



SAMPSON COATINGS

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INTERIOR SURFACE PREPARATION GUIDELINES

Dirt and grime are easy to cover with a new coat of paint. Outwardly, the appearance looks perfect, but one key ingredient has been eliminated from the painting process—the surface preparation. Surface preparation is necessary to reduce the probability of coating failure.

To reduce the probability for a coating failure, certain steps should be followed to insure long term coating service.

CLEANING

All surfaces must be cleaned completely prior to making any repairs to the surfaces to be coated. Contaminants that need to be removed include dust, grime, dirt, stains and all foreign material that has accumulated on the surface. Usually a mild detergent soap mixed with clean water will remove the majority of the contamination. Care should be used when using any type of cleaning compound that may leave a residue. A rinse with clean water and a clean cloth is normally required after a detergent wash. For stubborn stains, such as grease, oil and mildew, clean the surface with a scrub brush and a cleaning compound solution containing ammonia (non-sudsy) or regular household bleach.

NOTE: Ammonia can be mixed one to one with clean water; bleach should be mixed one part bleach to a minimum of three parts clean water.

WARNING: Bleach and ammonia should never be mixed together as they will form dangerous fumes. Always use rubber gloves when using these cleaning compounds and wear additional safety equipment for proper protection (see precautions on the labels of the cleaning materials).

When you use a cloth to wipe or clean the surface, remember to discard the cloth as it becomes saturated with the contamination. Failure to do this will only move the contamination from one area to another and will not result in the total removal of the contaminate.

Always allow the cleaned surface to dry completely before starting any repair work or painting of the cleaned surfaces. Residual water can prevent patching materials and paints from curing properly.

NOTE: It is strongly recommended that a "sponge" be used in lieu of a cloth to clean the surfaces for painting. Cloths can cause friction (burnishing of the surface) and create another problem (potential adhesion failure) that will need attention prior to painting.

SURFACE REPAIRS

Most interior surfaces that require painting will require some form of surface preparation. Common needs are filling small nail holes and "cracks" or "gouges" on the wall surfaces. Performing these labor intensive tasks before painting



will result in better paint adhesion, thus improving the long term performance of the paint.

Procedures recommended to properly prepare common surfaces are listed below:

The most common wall surfaces are plaster or gypsum wallboard. Most problems with these surfaces can be corrected with dry-wall compound, spackling and/or caulking material.

NOTE: Acrylic caulks are recommended for this problem as they dry fast and can be recoated with a broad range of coating materials, often without the labor of sanding.

CAUTION: NEVER use silicon-containing caulks as they cannot be painted.

If the area needing repair has been caulked previously, remove the old caulk completely before proceeding. Clean the joint or gap completely and remove all loose adjacent paint films by sanding lightly all the areas that are near the crack (or joint). Insure that the crack is clean, dry and ready for new caulking material. Apply the caulking with a caulking gun and bead the new caulk into the crack area. Use your finger to wipe off the excess caulk material or a stiff broad painters putty knife for larger areas. Care should be taken not to remove too much caulk as it will shrink during the curing process as water evaporates.

This same procedure can be used for many other repairs such as chair rails, baseboards, molding and trim surfaces, wall and ceilings and all mitered joints. Usually joints and seams are not sanded and care should be taken to insure all excess caulk has been removed from the surfaces. Using a slightly damp cloth has proven very effective on these surfaces.

Larger holes and gaps can usually be filled with drywall compound (also known as drywall "mud") or a commercial grade speckling compound. It is recommended to score or scratch the surface prior to applying the patching material to create a slight profile for better adhesion of the patching material. Apply the drywall compound or speckling with a speckling knife and feather the edges as smooth as possible to have a uniform surface for painting.

NOTE: Sanding is usually required, after drying, to achieve a paintable surface.

All holes or gaps larger than two inches should be repaired with a new piece of wallboard. It often requires that the two inch hole be expanded to achieve a better fit and insure attachment to the wall surface and this may require the use of a saw, knife, hammer and other tools necessary for your individual repair. Remember to tape, not speckle, directly over the new joints created by the repair. After taping, spackle and sand the joints prior to painting. The patching material used to correct a problem will often be more porous than the other wall surfaces. This will require one or more coats of an undercoater (sealer or primer) to properly prepare the area for final painting.

SURFACE REPAIRS – LOOSE OR PEELING PAINT

Inspection of the surfaces to be painted often will reveal that the paint is cracked, chipped or peeling from the surface. All of these problems should be corrected completely prior to applying the new paint material.

