

# INSTALLATION OF FLEXIBLE WALL COVERING

The installation of vinyl wall coverings.

## 8.1 RECEIPT & STORAGE

On receipt of rolls

- ▶ Check that colours correspond to those ordered, that quantities are correct and that there is no damage.
- ▶ In particular, check that rolls are from one batch, if that was requested on the order.

**NOTE** The wall covering features a subtle marbelised decoration.

- ▶ On arrival at site, the rolls should be safely secured in an upright position and stored, together with the adhesive, at a minimum temperature of 18°C for at least 24 hours before laying.
- ▶ Inflammable adhesives require special storage conditions. Contact the adhesive manufacturer or see current literature for details.
- ▶ To achieve best results, site conditions should be as described in BS 8203. A working temperature of between 18°C and 27°C is required for at least 24 hours prior to, and during, the laying period and for 24 hours afterwards. Conditioning areas and laying areas should be of similar temperature, to prevent thermally induced dimensional changes.

## 8.2 PREPARATION OF WORK AREA

### FIRE RATING

The substrate should be either bare plaster or plasterboard composition in order to achieve a Class 'O' fire rating\*.

- ▶ The wall surface must be smooth, sound, clean and dry.
- ▶ All paint, oil, grease, dust and any other contaminants liable to impair adhesion must be removed, prior to application of the wall-cladding.
- ▶ Plaster and plasterboard are ideal substrates.

\* The Class 'O' fire rating as defined in the UK Building Regulations for vinyl to walls and ceilings.

### 8.3 INSTALLATION

- ▶ Prime the areas of plastered wall with a primer, as recommended by the adhesive manufacturer, and allow to dry completely.
- ▶ Mark the first vertical line on the wall using a plumb line. Use only pencil for marking the wall and vinyl.
- ▶ Cut the vinyl sheet to size, allowing a small amount for cutting in.
- ▶ Apply a recommended contact adhesive 150mm wide at the top edge of the wall, adjacent to the ceiling and corresponding to all pressure points, such as external and internal angles and coved radius.
- ▶ Prior to placing the vinyl into position, and to give extra support, it will be necessary to apply a recommended contact adhesive to the back of the vinyl, approximately 150mm deep at the top edge, and corresponding to the pressure points, such as external and internal angles and coved radius. Allow to become touch dry before applying the vinyl.
- ▶ Roll up the vinyl with the face innermost, and with the decoration running either vertically or horizontally, dependent on the size of roll, wall and application preference.
- ▶ Spread a further coat of recommended adhesive as directed by the adhesive manufacturer, to the prepared wall surface.
- ▶ When ready, and working to the vertical line on the wall, apply the vinyl to the line, ensuring there are no ripples or run-outs.
- ▶ Roll the entire area using a flooring grade hand roller, from the centre outwards, to exclude air. A second rolling will be necessary.

### 8.4 SUGGESTED INSTALLATION METHOD

#### 8.4.1 External angles

To enable the wall covering to be formed around external corners, it will be necessary to fit and adhere 'Polyflor Ejecta EFA75' corner cap profile to all external corners.

- ▶ Fit and adhere the EFA75 corner cap profile to all external corners. Use a recommended contact adhesive to secure the EFA75, and press firmly.
- ▶ When all the corner cap profile is fixed, apply contact adhesive to the surface and to 150mm either side of the corner edge. Allow to become touch dry before applying the vinyl sheet.
- ▶ Apply contact adhesive to the corresponding area on the back of the vinyl and allow to go touch dry before installing.

#### 8.4.2 Internal angles

To enable the wall covering to be formed around internal corners, it will be necessary to fit and adhere 'Polyflor Ejecta' cove former to all internal corners.

