

BASIC TECHNIQUES

Paper Stripping Pointers

Before stripping vinyl's, washables and painted wall coverings, use a perforator to pierce the surface so the steam can get through to the adhesive. The more you soften the wallpaper, the easier it is to scrape off so move the concentrator plate slowly enough for the steam to do its work.

Tackle the surface a few square metres at a time. If the wall covering doesn't scrape off easily, repeat the steam treatment until it does.

Avoid scraping too hard, even on stubborn patches. You could easily damage the wall. Don't bother to scrape off tiny flecks of wall covering. Wash or sand them off instead.

This is normal if the supply hose contains re-condensed steam from previous use.

If the papers surface is vinyl or has been painted, the steam will not be able to penetrate the paper.

Using a PERFORATOR... Ensure that both the spiked and rear rollers are in contact with the surface of the paper.

Run the rollers back and forth over the wall covering, applying just enough pressure to pierce the surface – too much pressure will damage the wall. You can now proceed with the stripping.

Holding the concentrator plate flat against the wall, move across the surface slowly enough to let the steam do its work. Once soaked enough, simply use a scraper to remove the paper.

If the steam pressure drops, make sure your hands are dry then turn the stripper OFF and isolate it from the power supply.

Allow to cool. Then refill the water tank – a tankful normally lasts 60-75 minutes.

When refilling, wear thick gloves and open the filler cap's vent to release any steam pressure before removing it completely.

EQUIPMENT CARE

Never use the equipment except for its intended purpose. If it will not do what you want with reasonable ease, assume you have the wrong tool for the job. Contact your local HSS Hire for advice.

Keep the equipment clean. You will find this less of a chore if you clean it regularly, rather than wait until the end of the hire period.

Cleaning is easiest when the unit has cooled but the scraps of paper on the unit are still wet. Simply wipe

over with a damp cloth.

When not in use, store the equipment somewhere clean, dry and safe from thieves.

FINISHING OFF

If using a PERFORATOR... Thoroughly wash the rollers, using a stiff brush to remove any paper trapped on the spikes.

As for the steam stripper... Turn it OFF and leave it to cool. Wipe over the unit and concentrator plate while they are still warm then, once everything is completely cold, empty out the water tank.

Having switched OFF and unplugged the unit, neatly coil the flex ready for return.



... have you been trained

The law requires that personnel using this type of equipment must be competent and qualified to do so. Training is available at HSS Training Solutions
0845 766 7799

...any comments?

If you have any suggestions to enable us to improve the information within this guide please e-mail your comments or write to the Safety Guide Manager at the address below
e-mail: safety@hss.com

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HSS Hire



Electric Wallpaper Stripper & Perforator

Electric steam strippers are an effective way to remove all types of decorative wallcoverings, vinyl, woodchip etc



Code 61132/61120

GENERAL SAFETY

For advice on the safety and suitability of this equipment contact your local HSS Hire.

There is a serious risk of personal injury if you do not follow all instructions laid down in this guide.

This equipment should be used by an able bodied, competent adult who has read and understood these instructions. Anyone with either a temporary or permanent disability, should seek expert advice before using it.

Keep children, animals and bystanders away from the work area.

  Never use this equipment if you are ill, feeling tired, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

 Safety Goggles MUST be worn by everyone in the work area.

  Wear practical, protective clothing, gloves and footwear. Avoid loose garments and jewellery that could get in the way.

Always switch OFF and unplug the equipment when not in use, leaving it to cool before handling it. Never leave it switched ON and unattended.

Check the condition of the equipment before use. If it shows signs of damage or excessive wear, return it to your local HSS Hire.

Don't leave the perforator on the floor, someone may step or kneel on it and be seriously injured.

To avoid possible heat damage NEVER place the wall paper stripper directly on carpet or other heat sensitive surfaces or on any surface which may be effected/damaged by water/steam.

Keep the work area tidy. Stripped paper can be slippery and may also present a serious fire hazard.

Ensure the work area is well lit and ventilated and free from anything that could ignite stripped wallpaper.

Watch your footing. Take special care if working other than on firm, level ground. Above ground-level, ALWAYS work from a stable, purpose-made work platform such as a step-up or trestle.

Caution

Steam-stripper concentrator plates may collect scalding hot water.

So, think twice before working with the plate held above shoulder height.

NEVER use the stripper on ceilings.

