



Wini Wintermeyer

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“Forget the dreary damask of your childhood bathroom, Derek Fagerstrom and Lauren Smith have sourced the best of today’s whimsical wallpapers and elevated installation to an art form. I want to live in their world of wallets and TV trays made from decorative scraps.”

—SHOSHANA BERGER, editor in chief, *ReadyMade* magazine

“With dozens of inspiring projects to choose from, *Wallpaper Projects* is your foolproof guidebook to recycling, refreshing, and refurbishing your life. With its clear imagery and easy-to-follow instructions, design success is guaranteed whether you’re a craft novice or expert.”

—TODD OLDHAM, designer

“Craft projects may come and go, but few crafters are as dedicated to the DIY lifestyle as Derek Fagerstrom and Lauren Smith. Friendly, fun, and endlessly creative, this designing duo has taught me to see the world differently. After a quick chat with Derek and Lauren, everything I see around me becomes a potential project—every leftover coffee can or piece of gift wrap holds endless possibilities. Their latest book, *Wallpaper Projects*, is full of whimsical yet practical projects that embody the sense of playfulness for which Derek and Lauren are known. I hope this book will inspire readers to see their own worlds differently and join the multitude of crafters that have been inspired by their ideas.”

—GRACE BONNEY, creator of Design*Sponge and contributing editor at *Domino* and *CRAFT* magazines

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MORE THAN 50 CRAFT AND DESIGN IDEAS FOR YOUR HOME, FROM ACCENTS TO ART



DEREK FAGERSTROM and LAUREN SMITH Photographs by Erin Kunkel

\$22.95 U.S.

Wallpaper has made a spectacular comeback in the interior design world, from renewed appreciation for (and reproduction of) vintage papers to an explosion of hotly coveted new designs from some of today’s most popular artists. Whether as a household accent or a wall-to-wall cover-up, wallpaper is as stunning as it is practical.

In *Wallpaper Projects*, stylish do-it-yourself masters Derek Fagerstrom and Lauren Smith have created dozens of cool projects that use vintage and contemporary papers in new ways. With more than 50 ideas—from the very quick and easy (gift tags) to the slightly more involved (window shades) to high-impact room makeovers (faux headboards)—*Wallpaper Projects* starts off small and works up to ever-larger surfaces, including walls.

Plus, Derek and Lauren offer tips and techniques for foolproof wall application, resources for finding cool papers, and innovative ideas for designing your own patterns. With easy-to-follow step-by-step instructions and tons of how-to photographs, this book is perfect for all do-it-yourselfers, newbies and connoisseurs alike.

If you’re itching to make something immediately, simply flip this jacket over and use Lena Corwin’s custom-designed pattern to create one of the smaller projects right away!

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MORE THAN 50 CRAFT AND DESIGN IDEAS FOR YOUR HOME, FROM ACCENTS TO ART



DEREK FAGERSTROM *and* LAUREN SMITH



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We've been huge admirers of Lena Corwin for a long time now. It's a big thrill for us to have collaborated with her on a custom wallpaper design for this book. We thank her for contributing such creativity and enthusiasm to this project.

The most enjoyable part of this whole process has been the opportunity to spend so much time with our friend and favorite photographer, Erin Kunkel. Not only did she make everything look beautiful, but her patience, professionalism, and humor made all this work seem like one giant playdate.

Of course there would be no book at all were it not for the unbelievably talented and creative artists, designers, and distributors who continue making amazing patterns and papers year after year. Thank you not just for providing us with paper to play with, but inspiration to do so as well.



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Introduction

Why Wallpaper?

This is an excellent question. The fact that you’ve picked up this book and made it this far probably means that you have a few answers of your own. Nevertheless, we thought we’d kick things off by sharing even more reasons why introducing wallpaper into your home and life is a particularly good idea right now.

It’s beautiful.

Yes, this is certainly true. If you’ve spent any time browsing home décor books or magazines, or clicked around on any design blog worth its salt, you’ve undoubtedly noticed all the gorgeous contemporary and traditional wallpapers making their way back into the mainstream of interior design. Artists and designers of all stripes are not only rediscovering wallpaper, they’re reinventing it. Aided by remarkable innovations in digital printing, design, and distribution, many manufacturers are exploding traditional expectations of what wallpaper can be, offering consumers all sorts of new and exciting options—from types of paper and ink to alternative eco-friendly materials to affordable custom designs.

It’s versatile.

Sure, paint is great, but it’s got nothing on wallpaper. Even with 101 different shades of white to choose from, painting a room can only get you so far. Wallpaper, on the other hand, can (and will) completely transform a space. Depending on what pattern, motif, or colorway you choose, applying wallpaper to even just a single accent wall can make a room feel tall, wide, small, big, bright, dark, fun, serious, quiet, loud, funky, classic...whatever look or mood you’re going for, there is a perfect paper out there for you.

It’s easy and fun.

Forget all your preconceived notions about wallpaper. It isn’t messy, or hard to install. It’s not some sort of interior design tattoo that you’ll be stuck with forever. The papers and adhesives on the market today have made the whole process much safer and more forgiving, and the results more durable yet even easier to remove. If you make a good game plan and use the right tools (see Wallpaper 101 on page 14), we bet you’ll be pleasantly surprised at how easy wallpapering actually is.

