# Not intended to be a complete Operator Manual. Available upon request.

# How to Use A Wallpaper Steamer

# **Operating Information**

### SUPPLIES NEEDED

- Safety Glasses
- Gloves
- Long Pants and Long Sleeve Shirt
- Metal Pail
- Funnel
- Scraper 3" to 6"
- Screwdriver
- Drop Cloth
- Wall perforator
- Sponge

### PREPARATION NECESSARY TO OPERATE STEAMER

- Use a funnel to fill the steamer with clean water (hot water will heat up faster than cold). Remove weight cap (be sure this cap has a rubber washer on it and fits loosely in the filler tube) fill tank until the water in the water gauge glass is even with the word "FULL" on the water level decal. This is about 1/2" from the top of the glass. Do not overfill.
- While the water is heating, place the steam pan in a metal bucket, with the end down that does not have the hose attached to it, to catch any condensation (water) during heat up.
- It will take about 25 minutes for steamer to produce steam. Allow the steam to come out of the steam pan for a few minutes before starting and then drain the hot water out of the bucket. Machine runs about 1-1/2 hours on a full tank. When water builds up in steam pan during use, drain in to pail to limit steam pan dripping.
- Do not use any chemicals in water. Always use clean, unsoftened water when available, and a clean pail
  for filling the water tank. Natural water rarely has enough mineral content to cause trouble, but in some
  softening processed the water is treated with additional chemicals which will cause foaming after a
  period of time.
- Dirty water or water with a high mineral content foams up like milk when it is heated, in a wallpaper steamer, this bubbling water will carry over into the hose and come out through the steam pan.

### WALLPAPER REMOVAL

- Hold steam pan tight against the wall until coverage is softened, slide the pan one half width and scrape
  off the loosened paper using a semi-stiff scraper at least 3" wide. If paper does not come off easily,
  allow more time for the steam to penetrate.
- If paper has a vinyl coating or painted the seal must be broken to allow the steam to penetrate. Use a
  perforating tool to break the seal by moving it up and down on the wall. NOTE: If walls are going to be
  painted instead of rewallpapered care needs to be taken when perforating so large holes are not put
  into the wallboard.
- Remove past build up off scraper for easier scraping by wiping blade on remaining wallpaper or use a rag. Continue the above until all paper is removed.
- It is important to keep the steam pan against the wall at all times when taking off paper. Removing steam pan away from wall wastes steam and job will take longer.
- Removal of paper can be done by starting:
  - 1. At top and sliding the pan downwards
  - 2. At baseboard and work up from the baseboard
  - 3. Back and forth across the wall starting at either top or bottom

- There is no one way that is quicker than another, as long as you keep sliding the steam pan along, not missing any areas.
- Side walls should be done first and ceiling last, because the escaping steam helps loosen the ceiling
  paper. CAUTION: When removing ceiling paper, work with the pan in front of you to prevent hot water
  from dripping down. Empty the water out of the steam pan into a bucket frequently so it will not build
  up in pan and drip on you.
- In narrow or hard to reach places use the narrow steam pan supplied with the steamer. Allow large pan to cool down minimum of 10 minutes or more before changing pans.
- If ceiling is to be painted, wipe off any water drops before they dry, because they may result in spots that will be difficult to paint over.
- After paper is removed wipe the wall down with a sponge and clean water to remove any leftover paste.

## PAINTED PAPER

• Glue base paints permit steam to pass through and do not interfere with steaming off the wallpaper. However, most oil base paints and latex paints prevent the passage of steam. To steam off wallpaper that has been painted, the paper needs to be perforated to allow steam to penetrate.

## **WALLBOARD**

- If the wallboard has been painted with oil base paint or a varnish type sizing (not glue sizing) wallpaper applied over it may be steamed off, just like a plaster wall.
- If wallboard has not been painted, sealed or sized, removing wallpaper is more difficult. The steam will
  not damage the unpainted wallboard if you are careful. You will need to experiment with how long to
  keep the pan in one spot. Use a scraper with well rounded corner to guard against damaging the
  wallboard.
- If there is more than one layer of wallpaper on wall, it may be necessary to take off one layer of wallpaper at a time.

## **EFFECTS OF STEAM**

White spots may develop on sealed wood and must be removed by wiping them off with a rag saturated
with alcohol. Use a liberal amount of alcohol and do not rub excessively or the finish will be removed.
The white spots are caused by steam breaking down the finish, the alcohol softens the finish and allows
it to flow back together when it hardens.

## STORAGE OF STEAMER

Before steamer is stored allow the steamer to cool down minimum of 10 minutes or more. Remove
weight cap and pour out any remaining water left in water tank. Replace weight cap n fill hole.
Disconnect hose from steamer and steam pan and drain out any waste in hose and pan. Coil up power
supply cord and hang on hook on top of steamer jacket. Wipe off steamer pans if they are wet.

### Instructions On Machine

- Be sure to read the safety instructions located on the machine.
- Caution: Steamer produces hot scalding water and steam. Wear long sleeve clothing and gloves and keep steamer pan held away from you to prevent dripping scalding water from contacting you.