Information on COSHH regulations is available from your local HSS Hire.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

Most HSS wallpaper strippers plug into a standard 13amp power socket. However, 110V strippers (with a round yellow plug) must be provided with a suitable 110V generated supply, or powered from the mains via a suitable 110V transformer (minimum 3kVA tool rating).

If the equipment fails, or if its flex or plug gets damaged, return it. Never try to repair it yourself.

Keep flexes out of harm's way, and clear of the work area.

Extension leads should be fully unwound and loosely coiled, away from the equipment. Never run them through water, over sharp edges or where they could trip someone. Don't let them disappear under a pile of stripped paper.

Using electrical equipment in very damp or wet conditions can be dangerous.

 To reduce the risk of electric shock, use a suitable RCD (Residual Current-Operated Device) available from your local HSS Hire, or power the equipment from a mains circuit with a built-in RCD.

Never carry or pull the equipment by its flex or hose.

Ensure the wallpaper stripper and power socket are switched OFF before plugging into the power supply.

GETTING STARTED

Before setting the equipment up ready to start the work, consider these points...

Remove all furniture, pictures, lamp shades etc., (if furniture must remain, move it into the centre of the room and cover with a dust sheet).

Roll up and remove all carpet and underlay from the room.

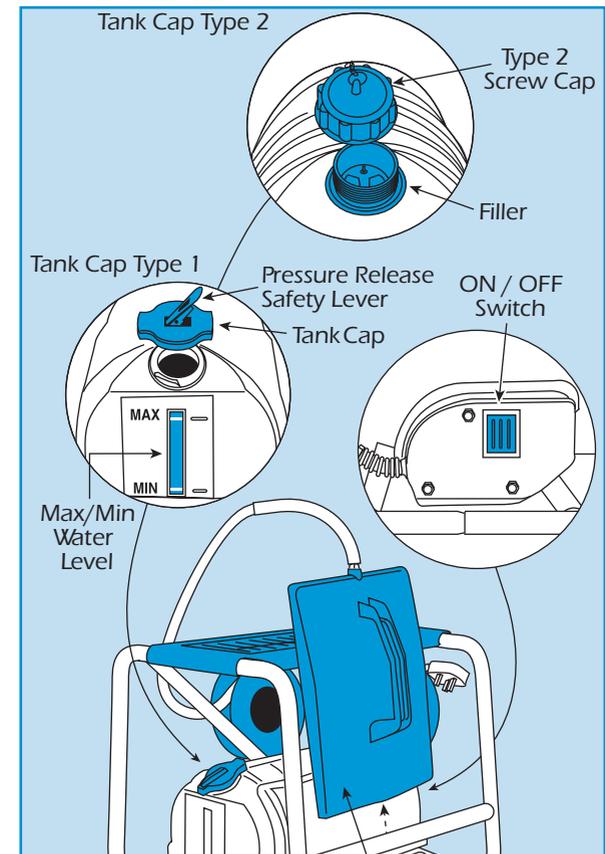
Open the window to allow good ventilation and an exit for the steam.

Cover the floor boards with a plastic sheet.

Tape plastic bags over any light switch or power point. If possible isolate the power points from the power supply, plug the equipment into a point in another room.

Place the stripper on a firm level surface, then lift the concentrator plate from its retaining lugs and uncoil the steam supply hose and the power supply cable.

The tank cap is fitted with a pressure release safety lever (Cap type 1) which must be raised before you can remove the cap, this safeguards the user from possible scald injury. (Cap Type 2) is an automatic pressure cap that can only be removed when the water has cooled and the pressure has dropped.



NEVER REMOVE THE CAP UNLESS THE MACHINE HAS COOLED.

If the cap is damaged or fits badly STOP and contact your local HSS Hire for advice.

To remove the cap, (Cap Type 1) raise the safety lever then turn the cap anti clockwise (slight downward pressure may help) about 90 degrees until it can be lifted away. (Cap Type 2) unscrew only when the water has cooled sufficiently.

Fill the water tank to the MAX mark (see diagram) then refit the tank cap, making sure it is secure and that the safety lever is lowered.

Place the concentrator plate in a bucket. Plug the unit into its power supply (a small neon lamp will illuminate to confirm the power supply is live) and switch the ON/OFF switch to ON.

Allow the water to heat up for about fifteen minutes, DO NOT leave the unit unattended. When a steady flow of steam emerges from the plate, the stripper is ready for use.

Prior to the flow of steam there may be an emission of hot water.