It’s great on and off the wall.

Every wallpaper project is different, but one thing they all have in common is leftover scraps. With a bit of crafty ingenuity you can turn what would normally be inevitable waste into a unique opportunity to beautifully accent different areas in your home, create personalized stationery and accessories, revamp tired pieces of furniture, create frame-worthy works of art, make one-of-a-kind gifts...the options are endless. We’ve included more than 50 fun projects in this book to get your creative juices flowing.



A Very Brief History

It appears that people have been decorating their walls, well, ever since there have been people and walls—cave paintings in the south of France date back millennia. But when it comes to wallpaper, its origins can be traced to China, where the process for making paper was developed about 2,000 years ago. Wallpaper as a decorative trend didn't really take off until the fifteenth century when Europeans replaced the heavy, musty tapestries adorning their palace walls with hand-painted paper instead. Of course, not just anyone could afford these artfully rendered botanical, landscape, or battle scenes, and wallpaper quickly became a popular way to broadcast one's wealth and social status.

It wasn't until the advent of modern printing technology during the late eighteenth century that wallpaper began making its way into the homes of the middle and lower classes. While advances in manufacturing made it more affordable, it still had a few drawbacks. It quickly gained notoriety as the perfect breeding ground for all sorts of bacteria as well as armies of creepy crawlies that would make their homes behind the paper, emerging in the night to pay visits on unsuspecting homeowners. Viewed as an unsanitary health threat, wallpaper soon fell out of favor and, subsequently, fashion. Wallpaper didn't disappear entirely, of course, and every so often it would experience a renaissance, prompted by improvements in hygiene, or the enthusiasm of artists and designers, notably those in the Art Deco and Bauhaus schools.

World War II was the turning point in wallpaper's tumultuous history. The war inspired breakthroughs in a number of industries important in the development of contemporary wallpaper. Advancements in adhesives, plastics, textiles, and paints led directly to the creation of synthetic papers that were sanitary, durable, easy to use, and budget-friendly.

Many of us have our own personal histories with wallpaper, and oftentimes it isn't pretty. We're haunted by the tacky florals or psychedelic prints from the homes we grew up in during the 1960s and '70s. An interior design backlash was inevitable, and once the 1980s arrived, consumers retreated from pattern, preferring a safer, simpler look they could achieve with those 101 shades of white.

Today, a wonderful convergence of technology and artistry has made wallpaper an irresistible design option. It's a very exciting time to get back to wallpapering.





chapterONE

WALLPAPER 101: TOP TO BOTTOM INSTRUCTIONS



ESSENTIAL TOOLS AND MATERIALS

Unlike some home decorating projects, wallpapering doesn't require a garage full of specialized or expensive tools and ingredients. The few things you do need are inexpensive, reusable, and should be readily available at your local hardware store.

Wallpapering Supplies

PLASTIC SHEETS AND DROP CLOTHS: Cover your work surface with plastic sheeting to prevent any paste from getting on your table. Drop cloths can be used to cover furniture, and should be placed along the bottom of the wall to catch any errant paste splatters.

BROAD KNIFE: A 4" broad knife (see Metric Conversion Chart on page 141) is a great tool for creasing paper into corners and cutting off excess paper. It can also come in handy when removing old wallpaper.

UTILITY KNIFE: It's very important that you can snap off and replace the blades of your knife. You don't want any tears or rips in your wallpaper, so change out the blade after every couple of cuts.

PENCIL: You'll need a good pencil for a number of important tasks: drawing out your room schematic, outlining measurements on wallpaper for smaller craft projects, taking notes, making calculations, numbering your wallpaper strips, and drawing your plumb lines.

LEVEL: Use a level to draw straight vertical lines on your wall that'll help align your paper. Choose a model that will give you a level reading both vertically and horizontally. They come in many different lengths, so be sure to get one you can easily handle. Remember that the longer the level, the fewer times you'll need to reposition it on the wall while drawing your plumb line.

PAINT ROLLER AND TRAY: If you're papering a large surface, a paint roller is a great way to apply wallpaper paste to your paper or the wall. Use a roller with a low nap or foam cover.

WALLPAPER BRUSHES: As an alternative to the paint roller, a stiff-bristled **pasting brush** can also be used to apply an even layer of paste to the back of your paper. You'll be using this a lot, so make sure to get one that fits comfortably in your hand. A stiff-bristled **smoothing brush** is used to smooth the pasted paper onto your wall. The bristles work magic on bubbles and will help the paper adhere securely to the surface.

PLASTIC FLOAT: This tool, normally used for plastering, adds the finishing touch to pasted paper by reducing air bubbles, evenly distributing paste beneath the paper, and smoothing down seams.

BUCKET AND SPONGE: Once the paper is up on a wall, you'll need a damp sponge to wipe away any excess paste from seams and the front surface of your paper.



