

Two Methods for Surface Preparation

1. Standard DI-NOC™ Installation – Dry Method
2. DI-NOC™ Installation with Wallcovering Paste – Wet Method

Standard DI-NOC™ Installation – Dry Method

Surface Preparation & Sealer/Primer Application:

- It is very important that drywall application surfaces are prepared correctly prior to applying 3M™ DI-NOC™ Architectural Finishes (DI-NOC™).
- Provide a Level 5 drywall finish per Gypsum Association GA-214-10e. The finish needs to be very smooth, as any imperfections or texture in the finish can show through the 3M™ DI-NOC™ film.
- Once the Level 5 drywall skim coat is dry and sanded, clean all debris and dust residue from the walls, ceilings, soffits, and any other application surfaces.
- Apply a coat of a 3M approved sealer/paint primer to the drywall application surface. Use a foam or low-nap (1/4 in.) roller to maintain the Level 5 smooth finish and avoid an orange-peel texture. Refer to [FAQ: Smooth Indoor Wall Applications](#) for a list of 3M approved sealers/paint primers. The use of non-approved 3M sealers and primers is strictly on a user test-and-approve basis.
 - Rust-Oleum® Zinsser® GARDZ® Problem Surface Sealer has been shown to aid in successful installations.

NOTE: Application of the sealer/primer must be very smooth in order to maintain a very smooth wall finish.

- Allow the sealer/primer to dry per manufacturer's specifications.
- Thoroughly clean the surfaces again to remove any accumulated debris and/or dust residue.
- Apply a second coat of a 3M approved sealer/paint primer, again using a foam or low nap (1/4 in.) roller to maintain the Level 5 smooth finish and avoid an orange peel texture.
- Allow the sealer/paint primer to cure per the manufacturer's specifications prior to installing DI-NOC.

3M™ DI-NOC™ Installation - Dry Method:

- Once the sealer/paint primer is fully cured, perform the 3M™ Adhesion Test per the [3M™ DI-NOC™ Installation Guide](#) using 1 in. x 10 in. strips of DI-NOC™ or the roll of "Not Removable/Permanent" film supplied in the 3M™ Adhesion Test Kit to ensure proper adhesion before installation.

NOTE: Refer to [3M Instruction Bulletin 5.37](#), Section 6, for details on the 3M Wall Film Adhesion Test for SMOOTH Walls process.

- Wipe down the surface with a mixture of 70% isopropyl alcohol and 30% water, and allow the surface to dry completely.
- Use adhesion promoter (i.e. 3M™ Primer 94 or 3M™ DI-NOC™ WP2000 Primer) on edges, around objects, or on other areas where adhesion might be compromised.

NOTE: Application of the adhesion promoter must also be very smooth in order to maintain in a very smooth wall finish.

- Apply DI-NOC™ to the application surface, following the [3M™ DI-NOC™ Installation Guide](#) for detailed instructions. The use of a 3M™ DI-NOC™ Architectural Finishes Preferred Installer to apply DI-NOC™ is recommended. A list of 3M Preferred Installers is available online at ["Find an Installer"](#) at [3M.com/AMD](#).



Drywall Preparation & Installation Guidelines Using 3M™ DI-NOC™ Architectural Finishes

DI-NOC™ Installation With Wallcovering Paste – Wet Method

Recommended Products:

Products from ROMAN™ Products, LLC, were tested and shown to aid in successful installations. Testing was performed on all combinations of two (2) ROMAN™ wallcovering primers and three (3) ROMAN™ wallcovering adhesives. Testing showed all primer/adhesive combinations produced an acceptable installation. The primers/adhesives recommended below are those that performed best in testing and are most readily available across the United States. Primers and adhesives from other manufacturers should only be used on a user test-and-approve basis.

