

# Fun with Fabric

## Removable Wall Coverings

Here's a job that is best tackled while wearing a pair of TOMS red sparkle shoes. Do you know about TOMS shoes? This is a company that set out to make a difference. While traveling in Argentina in 2006, American Blake Mycoskie realized that some of the children there had no shoes to protect their feet. Wanting to help, he created TOMS Shoes ([www.toms.com](http://www.toms.com)), a company that would match every pair of shoes purchased with a pair of new shoes given to a child in need. One for One. Blake returned to Argentina with a group of family, friends, and staff later that year with 10,000 pairs of shoes made possible by TOMS customers and their One for One Movement, and by 2010, TOMS had given away one million pairs of shoes!



- 1 Clean** the wall in preparation or use drywall that has been primed.
- 2 Measure** from the top of the wall to the bottom.
- 3 Cut** away the selvage edge of your fabric, then cut a panel of fabric, adding an extra 4" to your wall measurement (you'll leave 2" extra on both the top and the bottom of each panel when positioning it on the wall and then trim it off later). If you have to match the pattern in your fabric from panel to panel, figure that out now and be sure to adjust the measurement of the length of your fabric before you cut your second piece.
- 4 Mark** the width of the fabric panel on the wall from top to bottom using a level, starting at a corner of the room and measuring out from the corner.
- 5 Roll** liquid starch or wallpaper paste (I used Zinsser Sure Grip All-purpose Adhesive and Wall Size, [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)) onto the wall with a paint roller or large brush, starting in the upper corner.
- 6 Secure** the top of one panel of fabric near the ceiling using push pins, leaving 2" extra at the top to be cut off later.
- 7 Smooth** the fabric with the putty/taping knife to remove air bubbles and wrinkles, working top to bottom.
- 8 Repeat** the process, aligning a second panel with the first and overlapping about 1/2". If you have to align the repeat pattern in the fabric horizontally, you can overlap the panels more or carefully cut the fabric.
- 9 Let dry** for 24 hours. If you have some air bubbles, try spraying heavy spray starch on the spot and work the bubble out with your fingertips.
- 10 Remove** the push pins.
- 11 Trim** off the extra fabric at the top and bottom of the wall with a utility knife, using the putty/taping knife as your edge.

**Tip:** When you're in the mood for a different look, simply peel the fabric away. You'll be able to launder the fabric and use it for another project.

“Give a girl the right shoes and she can conquer the world.”

– Marilyn Monroe