Craft Supplies

Check around your house for some basic craft tools that will come in handy on a wallpaper craft project. And since the projects in this book range from small-scale crafts to big-time home décor, it's always a good idea to take a look at the required tools for each one before you begin. Your cute wallpaper magnets will require a few different supplies from your window shades (like, say, magnets), so it's best to be prepared at the start.

X-ACTO KNIFE: Use an X-Acto to create precise cuts in all types of paper. Be sure to always have extra blades on hand.

METAL RULER: If you plan on cutting paper with a blade, you need a metal ruler. Run the blade along the ruler's edge and you'll get a straight, clean cut every time.

CUTTING MAT: Protect your work surface by using a self-healing cutting mat every time you make a cut.

BONE FOLDER: For clean folds and creases, use a bone folder to first score your paper and then fold.

HOLE PUNCH: Very useful for making holes (obviously), hole punches can also be used to add decorative touches to all sorts of paper projects.

ROUNDED-CORNER PUNCH: We're not sure if there's a scientific explanation for this, but rounded corners always look better than straight ones.

MOD PODGE: An incredibly versatile adhesive perfect for all types of paper crafts, Mod Podge dries clear, so it also works wonders as a protective sealant.

RUBBER CEMENT: Anytime you glue one piece of paper to another, this is the way to go. When using rubber cement, brush it onto both surfaces and let dry slightly before adhering.

SPRAY ADHESIVE: This is an effective method for covering large surface areas with adhesive. Just be sure to use it in a well-ventilated area, with no wind. As a general rule, when applying paper to an object, spray the back of the paper, not the object. Always give the adhesive a minute or two to set before adhering.

TACKY GLUE: A great all-purpose adhesive, tacky glue is useful for all manners of craft projects, paper or otherwise.



WALLPAPER OPTIONS

Unless you're using paper unearthed from Grandma's basement or purchased from a source that specializes in vintage or historic materials, the wallcoverings you'll find on the market today are either vinyl-coated or silk-screened on paper. Whether the paper is vintage fabric-backed, vinyl-coated, or a brand-new organic like cork or grass, always be sure to read any instructions included with the roll. Different manufacturers may have specific requirements for their papers.

VINYL-COATED: This wallpaper sports a protective vinyl coating, which makes the paper extra durable, scrubbable, and generally easier to maintain.

HAND SILK-SCREENED: These papers are carefully printed by hand using large screens. Some manufacturers coat their papers in a water-based glaze, which will allow you to clean them with a damp sponge. As concerns about the environment and toxic chemicals in the home have grown, more and more companies have begun to offer wallpapers printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks.

PREPASTED: Prepasting was big in the 1970s, and many manufacturers continue to produce papers with the adhesive already applied. Simply soak the rolls in water for a specified amount of time to activate the paste and then smooth the strips onto your wall.

FABRIC-BACKED: With a mesh-like woven fabric back, this type of wallpaper is extra durable and most commonly used in high-traffic or commercial settings.

Wallpaper Adhesives

Choosing the proper adhesive depends on the paper you are using. Always read the manufacturer's suggested installation instructions before you dive into a project. Today, adhesives generally fall into one of two categories—synthetic or organic.

SYNTHETIC: As you can imagine, synthetic adhesives contain chemicals, which make for a strong and durable bond. Using a synthetic adhesive also means you'll have a heck of a time getting it out of your carpet or off your dining room table should things get a bit messy. You should consider this type of adhesive if you're papering a wall in a very humid or high-traffic area, where the paper may need to withstand some extreme weather or serious wear and tear.

ORGANIC: In general, we recommend choosing an organic, water-soluble paste for most wallpaper projects. These starch-based adhesives are reliable and forgiving, won't stain or soil your workspace, and are easily strippable if you decide to tear down your wallpaper a year from now.

THE BIG COVER UP: Prepping Your Walls for Paper

Wallpapering is like cooking—everything will be much easier (and you're less likely to get burned) if you take the time to be properly prepared before you start. With all the planning and measuring, there will be a lot of numbers flying around, so we recommend you write everything down in an organized manner. Gather up all the necessary tools and ingredients (see pages 14–15) and organize them in your workspace. And speaking of a space, it doesn't take much—a long surface, like a dining room table, is pretty much all you'll need, especially if you “book” your paper. “Book your paper?!” Yes! Keep reading.

Take an Overview

The first step in planning your layout is to make a schematic drawing of the room, noting the location of windows, doors, and any other potential obstacles. When deciding where to hang the first strip, always keep the width of your wallpaper in mind. This will help you get a sense of where each strip will land once you start pasting them up on the wall. If you are doing a single wall, it's much better to start in a spot that will allow at least a 5" strip of wallpaper on either end of the wall. For whole-room installations, make sure to have your last piece land in a “dead” corner—somewhere inconspicuous where it won't be obvious if your pattern doesn't match up—like in a corner by a closet, or behind a door.

Once you've got an idea of the layout, give each strip of paper a number and mark that on your drawing. This will remove any guesswork later on, so you don't find yourself standing on a ladder with a wet piece of wallpaper in your hands, wishing you had planned this out better.

