

Prefinished Wood Veneer Wallcoverings

Installation Overview

For Prefinished Wood Veneers, BildenWood™, and WonderWood®

Listed below are the most important things to know in order to have a successful installation. Please read the complete Installation and Maintenance Guidelines that follow, before beginning a project.

ACCLIMATING THE SPACE

- 4 days prior to (and after) installation, maintain 65-75° temperature with functioning hvac system
- Relative humidity must be no more than 50%
- Wall moisture must be 10% maximum

ACCLIMATING THE MATERIAL

- Wallcovering must be laid flat on a raised table—**keep the wallcovering high off the floor!**
- Jobsite must be dry and clean with stable climate
- After unpacking, allow wood to relax and acclimate to the installation area for 12–24 hours

PREPARING THE WALLS WITH PRIMER

- Drywall should be prepared to a Level 5 surface—**do not install on a painted wall!**
- One coat of Wolf-Gordon's *Wood Veneer Wallcovering Primer* must be applied
- Allow primer to dry for a minimum of 8 hours

PREPARING THE WALLS WITH ADHESIVE

- Using a short nap roller, apply a medium coat of Wolf-Gordon's *Wood Veneer Wallcovering Adhesive* to the drywall, with **no missing spots!**
- Allow adhesive to dry for 12–24 hours, until dry to touch, with a slight tack
- Wall should be slightly tacky for installation; if not, apply a light kiss coat of adhesive

APPLYING ADHESIVE TO THE WALLCOVERING

- Once the wall is tacky, apply a thin, smooth, even coat of adhesive to entire back of wallcovering, with **no missing spots!**
- Install wood wallcovering in sequence, from left to right, starting with sheet #1
- Refer to notes from the specifier or distributor for any specific instructions

HANGING GUIDELINES

- Apply wallcovering sheets to the wall directly after applying adhesive to sheet back—they are not designed to be booked
- Butt edge of each sheet directly against adjoining edge—**do not overlap or double cut!**
- Apply firm pressure with the supplied plexi-blade to create a bond between adhesive and wall
- Press downward with plexi-blade and push away, working with the grain from the center of the sheet towards the edges
- Drive out any air by doing a tap test—if there is an air bubble, press firmly with plexi-blade to drive out air; then tap across sheet and listen for a different sound where there is an air bubble
- Inspect closely for non-adhered areas. See *Installation and Maintenance Guidelines* for details.

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Installation and Maintenance Guidelines

For Prefinished Wood Veneers, BildenWood™, and WonderWood®

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Examine the product carefully to ensure that the material, coloring, and quality are satisfactory and as ordered. Since our wood veneer wallcoverings are made from real wood, you should expect to see variations in color, texture, and grain. These characteristics are not defects and are an inherent quality of natural materials. Check that the quantity and dimensions match the required specifications, prior to cutting. *In the event that any discrepancies are found, STOP and contact Wolf-Gordon customer service at 800-347-0550, before proceeding.*

We recommend hiring an installer who has experience with installing wood veneer wallcoverings. If one is not available, we suggest having an experienced wallcovering installer produce a mock-up, completing the entire procedure with a small sample.

ACCLIMATING THE MATERIAL

IMPORTANT: Wood veneer wallcoverings are very susceptible to absorbing moisture from the atmosphere throughout their lifetime. Abrupt changes or extreme levels of temperature and humidity can cause damage to adhesion at any stage. Exposure in an uncontrolled environment can cause dimensional change and warping.

The area to receive the wood veneer should be environmentally controlled by a permanent, functioning HVAC system, ideally maintaining a temperature range of 60–80° F, with relative humidity between 25%–55% and not less than what is specified for your location in the AWI Quality Standards Section 1700-T-19. **These conditions should be maintained for a minimum of four days prior to removing the wallcovering from its packaging, and throughout the life of the product.** Even relatively cold climates may have a high humidity level, so a dehumidifier may be needed to ensure humidity below 55%. *Wolf-Gordon wood veneer wallcoverings are not designed for areas that experience high humidity, including, but not limited to those with exposure to spas, saunas, indoor pools, or outdoor environments.*

Allow the wood wallcovering to relax and acclimate to the installation area for 12–24 hours prior to installation. The wood should be laid perfectly flat on a raised table that will accommodate the largest sheet. It is very important to keep the wood wallcovering off the floor or concrete at all times. If the wood sheets curl, they can be rolled in the opposite direction so they lose their memory and flatten out. If the jobsite is not environmentally controlled as described, the wood wallcovering should remain in its packaging, stored in a dry, clean and stable climate, high off the floor, until the environmental requirements have been achieved. If the wallcovering is delivered in boxes, ensure they remain positioned upright.

