

Installing GEKKOTEX Self Adhesive Wallcovering

Preparations

Before applying GEKKOTEX, the underlying surface has to be smooth, solid and dry and should have a uniform, white colour. Remove old wallpaper, paint or whitewash and especially any traces of ink and other surface contaminations such as grease, dirt, polish and pen marks with a detergent solution. Then rinse it with clean water and allow it to fully dry. Sand finished plaster must be smoothed. On new walls, the dry wall joints must be taped, bedded and sanded. In order to have a good adhesion, we recommend that all walls that are porous and absorbing should be primed with a primer or another suitable diluted adhesive (let it dry for a minimum of 5 to 6 hours). Verify that wall moisture content does not exceed 4% (using a suitable moisture meter) and active moisture or water vapour infiltration is not present. Verify that walls are free from mold and mildew. If mold or mildew is present, or if walls show visible moisture damage, or if moisture content exceeds recommendations, do not proceed with installation until the condition has been fully corrected under the direction of a qualified expert.

Installation

Before hanging, ensure that you have received the right number of rolls to fit the width and height of the wall as printed / ordered. Print several additional centimeters more than the actual size of the wall (in width and height) to cover any gaps due to a crooked ceiling. Number the rolls, starting at roll number 1 on the left side of the wall. After applying the GEKKOTEX, use a plastic spatula (with soft top) to smooth out the piece in a vertical direction. Make sure to smooth out any air bubbles that may have been trapped underneath. We recommend cutting the inside corners with a sharp knife and spatula to remove excess wallcovering before applying the next drop. Keep the knife in the groove and move the spatula in the cutting direction. Attention: do not cut into the surface of the wall! If you do, the seams may open up later. While applying the wallpaper, immediately remove excess paste with clear warm water using only a moist natural sponge. Dry it with a clean cotton towel. When excess paste stays on the face of the non-woven wallcovering for too long, it can cause permanent damage. Check the material after every length.

Maintenance

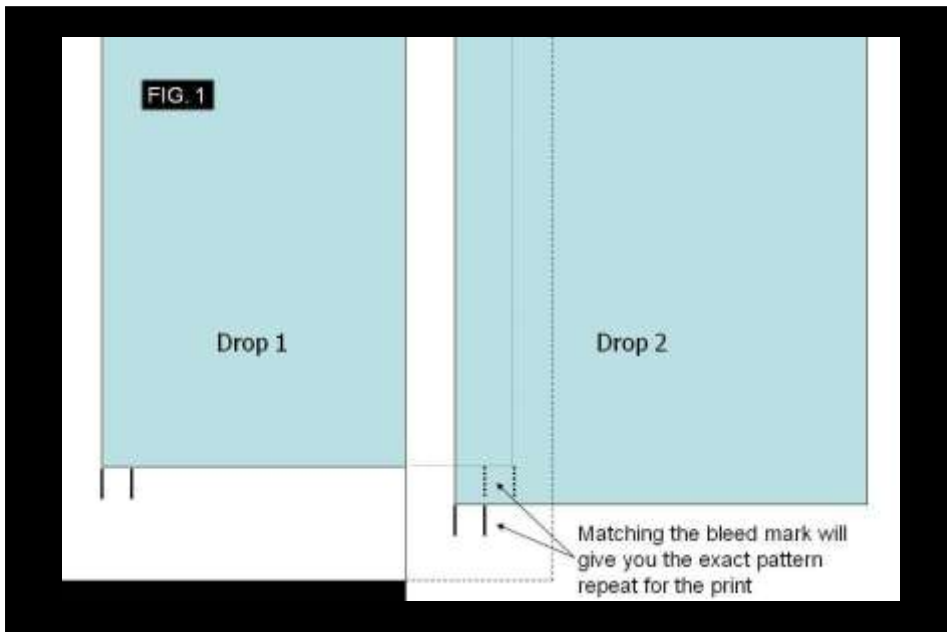
Do not use solvent based cleaning agents, lacquer thinners, nail polish remover, pine oil or cleaning agents containing bleach, they may cause discoloration over a period of time. In doubt, please check the impact of your specific cleaning agent on a small sample piece of the GEKKOTEX.

