

**PRACTICAL PAPER
HANGING: A HANDBOOK
ON DECORATION IN PAPER
AND OTHER MATERIALS**

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Practical Paper Hanging: A Handbook on Decoration in Paper and Other Materials by Arthur Seymour Jennings

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ARTHUR SEYMOUR JENNINGS

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PRACTICAL
PAPER - HANGING

A HANDBOOK ON

DECORATION IN PAPER AND OTHER MATERIALS

WITH

PRACTICAL INSTRUCTIONS ON HANGING THEM

BY

ARTHUR SEYMOUR JENNINGS

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"SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN" AND OF THE "BUILDER AND DECORATOR"

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PREFACE.

THERE is to be found in every trade the old workman who will deplore departed customs and unused methods with the remark: "The trade isn't what it used to be!" The remark is particularly true of the wall-paper trade, which is very far from what it formerly was. During the past ten or fifteen years productions in wall-papers have changed considerably. Not only has there been a large increase in the variety of wall-paper, but many different materials beside paper have come into more or less general use for wall decorations. Hanging burlap, buckram, silk, tapestry, Lincrusta, and a variety of other special hangings is now all part of the business of the paper-hanger.

To represent from a practical point of view the paper-hanging business as it exists to-day is the aim of this manual, and the hope that it may prove of some service to the practical man is the sincere wish of the author.

Thanks are due to several friends who have kindly given the benefit of their experience, among them V. B. Grinnell, the veteran writer on practical topics connected with painting and papering.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

THE TOOLS EMPLOYED.

	PAGE
PREFACE,	3
Trimming Tools,	8
The Ridgely Trimmer,	10
Smoothing Brushes,	12
Paper-Hangers' Rollers,	12
Paste Brushes,	16
Size-Kettle,	16
Plumb-Bob,	17
Miller's Trestle,	18
Chapman's Folding Trestle,	19
Allen's Patent Folding Table,	20
Marks' Trimming Gauge,	20
The Waukegan Trimmer,	21

CHAPTER II.

THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF WALL HANGINGS.

Blanks,	23
"Bronzes," "Gilt," "Tints," "Micae," "Satins,"	24
"Flock" or "Velvets," "Felts,"	26
Granites, Tapestry Papers,	27
Lincrusta-Walton, Leather Hangings,	28
Venetian Leather, Anaglypta, "Lignomur,"	29
Cameo Reliefs,	32

CHAPTER III.

HANGING PAPER ON SIDE WALLS.

Measuring Quantity of Paper Required,	86
Table for Ascertaining the number of Pieces of Paper required for the sides of the room,	89
Trimming Wall-Paper,	39
Paper-Hangers' Paste,	42
Sizing Walls,	44
Hanging the Paper,	46
Papering old Walls,	51
Removing old Paper,	53
Economy of Using Laborers in Conjunction with Skilled Workmen,	54
Papering over Whitewashed Walls,	54
Rough and Broken Walls,	54
Hanging Paper on Damp Walls,	58

	PAGE
Papering on Boards,	59
Papering over Oil Paint,	60
Repapering over Varnished Paper,	60
Varnishing Wall-Paper,	60
To Clean Wall-Paper,	61
Cleaning the Hands,	68

CHAPTER IV.

DADOES, FRIEZES, AND BORDERS.

Dadoes,	64
Borders and Friezes,	68

CHAPTER V.

CEILING DECORATIONS IN WALL-PAPER.

Canopy Ceilings,	78
Defective Ceilings,	78

CHAPTER VI.

HANGING MISCELLANEOUS WALL DECORATIONS, SUCH AS BURLAP, BUCKRAM,
LINCRUSTA, ANAGLYPTA, LIGNOMUR, ETC.

Burlap or Buckram Hangings,	81
Lincrusta-Walton,	82
Directions for Obtaining Decorative Effects,	83
Anaglypta,	84
Instructions for Hanging Anaglypta,	84
Decorating Anaglypta,	85
Ceiling Decorations in Anaglypta,	86
Hanging Lignomur,	87
Flax Hangings,	91
Silk Hangings,	92

CHAPTER VII.

DRAPEERY, SILK, TAPESTRY, CRETONNE, TUFTED TAPESTRY, ETC.

Pleated Work,	96
Tufted Work,	97
Lace Decorations,	97
Shirred or Gauged Work,	98

CHAPTER VIII.

WALL-PAPER FROM THE DEALER'S STANDPOINT.

Prices,	100
Wall-Paper as a Selling Article,	101
Tendency to Amalgamate the Business of Paper-hanging and Paint- ing,	102
How to Show Wall-Paper,	108
Numbering Patterns,	107

CHAPTER IX.

Description of Specialties,	108-116
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PAPER-HANGING.

CHAPTER I.

THE TOOLS EMPLOYED.

THE mission of the paper-hanger is a laudable one; his duties are to beautify our homes and to render them cleaner, for cleanliness is of paramount importance in all operations of paper-hanging. Paper may be stuck on dirty walls; but a good job of paper-hanging and dirty walls are in every sense diametrically opposed. Cleanliness and health, beauty of surroundings and refinement of character! Truly the paper-hanger and decorator occupies no unimportant position in the economies of life.

In the following pages an effort is made to portray the trade of paper-hanging in all its branches as it is to-day. But little attempt is made to deal with those vague qualities, so inseparably connected with all mural decoration, of "taste" and "fitness." They have not been neglected because they are unimportant. Taste in the selection of wall-hangings exactly suitable for the purpose cannot be taught within the narrow confines of a work like this; it depends rather upon no inconsiderable natural ability, and upon exhaustive study and practice. To accurately select wall-hangings requires the possession of much ability, much valuable knowledge, and much practical experience. For these reasons the practical rather than the æsthetic has received the greatest attention in this work.

For a ready understanding of the subject it is convenient to