Calculate the Paper

This is probably the most difficult part of wallpapering, but only because it involves some very basic math skills. The most straightforward way to determine how much paper you will need is to measure the length of the wall (or walls) and multiply that by the height of the room.

Then find out how much comes in a roll of the paper you are interested in. Papers vary from around 20" to 27" wide, with the standard length of a single roll being 15' (double rolls are twice as long, obviously). Make your calculations, without subtracting any paper for windows or doors, and then add an extra roll just to be safe. You'll be glad to have extra paper for any unforeseen mishaps (our mantra: measure twice, cut once!), future patch jobs, or better yet, wallpaper crafts!

(continued)

Prepare the Room

In order to paper your walls, you're going to need access to them. Which means either moving furniture out or piling it up in the middle or opposite side of the room. Wallpapering is not a terrifically messy activity, but if you're worried about your furniture, throw a drop cloth over it. Prepping the walls actually kicks up the most dust, so now is a good time to place drop cloths at the foot of any walls you'll be papering.

Before any paper goes up, many things must come down. Start by removing all artwork and shelving. Wallpaper loves smooth surfaces: Keep an eye out for bumps or holes in the wall—they'll need to be sanded and spackled. Remove outlet covers, faceplates, and any other fixtures that will come down. Once you've got a nice blank slate, give it a good cleaning with a damp sponge. Wallpaper loves clean surfaces, too.

GETTING THE HANG OF IT: Applying Paper to Your Walls

Now that you've done all the necessary prep work, it's time to get to the fun stuff. Two sets of hands are better than one when it comes to handling long expanses of wet paper, so it's a good idea to invite over a friendly helper.

Cutting

This isn't the first time we've said it, and it may not be the last, but "Measure twice, cut once" is our rule when preparing to paper a room. Once you've drawn up your detailed schematic, measured your walls, and prepped your room, it's time to start cutting.

The rule to remember here is "height + 4". The "height" of the wall plus 4" will ensure that you have an extra 2" on the top and 2" on the bottom of every strip. If the pattern of your paper is a straight match, once you've cut your first piece you can simply line up the following pieces and make the same cut. If you have a drop match (when the pattern match requires shifting a strip up or down rather than straight across), make sure to line up each following piece so that the pattern matches before you make your cuts.

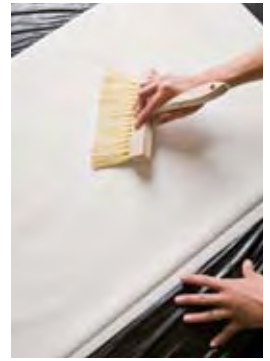


Always use a metal straight edge, like a ruler or carpenter's square, and make sure your utility knife has snap-off blades, which should be changed not just occasionally or frequently, but obsessively—after every few cuts. This is especially true later, when cutting off the excess from the wall.

After you've cut each piece, lightly number it on the back with a pencil according to your schematic drawing so you can keep track of your work.

Pasting

It's unfortunate that we don't have a catchy mantra when it comes to pasting your paper (we're working on it), because there are a couple important things to keep in mind. First, read the instructions that came with your paper. Different manufacturers may recommend different methods for installation. Prepasted papers, for example, just require a quick soak in water. But in general, the following instructions pertain to most situations. Cover your table with a plastic drop cloth and have all your tools within easy reach. Then, start pasting.



Materials

WALLPAPER

Tools

DROP CLOTH

WALLPAPER PASTE

WALLPAPER BRUSH
OR PAINT ROLLER

PAINT TRAY

How-To

1. Lay your wallpaper strips on top of one another, pattern-side down, with the first piece on top of the pile. (When you spread the paste over the edges of the top piece, it'll go directly onto the back of the next piece, which means less mess and no wasted paste.)
2. Pour a nice, big glob of paste into a paint tray.
3. Use either a wallpaper brush or a paint roller to apply an even layer of paste to the entire back of the paper, working from the center out to the sides. It's especially important to make sure you get the edges, which will prevent your seams from showing. Because nobody wants their seams showing, right?

Booking

Once you have full paste coverage on your strip, it's time to book it. "Booking" your paper involves laying pasted sides together—which seems quite counterintuitive but ends up saving you space and ensuring better adhesion of your wallpaper. This process will allow the paste to activate and be properly absorbed by the paper. Rest assured, it will pull apart just fine.

How-To

1. With your first strip pasted-side up, grab one end and bring it toward the center of the strip, creating a very loose fold. Without creasing the paper, place the end down so the pasted sides are together.
2. Bring the other end toward the center and place it so that the cut lines are butting—thereby essentially folding your strip into thirds.
3. Now you can fold the strip onto itself a few times (no creases!) and set it aside while you paste up the next one. You can leave booked pieces in a plastic bag for up to half an hour without any problems. We generally paste and book 4 to 5 pieces at a time.



Hanging It Up

This is it. The moment of truth—applying the pasted paper to your wall. This is also when you discover wallpapering is much easier than you imagined it would be. The paper is totally manageable, the paste surprisingly forgiving....Congratulations, you are minutes away from enjoying a magically transformed room!

