

Great coverups require little care

Wallpaper changes the whole character of a room, gives the homeowner a host of decorating possibilities and can be easily maintained and repaired.

Whether a large or small repair is required upon completion of the work or long-term maintenance necessitates cleaning, here are a few guidelines to help the homeowner do the work expertly himself.

Repairs are often necessary upon completion of a room. Minor flaws, such as bubbles, wrinkles and tears should be fixed, if possible, before the paste dries.

Air bubbles and blisters, for exam-

ple, can easily be pushed out of the paper with a knife before the paper dries. If you discover the pocket after the project is finished, simply cut an angled corner with a razor, affix household glue to the paper and press to the wall with a seam roller.

Small tears are also repaired by applying glue to the loose paper and pressing towards the wall.

Large tears, even when the paper has dried, do not necessitate removing a strip. The damage can be effectively repaired by placing a larger piece of wallpaper over the area after matching the existing pattern and tacking it in place with masking tape.

CUT THROUGH both layers of paper with a razor blade along a straight edge, then lift off both layers and clean the bare wall.

Apply paste to the fresh piece of paper, press into the space and roll the edges into place.

Wrinkled paper must be removed when the paste is wet and repositioned on the wall.

Most modern wallcoverings are labeled "nonwashable," "washable," or "scrubbable." If your paper wasn't labeled, but you have a small piece, take it to a wallpaper dealer and ask them what they would recommend. Or test an inconspicuous area (as behind furniture) by wiping it with a damp cloth. If the wallpaper does not change in color or appearance, it probably can be safely cleaned as a washable wallpaper. Always test any cleaning method in an inconspicuous spot before trying it on a wall open to view.

Vacuum off dust frequently. Don't let paper get too dirty before cleaning it. Remove dust periodically by brushing gently downward from the ceiling with vacuum cleaner wall brush, long handled soft brush, or clean cloth tied around broom or dry mop. Change cloth when it gets soiled to prevent streaks. If there are cobwebs, lift up with brush, as they may cause streaks when brushed down.

If paper is flocked, use only the vacuum dusting brush attachment to

clean to prevent matting or shedding. If ceiling is papered, dust that first.

CLEANING non-washable papers: Buy commercial wallpaper cleaner, (a dough-like material). Rub over surface, following directions on product exactly. Test first on place usually not seen, as behind furniture, to see how it affects paper and that it does not streak. Vacuum or brush off any bits of cleaner that stay on wall.

CLEANING washable papers — "Washable" papers are usually paper with a plastic coating. Clean with a damp cloth or sponge; use water sparingly and do not get them wet. Make a sudsy solution of a mild white detergent (hand dishwashing liquid) in cool water in one bucket, and cool rinse water in a second bucket.

Cleaning "scrubbable" wallcoverings — wallcoverings labeled "scrubbable" are vinyl or vinyl-impregnated paper. They can be scrubbed with a foam cleanser or all-purpose detergent, using a sponge or soft cloth, and rinsed with clean sponge or cloth. Do not use any abrasive liquid cleansers.

Cleaning fabric wallcoverings — Some are vinyl-coated and easy to wash, others, like burlap or grass cloth, are very hard to clean when stained. You might try wiping lightly with a sponge dampened in suds and water; test first in an inconspicuous spot to be sure the water won't stain.



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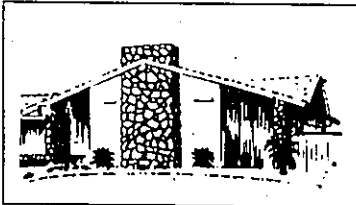
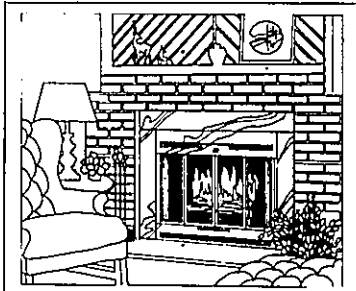
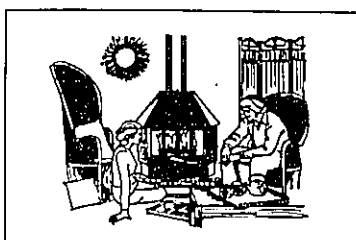
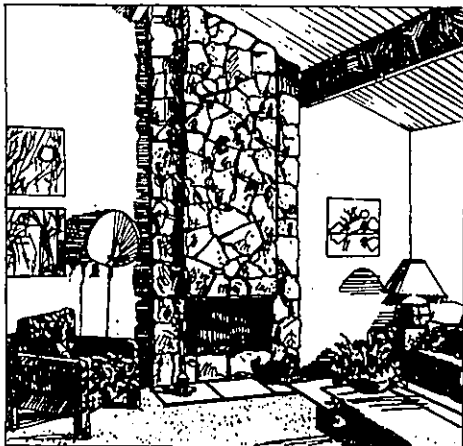


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