Hanging the image

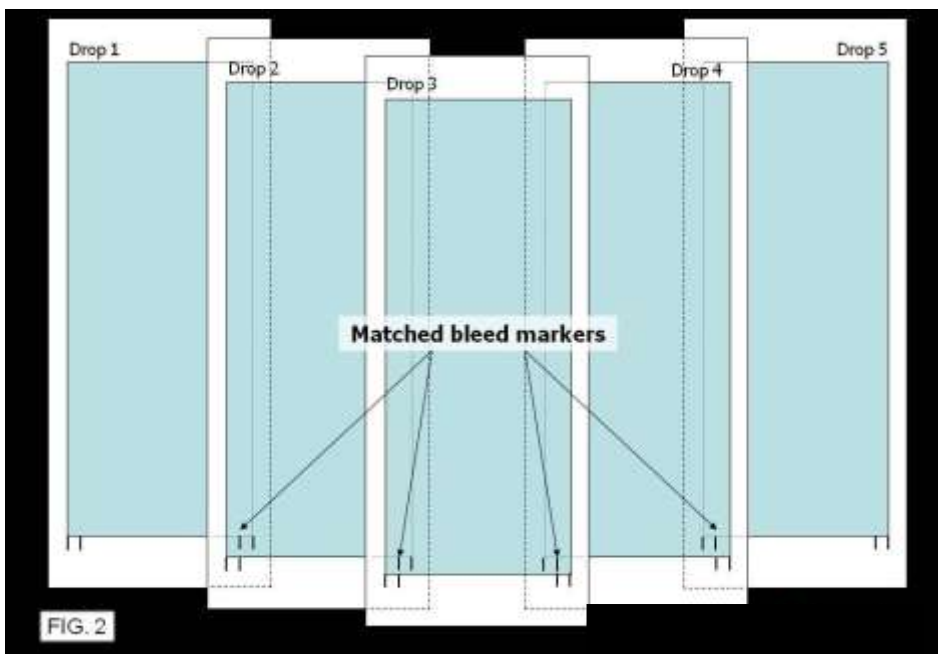
Use a soft spatula or a PTFE spatula to apply the image to the prepared surface, using a smooth up-and-down motion. You can if required seam roll the joins using a small soft rubber roller along the join. But go easy with the roller, as overworking the join could cause the edges to become flattened or polished. Overlap and trim, overlap sufficiently to match up the design and then trim down the middle of the overlap. If you don't want to join it up straight away, turn back the edges by about 5cm until you are ready to make the join with the next drop of the image.

Once you are ready to cut your overlap and trim joint, it is essential you use a plastic protective strip in conjunction with a new sharp blade for each joint you cut. Place the plastic protective strip behind the overlap joint, this will protect the wall when cutting your joints.

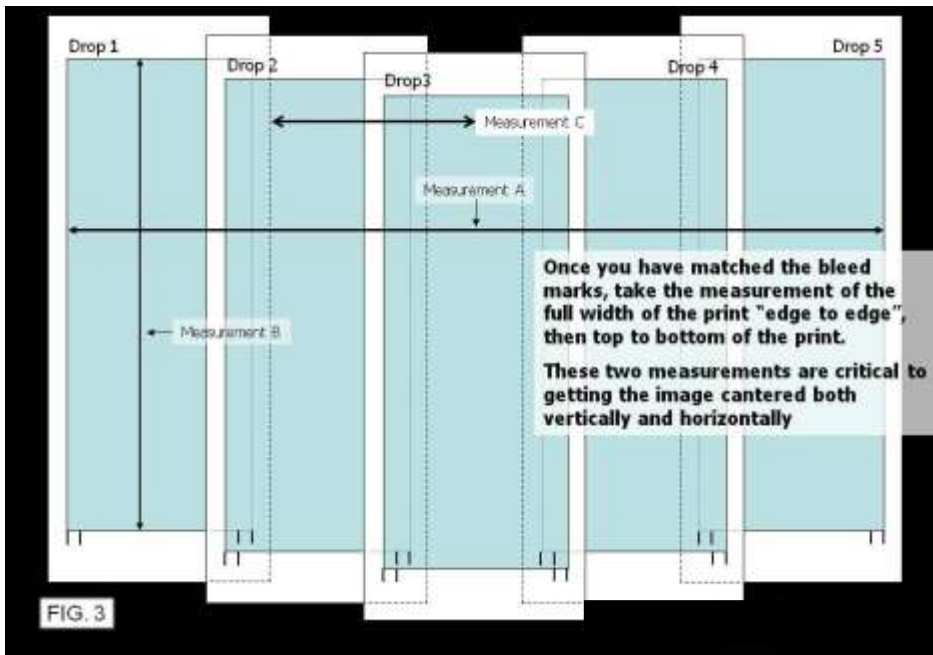
SETTING OUT THE PRINT



On the white selvedge / borders of the print, you will find cropmarks which look like this. (Shown in illustration FIG.1). These cropmarks should be lined up as shown, with the leader lines matching over one another, in order that you can gauge the full width of the print.



The benefit of laying out the print in this way, is that you can check the print for a shading. Laying out the print will also help you visualize how the image will look once installed. For added security whilst laying out the print, you can use masking tape or staples on the white border areas to hold the image in place.



