

INTERIOR PAINTING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does someone have to remain home while the painting is being done?

No, in fact most people are not home during the day and arrangements can be made in advance to accommodate your schedule. Our employees are bonded, insured and screened with criminal background checks- so you can feel confident.

What do I have to do in order to get ready for the painters?

When we come in to paint your home we are expecting to handle everything ourselves. We move all of the furniture into the middle of the room, remove pictures from the walls and take down any window treatments. All furniture and belongings are carefully covered and all floors are protected with the proper drop cloths during painting. The only items we ask the customer to move are the small knick- knock type items. Upon completion of the painting we will place all furniture back in the location that it was removed from and re-hang pictures and window treatments (we take photos prior to moving any items to ensure their proper placement after painting is completed).

How often should you have to paint the interior?

Many factors can contribute to that. The quality of the paint used is of the utmost importance. The amount of traffic through a particular area. Whether or not there are smokers in the home. Is there a fireplace that is used on a regular basis during the winter months, and does the damper work properly? How many children and their ages? There are too many factors to take into consideration, and each home can be different. However a good quality job done by a professional crew under normal conditions should last anywhere from 6-10 years. Call us and we will be happy to evaluate your particular situation and offer you a more precise answer.

How is my furniture protected during painting?

After moving the furniture into the middle of the room it will be covered in plastic. All floors will be protected by canvas drop cloths.

What kind of surface preparation is done?

All holes are filled and sanded. All cracks are properly scraped out, filled and sanded. Caulking is inspected around all windows and frames, doors and door frames and re-caulked as needed. Crown molding, chair rail etc. are all caulked and properly prepared. All nail pops are repaired and sanded. Any water stains, crayon marks etc. are sealed before painting and grease and heavy dirt accumulations are cleaned. Any mildew that is present will be cleaned prior to painting.

How many painters will be in my home?

While every job is different normally you can expect a crew of 2-3 painters.

INTERIOR PAINTING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What kind of paint is used?

We only use top of the line paints and primers for our customers. Sherwin-Williams is our preferred brand. As to the type of paint being, oil based or latex, homes and requirements are different. We would have to evaluate your home and see what your particular needs are and we are certainly willing to meet your desires.

What if I don't like the color I picked?

We want you happy upon the completion of your job. Take your time on color selection and utilize color charts ahead of time. We can apply samples on a couple of different areas of your home as well as in different types of lighting. The cost of a few samples of paint is much cheaper than repainting a room or entire house if you end up unhappy with the color chosen. Designed Finishes can provide free consultation on color selection and you can utilize Sherwin-Williams' "Color Vizualizer" app at www.sherwin-williams.com/vizualizer/ to try out different color combinations. If you do not want to change the color of your home, then just ask us to match the existing color and we will most likely be able to do that.

I have oil based paint on my trim now, can I switch to an acrylic latex enamel?

Yes. However there are necessary steps that must be taken first in order to assure success. Only use a contractor who is knowledgeable about those steps and one who is willing to explain the proper procedures to you.

How do I get a quotation?

You may either call us or use our "request a free consultation" form on our home page.

I have some cracks that always reappear, is there anything we can do?

Cracks can be repaired but regardless of the preparation done some may reappear. However the best chance at successfully repairing those cracks is to dig out the crack, fill it, tape it with a fiberglass mesh tape and sand it smooth, then prime over your patched area before repainting.

If I decide to choose your company, what do I do next?

Contact us and we will review and approve the quotation with you, sign it and schedule your work.

We have drywall damage... Do we need to have that repaired before the painters come?

Our employees are all experienced in drywall repair and replacement. Most minor repairs that need to be made can be done as part of the preparation work we do prior to painting.

INTERIOR PAINTING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I have received a number of estimates from different painting contractors and there seems to be a wide variance in prices, why is that?

There are a number of good painting contractors to choose from and what you will normally find is that the established companies are usually fairly close in price. However at times you will get an estimate that is a lot lower than others and at times you may get one that seems excessively high. There could be many factors here.

Why is choosing an interior color so difficult?

The only answer I can give you is, lighting, lighting, lighting! Light and reflections in any given room affect the outcome of your color.

When purchasing paint, I've been asked if I want flat, high gloss, satin and even an eggshell finish. What do these terms mean, and does it really make any difference what kind of finish I have?

Yes. The difference can be a big one depending on the surface and area that you are preparing to paint.

Which is better for repainting interior walls, latex or alkyd based paint?

For most applications on interior walls, a latex paint will offer many advantages over alkyd paint. In most available products you will receive better color retention and the finish will be non-yellowing. Additionally, the latex products will have a lower odor, dry faster, and you will be able to clean up with soap and water.

Why is painting so expensive?

Painting, like everything else, is expensive. We realize that. In the last 20 years, our labor cost has increased fourfold. The cost of paint has almost doubled. Insurance for a business is astronomical. So you are absolutely right, it is expensive. But not when you look at the cost of painting compared to carpeting, fabric, wallpaper, and window treatments at about \$10.00 to \$50.00 per square foot compared to painting at about \$1.00 to \$2.00 per square foot, it doesn't seem too bad.

What can we do with leftover paint from prior years?

Leftover paints and other hazardous waste must be disposed of properly. We will leave any of your unused paint from our project with you for your future "touch-up" needs. If you have old paint that you would like to have us dispose of, per EPA regulations, we can do so at an additional nominal cost.