

Paper Backed Wallcovering versus Paint A Cost Comparison

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This cost comparison is based the following criteria.

- The job is 650m² on new primed plasterboard construction.
- The paint is magnolia and the wallcovering is Newmarket 130cm wide paper backed vinyl.
- All labour costs and paint prices are from a 2009 Decorating Price Guide.

		PAINT (MIST PLUS 2 COATS)		PAPER BACKED WALLCOVERING			
YEAR 1	Materials Standard coloured emulsion = £7.42 per litre. One litre covers 12m ² so the cost per m ² averages at £0.62 x 3 coats = £1.86.	£1209.00		Materials Newmarket paper backed wallcovering £0.75 per m ² Adhesive (Dixon Turner Light) £0.23 per m ²	£637		
	Labour £2.10 per m ² for the first coat and £1.50 per m ² for each subsequent coat giving a total of £5.10 per m ² .	£3315		Labour £4.26 per m ² .	£2769.00		
	Total Cost Year 1	£4524		Total Cost Year 1	£3406		Saving Year 1 £1118 (25%)
YEAR 4	PAINT (ONE COAT)			PAPER BACKED WALLCOVERING			
	Materials £0.62 per m ² x 1 coat.	£403.00		Materials	£0.00		
	Labour At £2.10 per m ² (not including preparation)	£1365		Labour	£0.00		
Total Cost Up to Year 4	£6292		Total Cost Up to Year 4	£3406		Saving Year 4 £2886 (46%)	

* The life expectancy of paper-backed wallcovering in a normal office environment is in excess of four years and that of paint is around two years. The assumption is that the walls will be repainted with one coat of the same colour emulsion after two years.

Fabric Backed Wallcovering versus Paint A Cost Comparison



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This cost comparison is based the following criteria.

- The job is 650m² on new primed plasterboard construction.
- The paint is magnolia and the wallcovering is Apex Crystals 130cm wide fabric backed vinyl with a lifespan *in excess of six years*
- All labour costs and paint prices are from a 2009 Decorating Price Guide.

		PAINT (MIST PLUS 2 COATS)		FABRIC BACKED WALLCOVERING	
YEAR 1	Materials Standard coloured emulsion = £7.42 per litre. One litre covers 12m ² so the cost per m ² averages at £0.62 x 3 coats = £1.86.		£1209	Materials Naseby fabric backed wallcovering £3.21 per m ² Adhesive £0.36 per m ²	£2457
	Labour £2.10 per m ² for the first coat and £1.50 per m ² for each subsequent coat giving a total of £5.10 per m ² .		£3315	Labour £3.44 per m ² .	£2769
	Total Cost Year 1		£4524	Total Cost Year 1	£5226
YEAR 6	PAINT (TWO FURTHER COATS OVER SIX YEARS)			FABRIC BACKED WALLCOVERING	
	Materials £0.62 per m ² x 2 further coats (years 2 & 4)		£806	Materials	£0.00
	Labour At £2.10 per m ² (not including preparation) X 2 (years 2 & 4)		£2730	Labour	£0.00
Total Cost Up to Year 6		£8060	Total Cost Up to Year 6	£5226	Saving to Year 6 £2834 (35%)

Any Wallcovering under £8.14 per m² will be more cost effective than paint