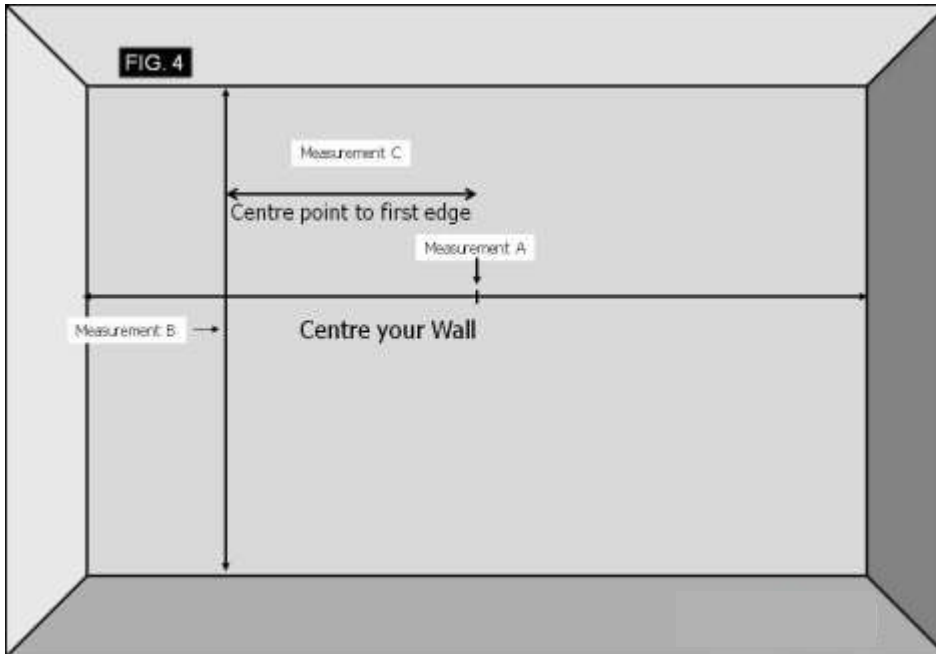
Measure the full width of the print, marking the middle on the white border.

Measure back from the centre mark, to the edge of drop1. We will call this measurement (A). This is an important measurement which ensures you have vertical centred the image.

Measure from top to bottom of the drop, again marking the centre point on the white border, for future reference we will call this measurement (B). This is another important measurement needed to mark the wall to ensure the print is horizontally centred.

Check the print for shading and print defects, you now will have a good idea how the image will look once installed, you can now start to trim off the entire white selvedge.

