

# Beauty of linen adds luxurious flair to walls

COURIER-JOURNAL  
14A Wed., Mar. 31, 1976

If you are looking for a wall covering with a new but truly luxurious flair that can be applied with ease, a European tradition may provide the answer.

For centuries, Belgian linens, combining the exclusive look of skillfully crafted fabrics with the modern simplicity of natural fibers, have been in special demand as wall coverings.

The fine good looks of natural flax weaves, or printed linens, give them the versatility to be equally attractive in the bedroom, kitchen or living room complementing a modern Mediterranean or Colonial decor.

Beyond the beauty of linen covered walls, the Belgian Linen Association points out added advantages: decorating walls of remodeled rooms which are imperfect, deadening sound from outside or inside or as a color accent to enlarge or decrease an area.

Belgian linens are available with several types of backing which allow a paper hanger to apply them with glue, but the uncoated Belgian linen 48" wide may be applied directly to the walls without backing by quick installation with staples. Not only does it give a smooth fine wall but has the advantage of undamaged removal at any time.

To begin, tools necessary include a hand or automatic staple gun (which may be rented from any Equipment Supply Center); cardboard or wood strips 1" wide with two thicknesses of 1/4 and 1/16 inch; hammer and small nails; large sharp scissors capable of cutting linen; sharp fabric knife; ladder; folding ruler, plumb rule with chalk line or level and pliers to cut off nail heads.

#### Measuring for installation

1. Hold fabric inside out with all but one inch at left of starting point.

If not starting in corner, use plumb rule to place cardboard vertically on fabric.

Otherwise push up to corner. Place staples 2" apart top to bottom on cardboard, or wood strip.

2. Pull fabric taut from left to right for location of next cardboard at left edge of fabric.

Staple thick cardboard to wall one inch in from left side of pattern edge, underneath, on the fabric.

Stretch fabric across this second cardboard and staple it firmly top to bottom.

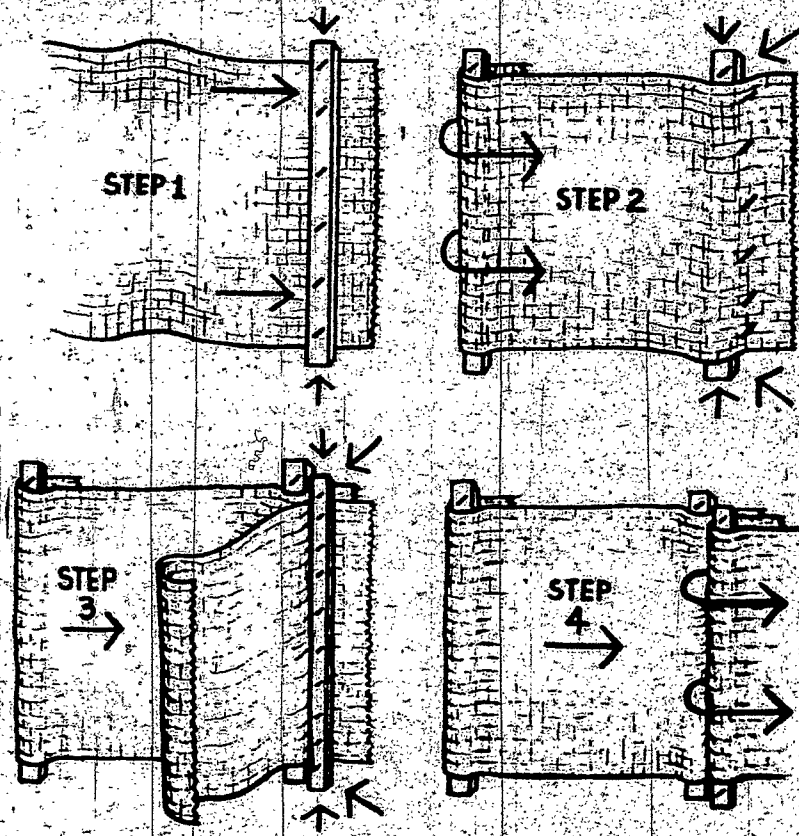
3. Place next width of fabric on first piece, matching pattern at left edge.

Place three staples at top. Stretch to bottom and fasten with staples, taking care to match pattern exactly.

Push thin cardboard strip up against strip already installed. Match pattern by stretching fabric as strip is stapled down.

4. Continue this method for length of walls. To finish, stretch fabric full width, trim two inches wider than space to be covered. Fold fabric over heavy cardboard.

Step back to tighten and tack down with small nails. Hammer halfway in.



Cut off heads with pliers.

To give your linen wall covering that professional finish around doors, windows and light switches, the following steps should be observed:

- Remove molding and plate. If this cannot be done, fold fabric under and cover staples with glued on braid or gimp. Staple heavy cardboard around opening.
- Draw fabric taut. Staple at corners and ceiling to place. Fabric lengths should be planned to bring widths to edge of doorway

with piece evenly across top, or so that the two lengths meet center of opening.

- Join fabric lengths as before.
- Staple all around opening and cut with sharp knife evenly at edge, removing fabric from opening.
- Cover staples with molding or braid.

Your wall will now reflect the elegant style of some of Europe's most prestigious salons, as well as having given the American "do-it-yourself" satisfaction!

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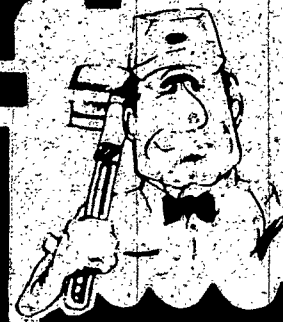
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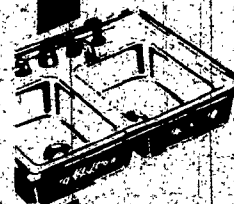
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