Verify that the wall moisture content does not exceed 10% using a reputable moisture meter, and that active moisture infiltration, condensation, and/or accumulation—particularly in warm, humid climates—is not present. It is very important that the room temperature and humidity remain constant once the product is installed. *Wolf-Gordon will not be responsible for any performance or quality issues if moisture problems are not addressed before or following installation.*

PREPARING THE WALLS

IMPORTANT: In order to ensure proper adhesion, the wood wallcovering should be applied to drywall prepared to a Level 5 finish. **Drywall must not have been previously painted.** *Wolf-Gordon's Wood Veneer Wallcovering Primer and Adhesive must be used in order to be covered by our Warranty.*

Walls should be free of dirt, dust, and defect, including voids or raises. A non-smooth surface will result in telegraphed imperfections and/or poor lamination. Apply one coat of Wolf-Gordon's *Wood Veneer Wallcovering Primer* to all areas, allowing a minimum of eight hours drying time. **If an oil-based primer was used, our Wood Veneer Primer must be applied over it before hanging,** to avoid trapping moisture or adhesion problems. *Starting the installation indicates acceptance of the drywall and jobsite conditions by the installer.*

ADHESIVE APPLICATION

IMPORTANT: Wolf-Gordon's *Wood Veneer Wallcovering Adhesive* must be used in order to be covered by our Warranty.

Roll on a medium coat of Wolf-Gordon *Wood Veneer Wallcovering Adhesive* to the drywall first, using a short-napped roller, making sure to maintain uniform, even, and thorough coverage. *Since this adhesive is intended for use on drywall, please contact your sales representative if planning to apply to another surface.* If any area is not covered with adhesive, the wallcovering will not adhere properly. Allow approximately 12–24 hours for the adhesive on the wall to dry until it is no longer moist and has a slight tack. (The timing of this may be affected by variances in temperature and humidity levels.) If the adhesive has lost all tack, quickly apply a very light kiss coat of adhesive with a short nap roller to make sure that a good bond is achieved. Since the wallcovering is very susceptible to absorbing moisture from the atmosphere until it has been installed, it should be applied as soon as the adhesive is ready. Pay special attention to the adhesive on the wall/ceiling surface becoming too dry.

HANGING/INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

Our prefinished wood veneer wallcoverings are delivered in sheets in numerical order, and should be installed in sequence. The installer should refer to any notes provided by the specifier or distributor for specific installation instructions, in order to achieve the intended look. If notes are not provided, sequences should be observed and utilized based on wall breaks. Begin with a sheet intended for a corner of the wall, moving from that sheet in one direction along the wall. Sheets must be hung in their numbered order to maintain a proper appearance. Factory-trimmed edges can be butt jointed when installing, pending installer's inspection of edges. If edges require any additional trimming, installer should table-cut to achieve optimal joint conditions. *Note: Our prefinished wood veneer wallcovering bends easily with the grain; bending across the grain at a sharp angle is not recommended.*

Once the wall is dry, apply a thin, smooth, and even coat of adhesive across the entire back surface of the prefinished wallcovering sheet, using a short-napped roller. Pay special attention to the edges of each sheet, avoiding inconsistent coverage or over-saturating the sheet. Pre-paste only one sheet at a time. The adhesive will begin drying immediately, so move the sheet to the wall right away. This product is not designed to "book" with adhesive, nor is it necessary.