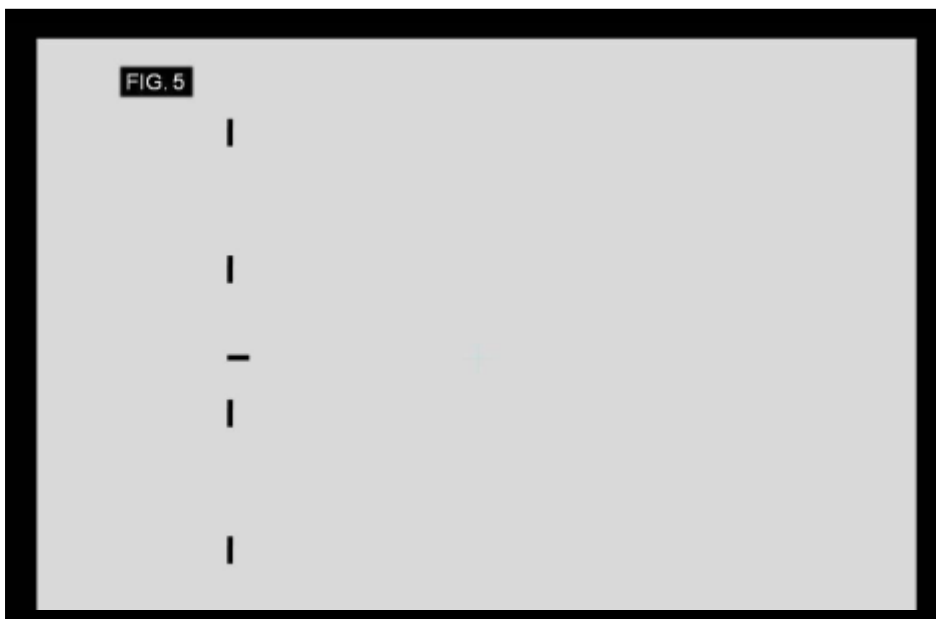
PLOTTING OUT THE WALL



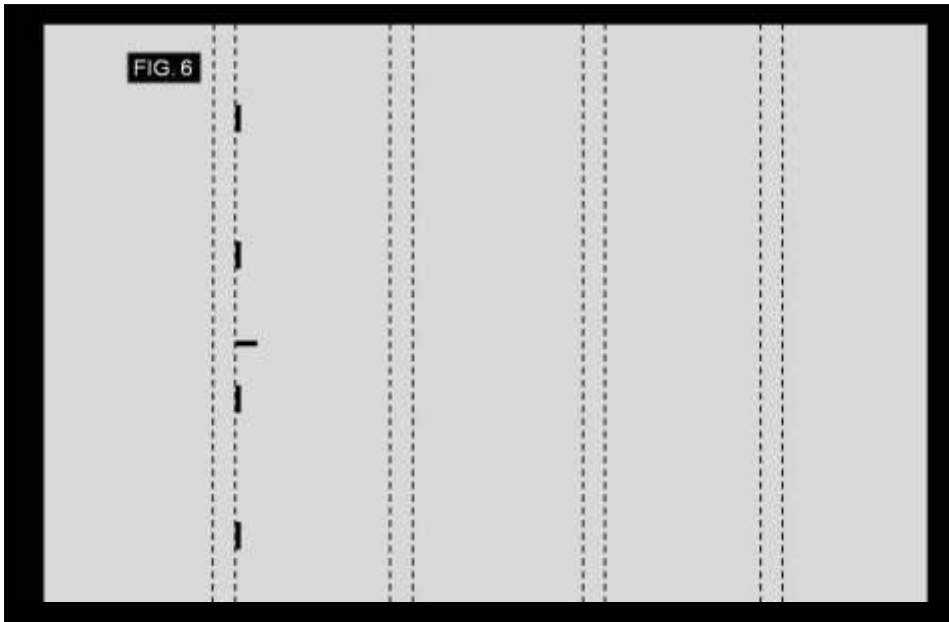
Measure the full width of the wall, clearly marking the centre point for reference.

From this centre mark, measure back the distance previously recorded (Measurement (A), this was the measurement back from the centre mark of the laid out product to the leading edge of drop 1.

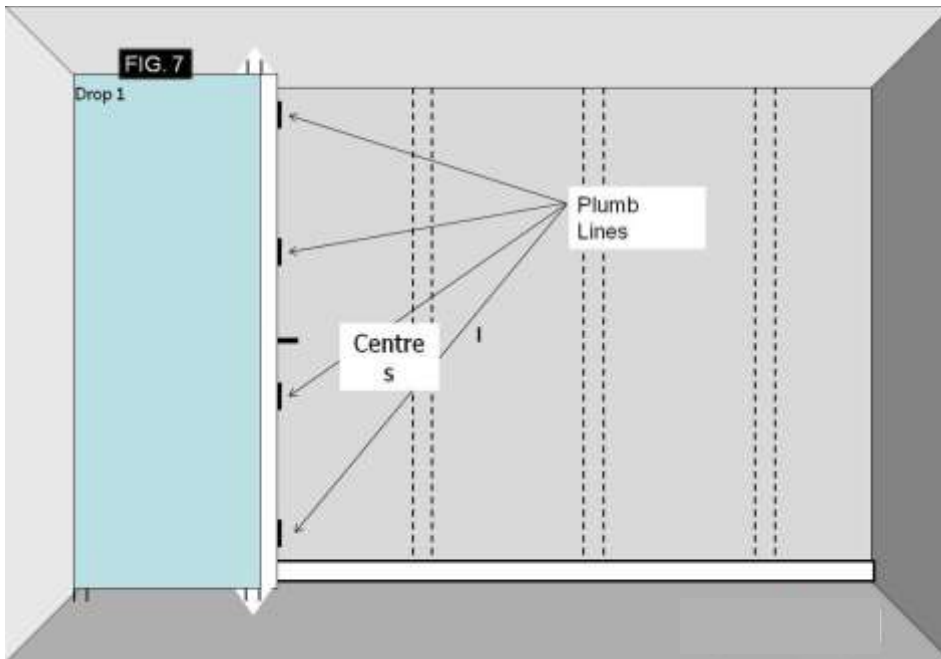
Transfer measurements A, B & C to give you your plumb line and horizontal centre marks.



Marked out wall, showing the plumb lines and horizontal centre mark.



Once you have plotted out the wall, it should resemble this with your vertical plumb lines, the horizontal centre mark. The tram lines are where the overlap and trim joints of the image fall, so you can keep these areas dry from adhesive until your ready to cut your joint.



When trimming off the white border/selvage, you can if required, leave the bleed marks on. These can sometimes help you achieve a match when the designs on the image have few match points, for example a blue sky.