Primers:

1. ROMAN™ PRO-977 Ultra Prime® Pigmented Wallcovering Primer (*available at in-store locations) - For use on Level 5 drywall finish (new construction) or on existing painted surfaces (see the “Surface Preparation & Sealer/Primer Application” below).
2. ROMAN™ PRO-999 Rx-35® Sealer / Primer for Porous Surfaces (*available at in-store locations) - For use on Level 5 drywall finish (new construction) without paint.

Adhesives:

1. ROMAN™ PRO-880 Ultra® Clear Strippable Wallcovering Adhesive (*available at in-store locations)
2. ROMAN™ PRO-838 Heavy Duty Clear Adhesive (*special order or online purchase only)
3. ROMAN™ PRO-505 TEKNAgrip® Pre-Pasted Wallcovering Activator (*available at in-store locations)

*See <http://romandecoratingproducts.com/retailers/> for a list of regional retailers.

Recommended tools:

- Standard DI-NOC™ installation tools:
 - Razor knife
 - Seam buster (liner cutter)
 - Plastic wallpaper smoother (6 in. to 8in. in width) with “loop” (from “3M™ Hook & Loop”), felt, or equivalent
 - Putty knife
 - Straight edge
 - Level or laser leveling tool
 - Pencil
 - Tape measure
 - ScotchBlue™ Painters Tape
 - Roller & roller covers
 - Sponge & bucket of clean water
 - Step stool
 - Drop cloths
 - Work table

Mold and Mildew

Before installing any DI-NOC™, the building must be checked for any moisture problems which could effect mold and mildew growth after the film is installed. Do not install DI-NOC™ if the walls appear to have any moisture damage or if the building appears to have moisture infiltration problems. If there is any uncertainty regarding the presence of moisture problems, contact the architect, mechanical contractor, or general contractor for the standard of care and best application or finish for that area and design of a building. 3M does not take responsibility for any quality issues arising from users’ failure to address moisture problems prior to installation.

Drywall Preparation & Installation Guidelines Using 3M™ DI-NOC™ Architectural Finishes

Surface Preparation & Sealer/Primer Application:

- **Site conditions:** For best results, lighting should be in place at the time of wall preparation and wallcovering installation.
- Do not install DI-NOC™ unless a temperature above 55°F (13°C) is maintained.
- All mildew must be removed from the walls and surfaces treated, in order to inhibit further mildew growth. More extensive moisture problems may require additional steps before installation.
- Seal damaged drywall facing paper before priming and skim coating.

NOTE: Crayon, pen, markers, ink, screw and nail heads, heavy pencil marks, and stains need to be sealed with a stain-killer prior to priming.

- Acceptable Level 5 drywall finishes must be clean, smooth, dry, and structurally intact.
- For all new or refinished wall surfaces, a water-based wallcovering primer should be applied to the surfaces before applying DI-NOC™. Apply at the recommended spread rate using a brush, roller, or spraying system. Do not overspread.
- Where there is a color contrast between the wall surface and the DI-NOC™, it is always best to tint the primer to match the color of the DI-NOC™.
- It is critical to test the recommended primer on the surface to ensure compatibility. Select a small, inconspicuous area of the surface for testing and apply the primer as specified. Inspect the test area after 24 hours for any defects before installing DI-NOC™.
- Use PRO-977 Ultra Prime® Pigmented Wallcovering Primer over flat, satin, and eggshell finish water-based paints. The surface must be free from grease and other residues, dry, smooth, and structurally sound. Check surfaces for paint bonding and damaged wallboard or plaster. Repair all unsound surfaces.
- PRO-977 Wallcovering Primer is not recommended for use over paints with a glossy finish. Dulling the surface by lightly sanding or by using a deglosser may allow the PRO-977 to adhere to a glossy finish. This should be done on a user test-and-approve basis only.
- PRO-977 Wallcovering Primer is not recommended for use over oil/alkyd-based paints.
- Use PRO-999 Rx-35® Sealer/Primer for Porous Surfaces or PRO-977 Wallcovering Primer directly over Level 5 drywall finish.

