



de Gournay

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Wallpaper Hanging Instructions

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO HANG DE GOURNAY WALLCOVERINGS BEFORE READING THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS

ALL DE GOURNAY WALLCOVERINGS REQUIRE EXPERT INSTALLATION TO ACHIEVE THE BEST RESULT. THE COMPANY DECLINES ALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROBLEMS ARISING WHEN THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE NOT FOLLOWED.

BEFORE INSTALLATION STARTS, CHECK THE WALLCOVERING TO ENSURE IT MEETS YOUR 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 this 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 entirely dependent upon suitable 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 wallcoverings 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 wallcovering and lead to discolouration.
- Consider the effect that strongly alkaline wall surfaces may have upon on the product being installed. Lime plaster, solid concrete and mould inhibiting products or coating layers containing them are caustic. These types of surfaces will cause tarnishing of any metal leaf used in our products and will accelerate the speed and exaggerate the extent of colour fade in certain pigments, especially around acid-dyed fabrics such as our silk grounds. Ask for our advice on how to proceed if you have such a situation.
- Be aware when using wallcoverings with metal leaf grounds that these need to be kept electrically isolated from metal switch and socket plates, other metal fittings or metal wall structures in order to prevent premature electrolytic tarnishing.



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All walls should be lined with plain white 1000 or 1200 grade paper lining paper. Use the best quality non-yellowing acid-free lining paper available to maximise the life of the wallcovering installed over it. 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 discernible 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 sizing the lining paper with paste which will slow down drying of the final panels.

Paint from adjacent architraves or mouldings must not be allowed to spill or brush over onto the lining paper as this might prevent proper adhesion of the wallcovering and also may cause a problem by showing through when the top wallcovering is not completely opaque.

de Gournay supply lining paper which can be ordered with your wallcovering for our client's convenience. In the USA Paper-Hangings www.paper-hangings.com supply a suitable paper and all good hardware stores should have a product available. Ensure the liner paper you choose is water absorbent, many problem solving liner papers are not and these do not deliver the qualities we advise are essential.

Design Layout:

If the order has been 'Tailored' de Gournay's Architecture & Design team have created a detailed design drawing (EDM) which forms part of the instructions that must be followed to correctly install the goods as planned. A copy of this is packed with the goods. Ensure the installer has this to hand and understands it fully before starting.

The following key explains the abbreviations used in your *de Gournay Elevational Design Miniature (EDM)*:

WH	Full <i>Wall Height</i> to be covered.
VDH	<i>Visible Design Height</i> which is planned to exist after installation.
TDH	<i>Total Design Height</i> of product at delivery to include extra planned to be trimmed. Additional design allowed Under (u) & Over (o) the VDH is shown before & after the VDH number.
PH	Full <i>Panel Height</i> of product at delivery to include extra planned to be trimmed. Additional product allowed Under (u) & Over (o) the WH is shown before & after the WH number.
FPW	<i>Finished Panel Width</i> of the product planned to exist after installation.
TPW	<i>Total Panel Width</i> of product at delivery to include extra planned to be trimmed.
SEP	<i>Standard Equivalent Panels</i> : A unit de Gournay use to quote multiple custom panel sizes used in a project in terms of the size of full panels forming the majority of the panels in the project.
P#	<i>Panel Number</i> : Identifying number given to a product.
L	Extra wallpaper allowance for trimming on the left-hand side of the panel.



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R	Extra wallpaper allowance for trimming on the right-hand side of the panel.
L&R	Extra wallpaper allowance for trimming on both the left-hand & right-hand side of the panel.

The horizontal line above the elevation shows critical site dimensions. **Check these are as marked and contact de Gournay immediately if this is not the case.** Black vertical lines crossing it represent room corners, changes of wall direction or breaks in the wall. Black horizontal dotted lines represent bulkheads and dashed lines indicate the location of semi-fitted furniture or concealed doors.

The panels and layout are shown on the miniature elevation using grey dashed vertical lines representing panel seams. The *Panel Numbers* (P#) are indicated on the line below the elevation. The numbers immediately beneath the *Panel Number* (P#) shows the width of each panel after trimming (FPW). Depending upon the product, the standard panel width may be 915mm (36"), 1220mm (42"), or 1300mm (52").

The direction of the panel number sequence indicates the direction in which the panels are designed to be hung. The final panel in a 'run' between, for example, doorways will have been made wider than required to allow spare for trimming during installation. Such panels have a second width, the *Total Panel Width* (TPW), marked in parentheses below the *Finished Panel Width* (FPW), and indicates the width of the panel at delivery including any extra allowed for trimming. The TPW may include extra wallpaper allowance for trimming on the left-hand side, right-hand side, or both and is denoted by L, R, or L&R respectively.

