

# Wallwik SimpleStrip™

3-step wallpaper removal system

## Wallwik Helpful Hints

### Check Before You Start

Peel back the wallpaper at a corner of a seam. Sponge or spray water on a corner, if needed, to loosen. You can then tell how many layers of paper are involved, the type of paper, (such as solid vinyl, vinyl coated or 100% paper) and whether the wall has been primed by painting. For solid vinyl or foil wallcoverings, pull the paper from the wall, (do not score) then use the Wallwik system to remove the paste.

### Preparing Walls

If you have more than one layer of paper, or if the wall hasn't been primed, refer to Frequently Asked Questions for guidance and test a small section before you do the whole room. Remove everything possible from walls, except covers over electrical outlets or switches. Use small pieces of masking tape to cover openings of electrical outlets. You will be able to remove the wallpaper up to the edge of the cover, and by taking the cover off, you can remove the remaining paper when the wall dries. Turn off circuit breakers or remove fuse before removing any cover plates.

### Scoring

For single layers of wallpaper, score rapidly, but lightly. Use just the normal weight of your arm. Do not feel that you are leaning into the wall. Score vertically and horizontally moving about half an inch (1.5cm) between patterns. Remember, for one layer you are not trying to go through the paper, but are putting small scratches in the thin waterproof surface. If you run your fingers over the scored area, you should feel the very fine scratches. For more than one layer of paper, you must test for the correct pressure.

### Avoid Overlapping

Don't overlap the HydroSheets, but keep them within about half an inch (1.5cm) of each other. By not overlapping, you will prevent a whole line of sheets from coming down simultaneously.

### Doors and Windows

Cut or fold the HydroSheets to fit above doors or windows. SimpleStrip works best horizontally above and below windows and doors. If you need less than one full sheet, just fold the HydroSheet back on itself.

### Reusable

Save the HydroSheets as they can be used again and again. HydroSheets can be dried in the gentle cycle of the dryer or air dried.

### Let Water and Time do the Work

Be sure the HydroSheets are wet when you apply. If the HydroSheets are new and a little stiff, wet the HydroSheets and squeeze them together like a sponge to ensure the water is absorbed.

### Keep the HydroSheets Wet

Ensure that the HydroSheets are kept wet during the soaking process. Spray the top third of the sheets with the SimpleStrip Sprayer. The solution will soak down through the fabric.

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Can I remove more than one layer of wallpaper at a time?

YES. First, check to see the number of layers and the type of wall behind the paper. If you have more than two layers of wallpaper, test a small section for scoring tool pressure. You should score firmly enough to penetrate the last layer, but not into the wall itself. Allow one extra hour of soaking for each extra layer. For example if there are 3 layers allow 30 minutes for the first layer and another 2 hours for the last 2 layers. Use the SimpleStrip Sprayer to keep the sheets wet at all times.

#### Can Wallwik remove excess paste from the walls?

YES. If you have not already done so, you need to purchase the SimpleStrip Skimmer. Pour 2fl oz (60ml) of Power Solution into the SimpleStrip Sprayer and fill with warm water. Spray the walls and allow a couple of minutes for the solution to work. Use the SimpleStrip Skimmer to skim the remaining paste from the surface.

#### Can I remove wallpaper that has been painted?

YES. Use the SimpleStrip Scorer to thoroughly score the wallpaper surface. This is especially important on painted wallpaper as enough solution needs to penetrate the surface to dissolve the paste.

#### Can I remove wallpaper from drywall (plasterboard) that has not been primed (painted)?

YES. BUT ONLY VERY CAREFULLY! This shouldn't happen, but it does. Bare drywall (plasterboard) should always be primed before applying wallpaper. SimpleStrip is one of the few methods that can remove wallpaper in this situation. First, work on only a small area at a time and score very completely, but lightly. Make lots of very light perforations, but make sure you do not penetrate the drywall (plasterboard). You always want to score the surface but NOT ENTIRELY THROUGH the wallpaper sheet. This is especially important when the wall has not been primed because any excess moisture may seep into the drywall itself. Apply the HydroSheets and spray using the SimpleStrip Sprayer every 20 minutes to keep the fabric wet for one hour. Remove the fabric carefully. Use the SimpleStrip Skimmer to skim the wallpaper away from the drywall. If at any point the wallpaper sticks to the drywall paper covering, spray directly on the point of attachment and allow it to dissolve before resuming the peeling action. The drywall paper may become wavy. These waves will disappear as the wall dries. If you don't soak long enough, the drywall paper will come off with the wallpaper. After the wallpaper is removed and the wall has dried, you can repair any problem areas where you might have removed drywall paper.

#### Can I use Wallwik to remove wallpaper from the ceiling?

In most situations Wallwik works just as effectively on the ceiling as walls. The HydroSheets are a little trickier to apply as gravity is working against you. Roll the HydroSheets onto a rolling pin or wide paint roller and roll onto the ceiling. Ensure that you keep the HydroSheets taut. Take extra care to keep the sheets wet otherwise they may fall down.

### Troubleshooting

#### I have followed all the instructions but the wallpaper isn't coming off easily

This could be for one of several reasons:

1. Check to ensure that your score marks are no more than half an inch apart. The closer the score marks, the easier it will be to remove the wallpaper. Spend at least 2-3 minutes scoring each length of wallpaper.
2. Some types of paste are more difficult to remove than others. Try mixing a stronger solution 8-12fl oz per gallon of warm water.
3. The drywall surface was not primed prior to wallpaper application (see FAQs).
4. The sheets are not wet enough. Apply the sheets to the wall when they are almost dripping wet, do not wring them out.
5. The sheets have not been in contact with the wallpaper for long enough. Some types of paste take longer to dissolve than others. Try leaving the sheets up for an hour or longer, but be sure to keep them wet with the SimpleStrip Sprayer.

#### What if the HydroSheets fall down?

This is quite rare, but sometimes happens if your wallpaper is unusually slippery or if the atmosphere in the room is very dry.

Follow these steps to solve the problem:

1. Ensure the wall is clean and grease free.
2. Score the wall thoroughly, the more perforation the better.
3. Wet the wall first with the Wallwik SimpleStrip Sprayer.
4. Ensure that the Wallwik logo is facing outwards.
5. Apply the sheets while they are dripping wet. Do NOT wring out. You can use a cloth at the bottom of the wall to catch any excess water.
6. Ensure that the sheets are placed vertically from top to bottom.
7. Keep the sheets as wet as possible with the SimpleStrip Sprayer. You only need to spray the top third of the sheets unless they are becoming dry. The water will soak down through the fabric.