- ▶ Fit and adhere the cove former to internal corners and at the junction of the ceiling and top of the wall. Use a recommended contact adhesive, and press firmly. First, fit the mitres in the corners, and at the junction of the ceiling and top of the wall. For ease of use, short lengths of approximately 300mm are recommended.
- ▶ When all corners are completed, fit and adhere the longer straight lengths, using the same method. When all the cove former is fixed, apply contact adhesive to the face of the cove former and 150mm either side of the corner edge. Allow to become touch dry before applying the wall covering.
- ▶ Apply contact adhesive to the corresponding area on the back of the sheet and allow to go touch dry before installing.
- ▶ All joints should be heat welded on completion, allowing at least 24 hours after fitting for sufficient moisture to dry out of the adhesive. Finally, trim welds when cold to prevent sunken welds.

**KEY POINT**  
Do not attempt to take large pieces of wall covering around corners. The walls may not be vertical or square, and can cause a runoff or possible rucking of the vinyl at the next seam. In these instances, work to 150mm around the corner.

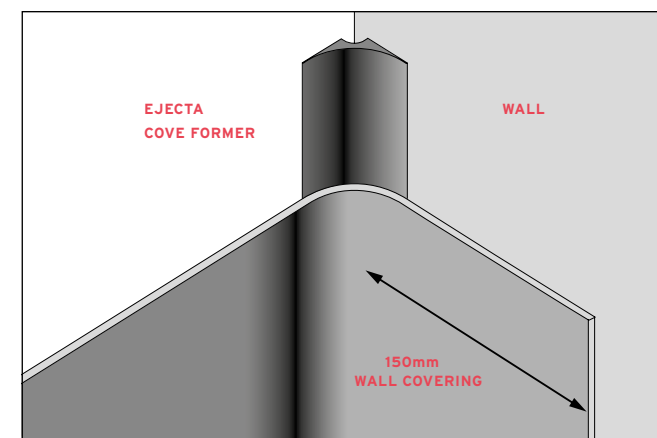


Figure 8.1 Ejecta cover former

#### 8.4.3 Overlap method

In addition to the traditional method of abutting the wall covering to vinyl flooring we are now able to recommend the overlap method of installation for Polyflor wall cladding in conjunction with 2mm barefoot and shod Polysafe floor coverings. This method of installation ensures a watertight finish from floor to ceiling in areas where levels of hygiene may be critical.

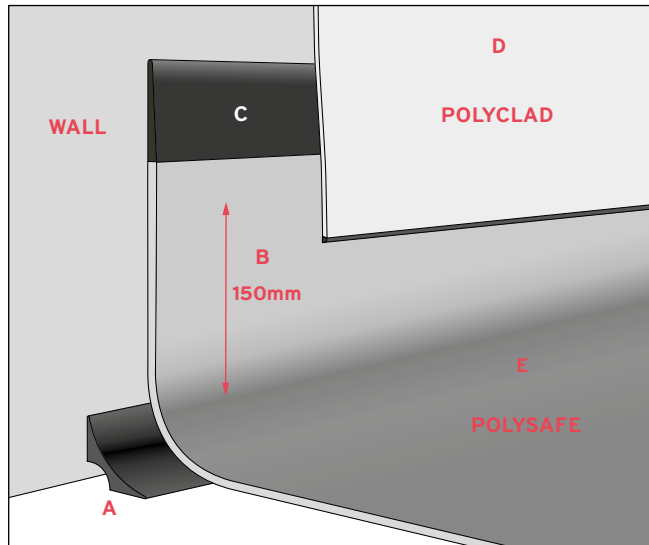


Figure 8.2 Overlap installation method

- ▶ Using a Cove Former (A), cove the Polysafe flooring (B) 150mm up the wall.
- ▶ Using a Diminishing Strip (C), abut the top of the floor covering.
- ▶ Stick the diminishing strip to the wall with a contact adhesive.
- ▶ The wall covering is adhered to the diminishing strip with a contact adhesive and over the floor covering to the required height.
- ▶ A minimum overlap of 50mm is recommended.
- ▶ Double sticking the product ensures a strong bond. The bottom edge is sealed with a heavy duty silicone sealant (E).

If further information is required, please contact the **Polyflor Customer Technical Services Department (CTSD)** on +44 (0) 161 767 1912.