Adhesive Application:

- 3M recommends the use of a quality, pre-mixed, “clear” adhesives designed for vinyl wallcoverings. “See “Recommended Products:” on page 2.”

NOTE: 3M recommends using a primer and adhesive from the same manufacturer.

- Users must test the surface with the recommended adhesive to ensure compatibility. Select a small, inconspicuous area of the surface for testing and apply the adhesive as specified. After 24 hours, inspect the test area for any defects before installing DI-NOC™.
- Do not dilute the adhesive.
- The recommended adhesive can be applied with a roller directly to the wall surface or to the back of the DI-NOC™ film over its existing pressure sensitive adhesive. A thin, uniform layer of adhesive should be applied.

NOTE: The paper liner must be removed prior to applying the wall covering adhesive.

- If the back of the DI-NOC™ is to be pasted, ensure the adhesive completely covers the back of the DI-NOC™, especially at the edges, to minimize the risk of failure.

Drywall Preparation & Installation Guidelines Using 3M™ DI-NOC™ Architectural Finishes

DI-NOC™ Installation – Wet Method:

- Measure the wall height, add 2 in., and cut the DI-NOC™ to that dimension. It will overlap onto the ceiling and the baseboard by approximately 1 in. each.
- Use a seam buster (liner cutter) to cut 4 in.-wide horizontal hinges into the liner at the top and bottom of the sheet.
- Remove the main section of the paper liner on the DI-NOC™ during installation. However, do NOT remove the 4 in.-wide hinge sections until directed to do so. When applying adhesive to the wall, use caution after removing the liner as the exposed adhesive on DI-NOC™ may attract dust, debris, and other material.
- Apply adhesive as described above. Hang the first DI-NOC™ panel to a plumb line and allow it to overlap onto the ceiling, baseboard, and inside corner as required. Use a plastic wallpaper smoother to remove any air bubbles and ensure the entire DI-NOC™ panel has made good contact with the wall. The smoothing tool should be covered with “loop” (from “3M™ Hook & Loop”), felt, or an equivalent material to prevent scratching the face of the DI-NOC™. Use light, even pressure. Do not press hard enough to push the adhesive out from under the DI-NOC™.
- Trim the film with a razor knife and putty knife at the ceiling, baseboards, window, door frames, etc. Once trimmed, remove the remaining liner (i.e. at the hinges) in its entirety and install the film. This will keep the DI-NOC™ from adhering to the adjacent dry surfaces, preventing possible damage to those surfaces.
- Overlap the second DI-NOC™ panel 1 in. over the edge of the first panel, and smooth it out firmly.
- Double-cut the panel edges within the overlapped area. Take care to avoid scoring the wallboard underneath. A seam buster tool is recommended for this purpose.
- Remove excess DI-NOC™ from the wall and close the seam within an hour.
- Immediately clean off any paste that gets on the front of the DI-NOC™ during installation, using warm water and a clean, soft sponge. Change the wash water frequently, and dry the surface with a clean towel. Also wash the ceiling, baseboards, window, door frames, etc. to remove any paste residue.
- Do NOT leave any overlap at the seams. Seams should be double-cut and have a tight fit, free from air and paste bubbles.
- Proceed in the same manner for the remaining DI-NOC™ panels.
- For inside corners, bring the first DI-NOC™ panel around the inside corner by 1/8 in. to 1/4 in. The second panel should then be trimmed directly into the inside corner, overlapping the material from the first panel.
- Wrap the film around outside corners. For non-straight corners, wrap the film around the outside corner as far as possible to achieve a 6 in. lay flat minimum.
 - Use a straight edge to cut off any excess material that will not lay flat. Take care to avoid scoring the wallboard underneath. A seam buster tool is recommended for this purpose.
 - Add a new panel with a 1 in. overlap and double cut as stated above.

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