Trim and woodwork are two areas where problems commonly occur. Usually these areas do not need extensive repairs and it is possible to remove as much of the old paint as possible, sand, wipe off the dust with a tacky cloth and apply a primer/topcoat material. Use a professional paint scrapper to properly remove loose or peeling paint, sand the area and feather all edges tightly to the surface to provide a uniform surface for paint application.

CAUTION: Older homes built prior to 1960 should have their paint films checked for lead prior to removing down to the bare substrate surface. There are strict federal, state and local regulations on the removal of paints containing lead.

Should the wallpaper be in excellent condition, it is possible to paint over the wallpaper and obtain acceptable results.

NOTE: When inspecting the wallpaper if you see air bubble pockets, blisters, torn paper or severe loss of adhesion to the wall surface, it is strongly recommended to remove all paper and sand the glue to a uniform surface and wipe clean prior to painting.

If painting over wallpaper, slit the wallpaper with a razor carefully, insert new adhesive (glue), and roll back together with a seam roller. Use a stiff putty knife to remove all loose edges of paper, feather in the void areas with spackle compound and sand smooth or until the imperfection is no longer noticeable.

One requirement of painting over wallpaper is the use of a primer coat prior to the final finish coat application. Use of a "test area" behind some large piece of furniture like a sofa is recommended. Use of a stain blocking, pigmented primer is recommended to seal out some of the color or dyes that are contained in the wallpaper. Stains will often bleed through conventional primers. Additionally, it is recommended that the finish coat be applied over the "test spot" to insure adhesion to the primer and for you to determine if the new coatings system will loosen the wallpaper from the surface and create a "NEW" problem.

Should the paint not adhere to the wallpaper or you desire to remove the wallpaper, saturate the wallpaper with a sponge soaked with warm water followed by the use of a "flexible" scrapper to remove the paper. Proceed slowly to insure full removal. Care should be taken not to damage the surface to which the wallpaper is attached as the new damage will have to be corrected prior to painting. Some areas may not come off and may require the use of a wallpaper steamer (which can be rented from a local source). Inspect for residual glue that may have been left on the wall and remove by washing, sanding or use of commercial materials prior to priming and painting.

Commercially available glue removers can also be added to the warm water prior to soaking the wallpaper following the manufactures dilution recommendations to aid in quicker removal of the wall paper.

FINAL PREPARATION

After all surfaces have been cleaned and prepared properly, there are three final tasks to complete.

Glossy surfaces must be sanded to remove the hard gloss finish or else a chemical compound must be used to dull the glossy surface. Sanding will require the use of medium grit sandpaper and additional cleaning with a tacky cloth to remove all residual dust. The alternate use of a chemical compound is effective but the application of the new coating has to be made in a relatively short time frame which will require the applicator to switch from preparation to painting more often.

NOTE: We recommend that use of a chemical dulling agent be restricted to one hundred square feet of surface at a time and then painted over so as not to chance waiting too long before it is painted. Always read and follow completely the directions for use of the commercial dulling compound.

Inspect all the areas of primer application prior to the application of the paint. Primer will sometimes raise wood fibers and give the surface a "fuzzy" appearance. A light sanding followed by a cleaning with a tacky cloth will usually remove this defect.

Inspect all the areas to be painted and clean all the surfaces a second time to insure the best possible surface for paint application. Remove of all dust and contamination immediately prior to painting to insure the best possible paint adhesion and a much longer service life for the paint.

Cleaning compounds or other chemicals used to clean exterior surfaces may present health risks. The paint applicator should read all information, direction and, most importantly, the safety warnings on every item used, including the paint.

CAUTION: Always use proper safety equipment, such as a full face shield, eye goggles, rubber gloves, long sleeve shirts, hat, lanolin hand creams for exposed skin, etc., to insure your complete protection during the cleaning process. Consult and follow recommendations on the packaging of the material being used.

Sampson Coatings urges all its customers to use safety equipment and read the directions twice before starting any procedure for the cleaning, repairing or painting of a structure.

Disclaimer: All technical advice and recommendations are provided by Sampson Coatings, Inc., free of charge and therefore Sampson Coatings assumes no responsibility for results obtained or damages incurred from their use by purchaser/user in whole or in part. These recommendations are based on technical data which Sampson Coatings believes to be reliable and are intended for use by persons having skill and knowledge of the risks involved. All information is subject to change without notice.