Materials

WALLPAPER (PASTED
AND BOOKED)
PLASTIC BAG

Tools

DROP CLOTH
STEPLADDER
LEVEL
PENCIL
MEASURING TAPE
SMOOTHING BRUSH
PLASTIC FLOAT
SPONGE AND BUCKET
OF WATER
4" BROAD KNIFE
UTILITY KNIFE WITH
SNAP-OFF BLADES

How-To

1. Use a level and a pencil to lightly mark a plumb (perfectly vertical) line on your wall where you want to put up the first piece of wallpaper.
2. Unfold the top half of your first pasted-and-booked strip and, beginning at the top of the wall, line its edge up with your plumb line. Remember to keep that extra 2" on top (see Cutting on page 18).
3. As you line up the edge, press the paper against the wall and begin smoothing it down with your smoothing brush.
4. Once you reach the middle of the wall, unfold the bottom half of the paper and continue lining up the edge with the plumb line, smoothing as you go. You may notice a few small air bubbles, but don't panic—those will disappear as the paper dries. If there are a number of large air bubbles that are making you nervous, gently pull the paper away from the wall and smooth it down again.
5. With the paper in place, nice and straight, smooth the entire strip down with your brush, working from the center outwards.
6. Repeat the same smoothing process with your plastic float. This will spread the underlying paste evenly out toward the edge of the paper and press your seams flush to the wall.
7. Grab your second pasted strip and repeat steps 2 through 6. But instead of lining up the edge with the plumb line, you're now matching the pattern of the wallpaper.
8. Once you've got a few pieces up, gently wipe down the paper with a damp sponge, especially at the seams, to remove any paste that may have made its way out onto the front.
9. Continue pasting up your strips until you reach the end of the wall. If you're doing more than one wall, see page 22 for instructions on turning a corner.

- 10.** Place your 4" broad knife at the top of the wall where it intersects with the ceiling or molding. Carefully slide the blade of your utility knife along the edge of the broad knife to create a clean, straight cut. Continue cutting in this manner until you've reached the end of the strip. Snap yourself off a fresh blade and move onto the next strip.
- 11.** Repeat the same cutting process along the bottom edge of the paper where it intersects with the floor or molding.

And there you have it. An entire room transformed!



THE INS, OUTS, AND AROUNDS OF CORNERS

You've measured twice, cut once. You've mastered the art of pasting. The strips are going up straight and smooth. The whole process seems much easier than you expected. Everything is coming together, um, seamlessly, and just when you're about to take a breath and congratulate yourself, there it is...the corner.

Not to worry, the process for going in, out, or around corners is completely painless, and doing it properly takes only a few additional steps.

In and Out

The most common situation you'll encounter requires pasting the paper into, and then out of, a corner. It may look daunting, but with a few extra cuts and some minor calculations, you'll be on your way.

Tools

MEASURING TAPE OR RULER
PENCIL
UTILITY KNIFE
WALLPAPER PASTE AND BRUSH
PLASTIC FLOAT
4" BROAD KNIFE

How-To

- 1.** Since you made a schematic of the room, your last full sheet is up, and you've got at least 5" of blank wall between the edge of the paper and the corner. Measure that distance, add $\frac{1}{2}$ ", and cut your next strip to that width.
- 2.** Paste this piece up just as you have been doing, matching up the seam with your last strip and smoothing it down against the wall. Use the edge of your plastic float to carefully crease the paper into the corner, and smooth the $\frac{1}{2}$ " piece onto the new wall.
- 3.** Using your broad knife as a guide, trim off the 2" excess paper at the top and bottom of the wall. To help ease the paper into the turn, first make two vertical cuts, one at the top and the other at the bottom, right where the wallpaper meets the corner.
- 4.** Now go back to the remainder of the piece you just cut and measure its width. Measure that same distance out from the corner on the uncovered wall and draw a plumb line.
- 5.** Paste your strip, line its edge up with your plumb line, and smooth it onto the wall, right into the corner, overlapping the $\frac{1}{2}$ " of the previous strip. The reason for doing it this way is that the corners of a room are rarely, if ever, perfectly straight. By creating and working from a plumb line you can be sure the rest of your strips will go up nice and straight. Sure, your pattern will not match up perfectly, but you will be the only person able to spot this minor irregularity. It'll be our little secret.



Around

Occasionally, you may find it necessary to wallpaper around a corner. The process is similar to the inside corner technique with one special twist thrown in: the double cut.

Tools

MEASURING TAPE
OR RULER
PENCIL
WALLPAPER PASTE
AND BRUSH
UTILITY KNIFE

How-To

- 1.** As before, your last strip on the first wall should end at least 5" before the corner. Take the width of your wallpaper strip and subtract $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
- 2.** Measure that distance from the edge of your last strip around the corner and mark that spot with a plumb line.
- 3.** Hang your pasted paper by lining up the edge with the plumb line on the new wall.
- 4.** Smooth the paper back around the corner toward your last strip, making cuts in the top and bottom excess paper to help turn the corner. Once you've smoothed the paper it should overlap your last strip by $\frac{1}{2}$ ".

