

THE HABITUS COLLECTION

TOLL FREE 800.729.5120 info@habituscollection.com www.habituscollection.com

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR HABITUS CORK FABRIC WALL COVERING

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Examine the product carefully to ensure that the material, color, and style are as ordered. Since Habitus Cork Fabric materials are made with natural cork, you should expect to see slight color variations. These variations are not defects and are a natural characteristic of the material. In the event that any discrepancies are found, stop and contact Habitus customer service at 1.800.729.5120.

It is recommended that Habitus Cork Fabric be acclimated in the installation area for at least 48-72 hours prior to installation. The installation area should maintain a temperature of 65–75°F with relative humidity at 50% or less. It is important to verify that the wall moisture content does not exceed 4% using a reputable moisture meter. If walls show mold, mildew or visible moisture damage, or if moisture content exceeds recommendations, do not proceed with the installation until the condition has been fully corrected by a qualified professional.

SURFACE PREPARATION

All surfaces must be clean, dry, structurally sound, and free of any dirt, debris or mildew. Stains such as ink, grease, crayon, or other foreign matter should be spot treated with a stain prevention primer to prevent bleeding through the new material. With all surfaces, and once properly prepared, apply a heavy duty, acrylic or latex primer/sealer. If an oil-based primer was used, apply an acrylic or latex primer over it before hanging. If the surface does not have a uniform color, use a pigmented primer.

- New drywall should be finished to a Level 5 as per the Gypsum Association guidelines (www.gypsum.org). Follow with a pigmented primer.
- Newly plastered walls should completely cure for 60-90 days, and not have excessive quantities of lime or alkali. Follow with an adhesion-promoting primer. An adhesion test should be performed to ensure compatibility of the primer with the adhesive.
- Painted surfaces should be primed using a heavy duty latex primer / sealer.

Nicks, gouges, and other surface blemishes must be filled and sanded smooth. Followed with a pigmented (adhesion-promoting) primer.

HANGING GUIDELINES

Habitus Cork Fabric is backed with 100% cotton and should be applied using a straight hang method. The material should be table trimmed with a straightedge and a very sharp blade. When cutting, it is best to measure and add 2-3" to allow for trimming, for example at the ceiling, wall edge or at baseboards. It is best to install the material under well lit conditions to evaluate the color and texture uniformity.

ADHESIVE APPLICATION

We recommend the use of a premium quality "clear" vinyl adhesive, such as from Zinsser and Roman. Apply a uniform coat of adhesive to the prepared wall surface. Use of a mildew-inhibiting & stain resistant adhesive is also recommended. It's always advantageous to use a primer and adhesive from the same manufacturer. Please be sure to follow adhesive manufacturer's mixing, application and handling instructions.

INSTALLATION

Hang the cork fabric from top to bottom, laying the leading edge against a plumb line. Use a plastic smoother (do not use sharp-edged tools) to ensure that the material is making contact with the wall surface. Roll the surface from the top of the panel down, working out all air bubbles, being careful not to press too harshly. Trim at the ceiling, edge and baseboard with a sharp razor blade. The subsequent laying of cork fabric should be applied to the wall, edge-to-edge. In some cases, it might be necessary to secure the cork fabric with small nails while the adhesive dries.

Before applying the next section, trim the top and bottom of the first section, and then proceed in the same manner around the room or area. Avoid cutting narrow widths of material for placement above doors and below windows. Vertical joints should not occur less than six inches from inside or outside corners. When trimming at chair rails and ceilings, always use a broad knife rather than a straightedge. Take extra care in keeping adhesive off the face of the material. Should any get on the surface, use a damp cloth to remove excess adhesive, or allow it to dry and then flake it off with a stiff brush. Adhesive residue can be cleaned with a cloth and mineral spirits. After installation, the walls and wall covering should be monitored for potential moisture or vapor infiltration, which must be promptly eliminated.

MAINTENANCE

Normal dirt and debris can be cleaned using a damp cloth or damp sponge. More stubborn stains can be removed using clear, warm water and a non-abrasive detergent or household cleaner. Test first in an inconspicuous area. Do not use solvent-based cleaning agents, lacquer thinners, nail polish remover, pine oil, or cleaning agents containing bleach, which may cause discoloration over time. Occasional vacuuming will help maintain the product's fresh look.

Note: The above is intended only as a guideline. Each project has its own variables, therefore consulting with a fabric installer or wall upholstery professional is recommended. Habitus Cork Fabric is produced by slicing a thin layer of cork and backing it on 100% cotton. In some styles, a seam or joint may be visible within the roll, this is inherent characteristic of handmade production. It is important to inspect the roll and plan for, if necessary, these conditions. The installer has final responsibility for proper installation and evaluation of jobsite conditions.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR REQUIRE ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT A HABITUS CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE AT 1.800.729.5120.