

# THIBAUT

## Instructions for hanging Thibaut Sisal Grasscloth

**STOP: DO NOT CUT OR INSTALL UNTIL YOU HAVE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS**

Sisal grasscloth is a unique and often stunning decorative wallcovering. It is made by weaving very fine hair-like reeds on a warp of string or decorative yarn. The reeds are cultivated from the stalks of the Agave plant and are a renewable product. Imagine the reeds as fine blades of grass with a thin end and a thicker end, the distinctiveness of these reeds adds to the uniqueness of the subtle color saturations from side to side one sees when installing this product. Sisals must be hung with special techniques to optimize the natural beauty and minimize the differences of each sheet. Bolts should be laid out together on a flat surface to minimize the shading effect, the bolts are labeled with shade numbers to assist in this process. There are times when an installer may wish to overlap and double cut the seams, or table trim the edges in order to eliminate some of the areas along the edges where the coloring is less saturated. What follows are concepts we have developed by doing our own testing and gathering information from paperhangers with great skills who have learned to turn the irregularities of grasscloth into rooms blooming with texture and color. For the best results, we recommend a professional wallcovering installer should hang these wallcoverings.

### **BEFORE YOU CUT OR HANG, PLEASE BE SURE YOU HAVE:**

1. The correct wallcovering, dye lots match and the correct amount of wallcovering to finish the job.

2. Inspect the wallcovering carefully to ensure it is free of defects:

If no defect is evident before installation, the material should be inspected after three strips are installed. If any defect is evident at this time (or at any point in the installation) no additional material should be hung until Thibaut is notified. **NO CLAIMS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR MORE THAN THREE STRIPS ON THE WALL. All claims must be made within 30 days of invoice date. NO LABOR CLAIMS WILL BE ALLOWED AT ANY TIME.** As a gesture of goodwill if a quality flaw is of concern Thibaut will reimburse \$200.00 to any professional installer that adheres to the conditions noted above.

**If you have any questions, please stop and contact Thibaut before proceeding.**

### **WALL PREPARATION:**

1. The walls to be covered must be properly prepared to insure that the wallpaper will adhere to the wall. Even the strongest adhesive can only work when the wall surface is clean and properly prepared.

2. We recommend the use of a Universal Pre-Wallcovering Primer on all surfaces prior to the installation of this wallcovering. The use of a pre-wallcovering primer assures a properly prepared surface, increases adhesion and makes hanging easier.

3. Allow the primer to dry thoroughly before hanging.

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## **ADHESIVE:**

- 1.** We recommend a clear pre-mixed vinyl adhesive. Do not dilute the adhesive with water.
- 2.** Apply the paste to the back of the paper, which will become flexible and easier to hang. Pasted rolls should be booked for 2 to 5 minutes, to allow the paper to absorb moisture and relax. Do not over soak, as it may cause the grasscloth to separate from the paper backing.

## **INSTALLATION:**

- 1.** First the rolls and then the strips must be sorted by color intensity, from dark to light and hang them in the sequence the sorting has created. In some cases the bolts may come with a sequence number printed on the label for sorting assistance.
- 2.** Grasscloth always panels to some extent and this is not a defect but a phenomenon of nature. Following these directions will minimize this effect.
- 3.** Always start and end in a corner. This way the dark and light strips joining in the corner will be far less noticeable. Do not wrap a corner if the next strip is noticeably different, just trim and start again.
- 4.** With random designs reverse hang the strips; this will reduce most of the paneling from sudden shade shifts to pleasant undulations of color.
- 5.** Strips with light edges must be trimmed off or rejected. Some varieties of grass are difficult to dye evenly all the way to the edge and leave a light vertical band an inch or two from the edge that is noticeably lighter. You can overlap and double cut these bands off but the easiest way is to trim them off at your work table. If you run short, call us and we will make up the quantity you had to trim off.
- 6.** The decorative inks/dyes are sensitive to water. Do not allow paste or water to stain the front of the wallcovering. Both paste and water will change the color of the natural weave on the face of the paper.
- 7.** Do not handle with wet hands. If you get dye on your hands, wash them with liquid dishwashing detergent and water. Dry your hands completely before touching the paper.
- 8.** Smooth with a soft brush, a dry soft sponge or your hands. Do not use plastic or metal blades. Do not use a seam roller.
- 9.** To clean grasscloth use a vacuum with a soft bristle brush. Water should not be applied at any time for cleaning.
- 10.** Grasscloth use in a bathroom: if you have a bathroom with a shower or tub that doesn't remove humidity well, or a wall close to a toilet in a half bath, the installation of grasscloth should be avoided.

## **RETURNS:**

Only unopened rolls are returnable for credit within 30 days of invoice and are subject to the prevailing restocking charge.