The Double Cut

When a wall isn't perfectly straight, or you've turned an outside corner, you may find instances where the seam of one strip of paper conspicuously overlaps another. The double cut is a great technique for turning this unsightly overlap into a perfectly tight seam.

Tools

RULER OR
STRAIGHT EDGE
UTILITY KNIFE

How-To

- 1.** Use a ruler and your utility knife to make a cut through both layers of paper directly down the middle of the overlap.
- 2.** Pull off the separated top piece, then gently peel back the top of the overlapping piece just enough so you can remove the bottom layer of paper.
- 3.** Then smooth back the overlap so that it butts directly against the edge of the previous paper. Voilà! No overlap and a nice tight seam.

REMOVING WALLPAPER

There are a number of ways to effectively remove wallpaper, and choosing the right one depends on a number of different factors, including how long the paper has been up, the type of paper, the adhesive that was used, and the surface of the wall. Fortunately, many of today's "strippable" adhesives and papers are designed for simple removal. As a general rule, it's best to start with the simplest technique, and if that doesn't work, move on to one of the more involved methods.

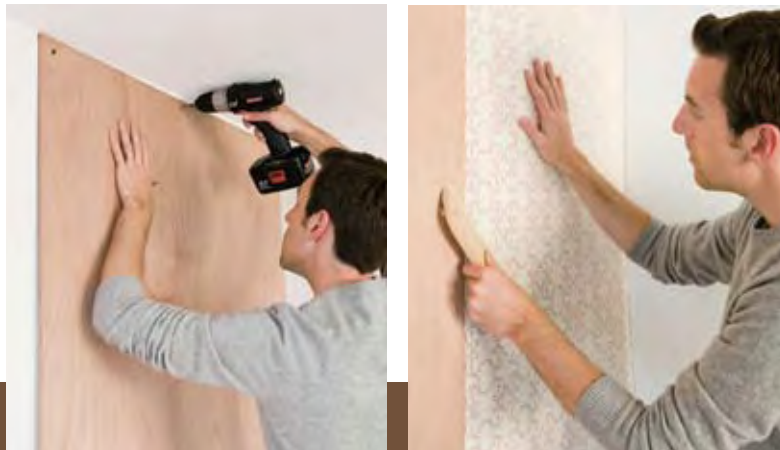
LIFT AND PEEL: Use your broad knife to peel up a corner or a seam of the paper and give it a tug. You might get lucky and the paper may come off in large strips simply by gently scraping and peeling it away.

PERFORATE AND SPRAY: If your paper isn't cooperating by peeling off in sizeable strips, the next option is to attack it with a paper tiger. This handy tool, available at most hardware stores, has little rotary blades that take bites as they are dragged across the surface of the paper. By running this tool all over the wall you can create small perforations that will allow moisture to reach the adhesive. Once you've gone over the wall with the paper tiger, mist the paper with water. Give it a few minutes to break down the adhesive and then try scraping the paper off with your broad knife.

CHEMICALS AND STEAM: If the paper is still being stubborn, you may need to resort to more drastic measures. Manufacturers sell a variety of gels and solutions made specifically to remove wallpaper. Ask for a recommendation at your local hardware store, and make sure to let them know what kind of wall the paper is on. They may have different suggestions based on whether you've got drywall versus plaster. You'll still need to perforate, then either apply a gel or use a steamer filled with a chemical solution to remove the paper.

