#### HOME IMPROVEMENT

## Tips to help you paper like a pro

Start by gathering the right tools: a yardstick and pencil for measuring and marking; a string with a weight to make a plumb line; scissors, a wide wall scraper and sharp razor knife for cutting and trimming; a waterbox, sponge and wallcovering smoother for application.

1. From the corner on one wall, mark off 1 inch (2.5 cm) less than the width of the wallcovering. This will allow for the inevitable irregularities found in walls.

Next put a thumbtack into this mark and hang a plumb line from it. Any piece of string that measures just short of the ceilingto-baseboard height, with a weight tied to it (like a heavy key or your scissors) will do. When the plumb line is still, mark the wall with your yardstick and pencil and remove the plumb line.

2. Now measure the length of your first strip on the wall, allowing 2 or 3 inches (5 or 7.5 cm) extra at the top and bottom. Roll the paper down the wall. Mark the bottom cut-off point with a fold, then cut along the bottom fold. Re-roll the strip from the bottom up. The outside end of the roll will go up to the ceiling.

3. Place the water box directly under where you will apply the first strip. Half-fill it with lukewarm water. Place your first rolled strip into the water and let it soak evenly - (follow the soaking time details included with your product). Then pull it slowly, keeping it clear of the wall, up to the ceiling.

4. Now line up the right-hand edge of the paper with the pencil line on the wall. Don't be afraid to handle the wet paper. Sunworthy papers are surprisingly tough and

you can slide them around, even lift them and replace them until you have the edge lined up.

5. Next, smooth the strip with the wallcovering smoother, working down the centre and out to the sides to remove wrinkles and large bubbles. Do not overwork the edges, or you might squeeze out too much paste. Remove any excess glue with a clean wet sponge. Allow the excess paper on the left to extend around the corner.

6. Your next step is trimming at top and bottom. Using a wide wall scraper as a guide, trim off excess paper at ceiling and baseboard with a sharp razor knife. If you intend to paper the wall to the left, leave the overlap. If not, trim it away.

7. Now let's put up the second strip. The first step is to match the pattern against the strip you have just applied. You may have to waste several inches at the top, but there is extra in each roll to allow for this. Now measure this strip like the first one, remembering the extra at top and bottom.

8. Applying the second strip, follow the same steps as before. This time, line up the edges of the strips, matching the pattern as you go. Butt the edges - don't overlap them - and remember not to overwork the seams. Trim excess as before.

9. Now, just keep up the good work until you come to the end of the wall and the next corner. This last strip is sure to be less than the width of a roll. So, measure the distance between your last strip and the corner, then add 1 inch (2.5 cm). The extra will extend

around the corner, taking care of your wall's unevenness.

10. After measuring the length of this strip, mark and cut it lengthwise to the required width. Now apply it in the usual manner. Keep the balance of the strip - you will be applying it on the adjoining wall.

11. Your next step is to measure

and mark on the next wall, the width of the piece you cut from the last strip. So measure, put in your thumbtack and do the plumb line bit again. Now apply this strip of paper, lining up the right-hand edge with the vertical plumb line mark. Allow the left-hand edge to go into the corner and overlap the previous strip.

12. Don't try to cut wallcovering to fit around doors and windows before you put it up. When you come to the obstruction, just paper right over. Then before you trim at ceiling and baseboard, make diagonal cuts into the corners with scissors. Smooth down and trim around frames, using the wall scraper and razor knife.

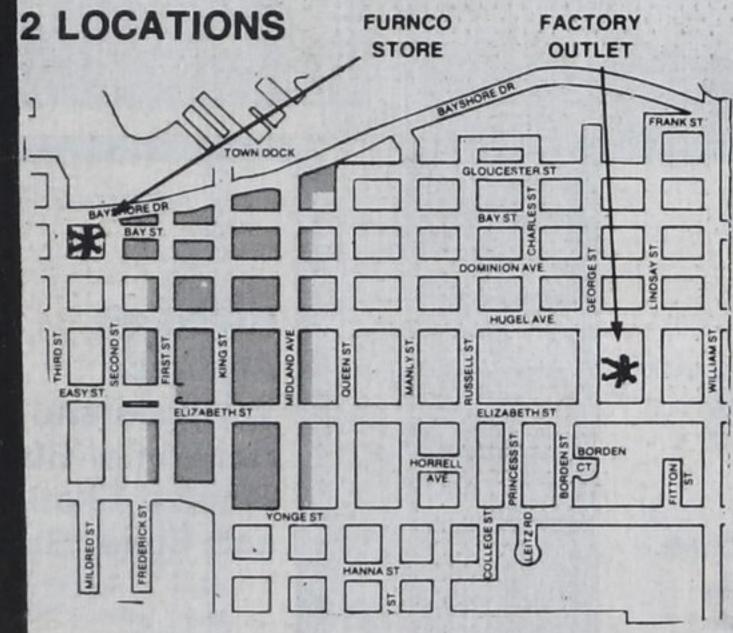


**TEENS PERSONALIZE LOCKERS** 

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even like to pick out their favourite wallpaper or Mac-Tac like the rolls above. With a little imagination teens can turn their lockers into more than a place to store books.

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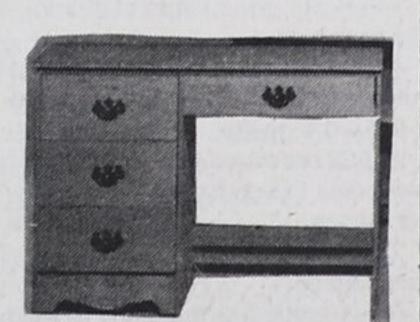
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