together for the best results.

### **Advanced Installation Techniques:**

de Gournay's manufacturing process is such that all joints between panels with hand painted pattern over which the design matches will join accurately and this join has been checked carefully more than once prior to your receiving the goods.

Plastered walls are never perfectly flat, corner angles in rooms are rarely perfectly square and even the most careful measurements can only realistically be accurate to the nearest  $\frac{1}{8}$ " (3mm). The result is that the installed mural will contain less perfect design matches than it exhibited prior to installation. An expert paperhanger will expect to rectify this where it is noticeable by using either or both of the following two processes;

#### *1. Touching up with paint:*

Upon request we will supply the correct paints for an expert paperhanger to perform minor touching in of the design. It will not be necessary to perform any major amount of painting. If there is a serious problem please contact us for advice before proceeding.

#### *2. Appliqué of design:*

Sections of design from off-cuts can be stuck invisibly onto the surface of the wallpaper. This is possible with all product types, but really effective with laminated silk ones. This method is most often used to add butterflies, small birds and flowers over joints and small marks, but can also be used on a larger scale to add back into the design sections of pattern that would otherwise be lost to trimming.

The section of design to be added is carefully trimmed from its background using scissors. The laminated paper on its reverse is dampened with clean water until it delaminates and is then peeled away to leave only the front layers. These are then dabbed dry with tissue paper, pasted on the reverse with the same adhesive used to hang the wallpaper and stuck to the wall in the required location.

### *Antiquing after installation:*

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de Gournay can supply any of our designs antiqued to clients' taste. Antique effects can also be created after installation by an expert decorative artist. Please ask for our list of recommended artists but even with these professionals our advice is always to check the effect carefully in a large sample before proceeding

### *Protecting the surface:*

All de Gournay wallpapers can be ordered with factory applied protective coatings to resist water and dirt. Paper wallpapers employ acrylic varnishes in a range of thicknesses offering different levels of protection, while laminated fabric wallcoverings use liquid repellent coatings. Do not assume that all panels with a protective surface are moisture proof. The surface will have improved the performance but may still stop short of full protection.

Paper wallpapers supplied with acrylic varnishes can have additional protection applied on site. This may be desirable when the seams between panels and around the edges need protecting or where the original protection specification is deemed to be insufficient. Before additional protection is added panels must be thoroughly dry after installation which can take weeks. Failure to do so can result in the additional glaze layers staying opaque rather than being transparent as they dry. The glaze can be applied with either a spray or a good quality brush following the manufacturer's instructions.

de Gournay recommend the 'Decorators Varnish' range of glazes manufactured by Polyvine ([www.polyvine.com](http://www.polyvine.com)) which are also available direct in the US ( <https://us.polyvine.com/index.php/en-us/varnishes-us-shop/water-based-varnishes/decorators-varnish-us-shop>). The product comes in 3 finishes, dead flat with a matt finish which is particularly appropriate for Papiers Peints Panoramiques, Williamsburg and other antiqued finishes in which minimum shine is preferable, Satin and Gloss.

### **Recommended Paperhangers:**

de Gournay maintains lists of paperhangers worldwide who have worked on projects using our wallpapers in which we have either seen the results first hand or have had testimonial from designer and/or end user clients as to their professionalism and the high standard of their work. Please contact us to obtain the appropriate list for you territory.

de Gournay cannot and does not guarantee the work of any paperhanger.

Not all expert paperhangers are on our list. The exclusion of a name does not mean that this person is not capable of installing de Gournay wallpapers.

A client must satisfy themselves as to the standard of work and professionalism of the paperhanger before accepting them to do the work required.

### **Further Information:**

If your questions have not been answered by any of the above or you do not understand any aspects of these instructions or if you still require further advice do not hesitate to contact us. We will be only too happy to help in any way that we can to ensure that your de Gournay wallpaper lives up to its full potential to create an outstanding room.

This document has been written in English. de Gournay do not guarantee the accuracy of any translation as these have not been proofed by the original author.



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