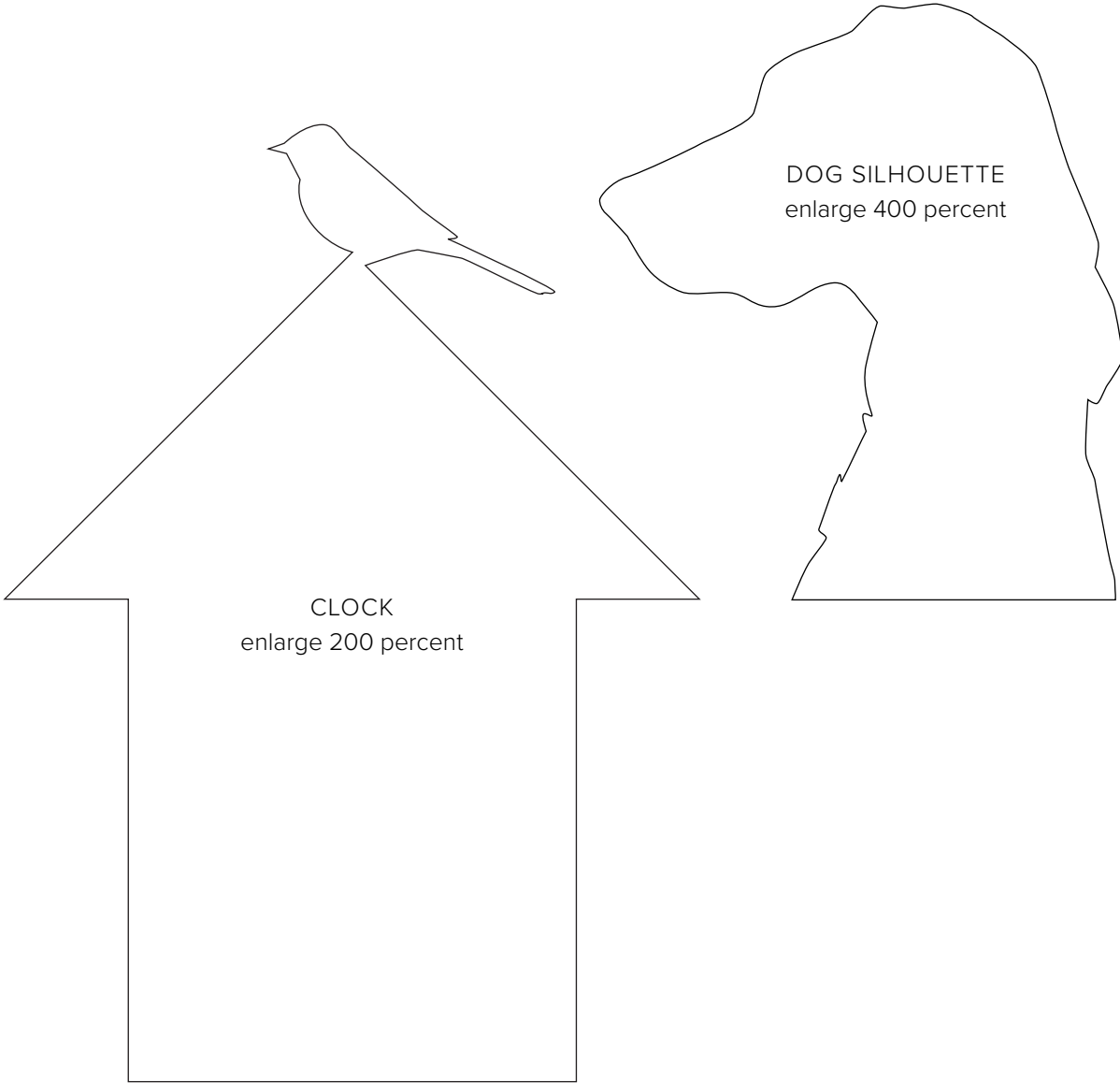
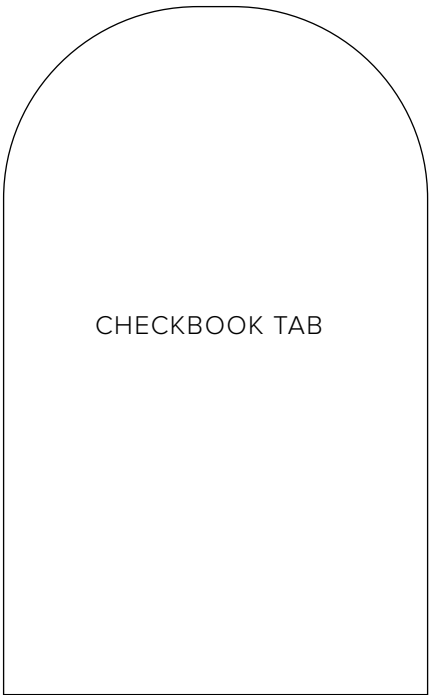
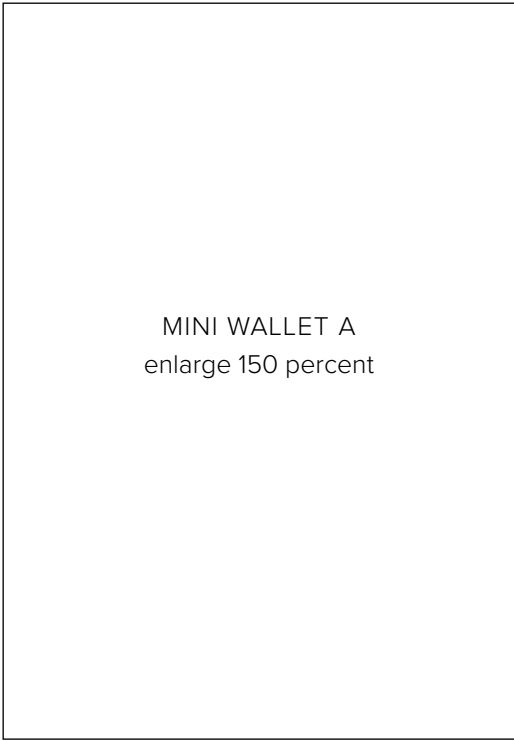
Temporary Installation