With the back of the first sheet still wet, apply the wallcovering to the wall, butting the edge of the sheet directly against the corner or adjoining edge. Do not overlap or double-cut or attempt to reposition the sheet, as this can result in spots with little or no adhesive. Once the sheet is on the wall, use the supplied Wolf-Gordon plexi-blade (do not use sharp-edged tools) to press the sheet onto the wall firmly, and drive out any air trapped underneath the sheet. Apply very firm and even pressure with the plexi-blade, pressing downward and pushing away, working with the grain from the center of the sheet toward the edges. Do not push across the grain (left to right), as this can mar the finish. Smooth out any air bubbles using the same technique. Air bubbles must be removed and installation errors corrected before the adhesive dries. Areas not properly adhered can best be exposed by tapping fingers across the sheet and listening—improperly adhered areas of the sheet will feel and sound noticeably different.

Trim at the ceiling and baseboard with a sharp razor blade. The second panel should be applied to the wall, edge-to-edge with the first panel. Press against the joint and remove any excess adhesive from the surface of the wood, wiping with a natural sponge and drying with a lint-free cloth. **Avoid getting any adhesive on the face of the wall-covering.** If this occurs, adhesive should be removed immediately with a damp sponge or cloth, using only enough water to remove the adhesive. Before applying the next panel, trim the top and bottom as with the first panel.

REVIEWING YOUR WORK

Inspect immediately after installing the first three consecutive sheets. Wait two-three hours and inspect the first three sheets again, placing a powerful light approximately 6" away from the last sheet, so that light shines across the wall. If air bubbles exist, they will show up as small shadows. Air bubbles can be flattened using a piece of Kraft paper and a standard clothes iron. Place the Kraft paper on the wood veneer and move the iron (set on "Cotton") in a circular motion to reactivate the adhesive under the bubbled area. Follow immediately by pressing the plexi-blade on the affected area and holding until the area cools. For installation errors too large to iron out, use a thin, very sharp utility knife to slice the wood with the grain to release trapped air, then follow the procedure above. After all repairs are done, review the wall again using the tap test and light.

If any defect, color variation, or unacceptable pattern effect is noticeable after three panels are cut and installed, STOP and contact Wolf-Gordon immediately. Wolf-Gordon cannot accept any claims on labor or material after more than three lengths have been installed. Upon approval, returns will be subject to a 35% handling and restocking charge. Requests for return authorization must be made within 30 days of ship date.

STAIN AND ADDITIONAL FINISH SHOULD NOT BE APPLIED TO WOLF-GORDON PREFINISHED WOOD WALLCOVERINGS.

After installation, the walls and wallcovering should be monitored for potential moisture or vapor infiltration, which must be promptly eliminated.

MAINTENANCE

Since these wood veneer wallcoverings are made of genuine wood, they should be treated like fine wood furniture. Light dust may be removed with a dry microfiber or cotton cloth. To remove heavier residue or debris, lightly dampen a microfiber/cotton cloth and wipe the veneer following the direction of the wood grain. Use a dry microfiber/cotton cloth to wipe dry immediately. *Note: Use caution when applying water to wood veneer, since excessive water will damage the wood.*

Normal dirt and fingerprints can be cleaned using a damp cloth or natural sponge. More stubborn stains can be removed using a mild soap and a damp sponge. If heavier cleaning is required, apply a mixture of water and a small amount of Murphy's Oil Soap to a wet microfiber or cotton cloth. Apply in small sections, following the manufacturer's provided instructions. Wipe clean to remove soap residue. Again, use caution when applying water to wood veneer.

To clean and disinfect wood veneers, apply Formula 409® with a dry microfiber or cotton cloth. For disinfecting, apply Lysol® Disinfectant Spray. In either case, follow the manufacturer's provided instructions.

No harsh chemicals or abrasives should be used to care for these wood veneer wallcoverings. Products such as treated dust cloths, hardwood cleaners, liquid or wax products, or other cleaners that contain citrus oils, lemon oil, tung oil, silicone, or ammonia are not recommended. Additionally, 2-in-1 cleaners with polish that may contain acrylics or urethane polish should not be used.

The above is intended only as a guideline. The installer has final responsibility for proper installation and evaluation of jobsite conditions.