There will be design in the spare extra width where required and when possible this has been planned to avoid mismatches to the pattern if employed. This extra design is not shown in the EDM drawing. In the event some of it is used, it will mean the wall measurements were incorrectly provided or the walls are uneven and a design mismatch will likely result. Please contact us for assistance on touching up such mismatches.

In order to avoid unnecessary repetition, the *Panel Height* (PH) for the most common length panels is shown once at the end of the elevation on the right-hand side, while the PH dimensions for irregular (custom) sized pieces are shown in a table at the bottom of the page, above the title block.

Straight Run of Panels:

de Gournay Straight Run orders are not fitted 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.



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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:

All de Gournay wallcoverings made after 1st January 2026 have been pre-trimmed in our studio and do not require further trimming to make the pattern match. Any exceptions to this will be labelled clearly indicating they require trimming.

Please note this is a change to the previous situation where certain Collections required trimming before installation.

We recommend that once installation is complete all off cuts are saved and carefully stored away for future repair or replacement uses.

Adhesive:

de Gournay adhesive formulated to suit our wallcoverings and made in the UK is available to buy from us. This is a water based starch formula with few additives which can safely be shipped worldwide. The majority of our wallcoverings will install with our Red Lidded Paste (type II) which has a high solids content making it suitable for non-woven papers that do not absorb much water. We also offer a Yellow Lidded Paste (type I) that is better suited to wallcoverings that require soaking and typically these would be those that employ our traditional backing papers.

If you are unable to use de Gournay's own adhesive, we strongly recommend that you research 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. Only use ready mixed adhesives and do not water them down unless absolutely necessary in which case follow the manufacturer's instructions. Always ensure that the paste is totally free of lumps and reject it if there is any dirt or discolouration. Generally cellulose based, self-mix or very liquid adhesives should be avoided

Suitable alternatives for de Gournay Yellow Lid (Type I) adhesive are; **UK** - Albany Super Smooth Wallcovering Adhesive available from www.brewers.co.uk; **USA** – GH34 Paste for Unpasted Wallpaper available from www.romandecoratingproducts.com.

Suitable alternatives for de Gournay Red Lid (Type II) adhesive are; **UK** - Bartoline Extra Strong Professional Ready Mixed Wallcovering Adhesive available from www.bartoline.co.uk or Gareth Maskell +44 (0)1482 678 759 / 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. 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.



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Adhesive Application:

Apply the adhesive liberally, preferably by roller directly to the back of the 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 encourages installers to use force which stretches the wallcovering and upon drying will lead to shrinkage. Products that suit de Gournay's Red Lid Paste (type II) require little soaking time can cope with long soaking so the timing is not critical. Products we advise to be hung with Yellow Lid Paste (type I) will relax and absorb water quickly once pasted. These will be ready to hang almost as soon as they are pasted and booked. With these particular products expect to have a limited time (up to 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 offcut 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 the area with the label will not be trimmed off 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 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.



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A fresh knife 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 Wallcovering panels require trimming to both vertical edges using a straight edge before pasting. The design covers two full design repeats plus a 15mm extra repeat on either side. This 15mm of extra design must be trimmed off prior to installation to create the design match. Once trimmed using a fresh sharp clean blade for every cut handle the panel as little as possible to minimise fraying of the silk edge. Do not pull at loose threads. Once installed and completely dry any frayed threads can be removed with a pair of fine scissors or can be carefully singed with a flame which will result in a spot of residue that once completely cold can be picked off with a sharp point. This method is useful for not tugging at threads and works well but 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

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



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match from one panel to the next.

Working Practices:

de Gournay recommends that for extra wide (48" (1220mm) and 51" (1300mm)) or very long panels and for all damask panels that a team of at least 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 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 should not be necessary to perform any major works so if this question arises 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.

Protecting the surface:

All de Gournay wallcoverings 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



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thoroughly dry after installation which can take weeks rather than days. 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) 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, Satin, Gloss & Dead Flat, the latter having a very matt finish which is particularly appropriate for Papiers Peints Panoramiques, Williamsburg and other antiqued finishes in which minimum shine is preferable.

Recommended Paperhangers:

de Gournay maintains lists of paperhangers worldwide who have worked on projects using our wallcoverings 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 your 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 this text 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. Other language translations are available on our website