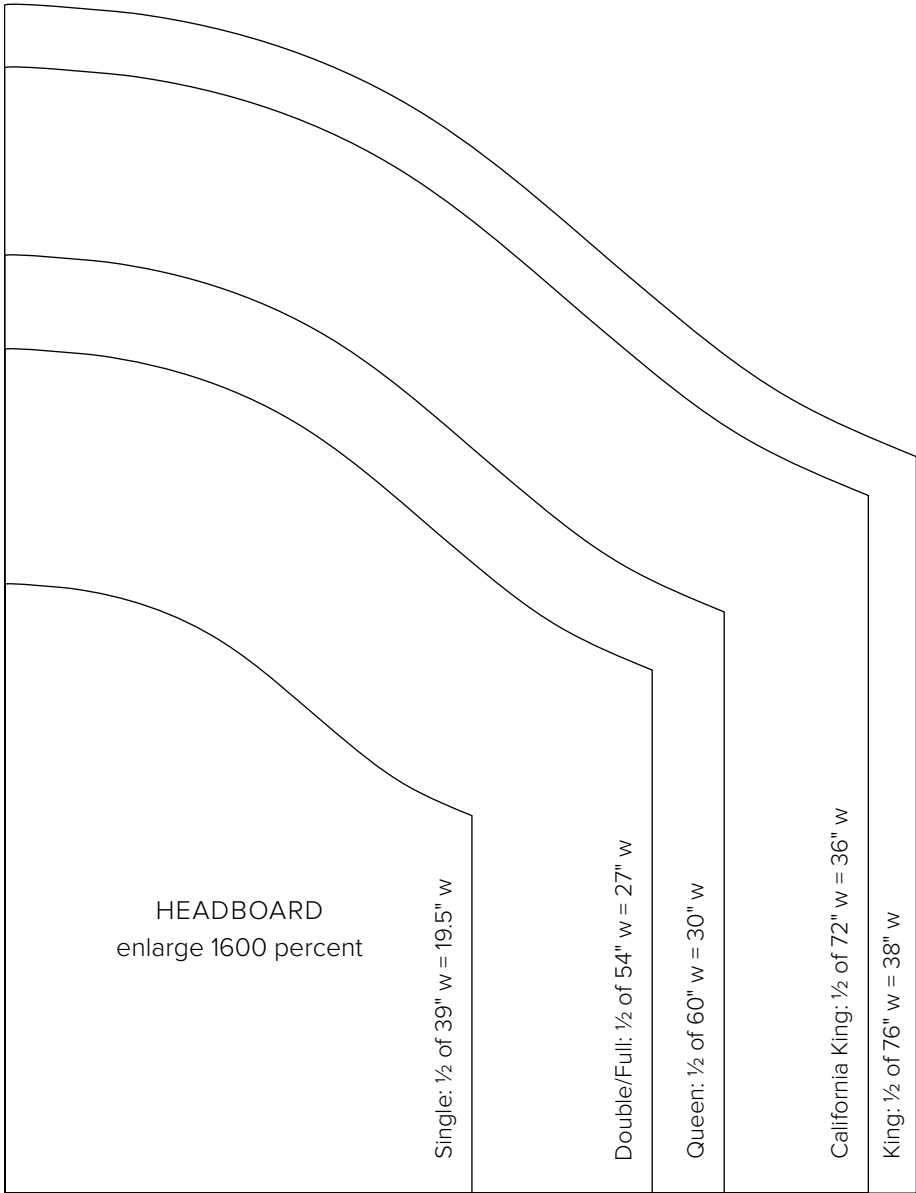
Lauan (pronounced "loo-on") is a very inexpensive, lightweight plywood that is a great option for temporary installations and for renters with landlords who won't permit more than a coat or two of paint on the walls. Simply measure your walls and get a few sheets of lauan cut to fit at your local lumberyard. Attach them to your walls with screws and apply your wallpaper as you would onto virgin walls. The paper will look great, and the whole installation can be removed in minutes leaving only a few holes to spackle.



Project Templates

TRACE OR PHOTOCOPY THESE TEMPLATES TO USE THEM IN WALLPAPER PROJECTS.





To create your headboard, photocopy or trace this template, which is half the width of a complete headboard. Once you've copied the first half at the appropriate size, flip it over and copy or trace the other half to ensure symmetry.

Metric Conversion Chart

To convert inches into centimeters, multiply the measurement by 2.54.
All metric measurements in this chart have been rounded to the nearest tenth.

INCHES	CENTIMETERS	INCHES	CENTIMETERS
1/8	.32	15	38.1
1/4	.64	15 1/2	39.4
1/2	1.3	16	40.6
1	2.5	16 1/2	41.9
1 1/2	3.8	17	43.2
2	5.1	17 1/2	44.5
2 1/2	6.4	18	45.7
3	7.6	18 1/2	47
3 1/2	8.9	19	48.3
4	10.2	19 1/2	49.5
4 1/2	11.4	20	50.8
5	12.7	20 1/2	52.1
5 1/2	14	21	53.3
6	15.2	21 1/2	54.6
6 1/2	16.5	22	55.9
7	17.8	22 1/2	57.2
7 1/2	19	23	58.4
8	20.3	23 1/2	59.7
8 1/2	21.6	24	61
9	22.9	24 1/2	62.2
9 1/2	24.1	25	63.5
10	25.4	25 1/2	64.8
10 1/2	26.7	26	66
11	27.9	26 1/2	67.3
11 1/2	29.2	27	68.6
12	30.5	27 1/2	69.9
12 1/2	31.8	28	71.1
13	33	28 1/2	72.4
13 1/2	34.3	29	73.7
14	35.6	29 1/2	74.9
14 1/2	36.8	30	76.2

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