

## Learn the way to sure success before you pull out the brush

Ready to bring out paint brushes and ladder to give your home a bright new look? Before you start, here are some helpful tips from painting experts at Sherwin-Williams.

Designed to help do-it-yourself painters produce professional results, these tips come from the reference book, "House Paint Inspection Manual," and free booklets available at any of the more than 1,500 Sherwin-Williams Decorating Centers across the country.

First, solve any problems. For instance, look for telltale signs of excessive moisture, the most common cause of damage to the surface.

Blisters, chipped or flaking paint usually means moisture was trapped inside. Let it escape by putting wedges under horizontal siding or creating air vents in attic or crawl spaces. This will help prevent a recurrence of the problem.

Then, sand the damaged surface down to the bare wood and apply a sealing undercoat. To keep outside moisture from coming in, caulk all doors and windows.

Other signs of excess moisture are rusty nails and colored stains. Here again, eliminate the moisture source.

Then thoroughly sand the rust off nailheads and surrounding areas. Drive the nailheads just below the siding's surface, prime with un-



**PEELING PAINT** under eaves can be corrected by sanding and washing before repainting, say Sherwin-Williams painting experts. Recommended solutions for house paint failures are in a free booklet available at more than 1,500 Sherwin-Williams Decorating Centers nationwide.

dercoater and fill the hole with a dab of caulk.

For redwood or cedar stains, sand down to bare wood and wash with equal parts of water and denatured alcohol. When thoroughly dry, apply top coat.

Does your paint have a cracked or "alligator" surface? This usually means several heavy coats were applied without ample drying time between applications. To correct, remove all paint and start from scratch.

Finally, clean thoroughly with water and detergent.

Pay special attention to areas under eaves where condensation sometimes leaves invisible salt crystals.

Replace worn-out caulk, dried putty and loose mortar. Start painting on the shady side of the house, and always follow the wood grain.

With horizontal siding, first paint the underside of each board and then the surface. Start painting at the roof line and work your way down, covering as wide an area as you can reach comfortably and safely from the ladder.

## Inspections can avert hasty repairs

A damaged or worn out roof that's ignored can lead to serious problems in the attic and beneath the roof surface. It can result in hasty and costly repairs.

To forestall such problems, the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association advises homeowners to check their roof's condition at least once a year and preferably twice a year.

But don't go up on the roof to do it, warns ARMA. Inspect it from the ground instead. Walking on a roof is dangerous and could damage the shingles.

Indications that a roof is in need of replacement include cracked, curled, brittle or

missing shingles. If a roof is fairly new and has suffered limited damage such as loose or missing shingles from a storm, these can be reroiled or replaced.

If it looks as though the roof requires replacement, ARMA suggests you call in a professional roofer to conduct an on-the-roof inspection.

Not only can a reputable roofer tell you whether the roof needs to be replaced, but he can provide assistance in the selection of roofing material and the design elements inherent in color and dimension.

Increasingly popular, for example, are three-dimen-

sional asphalt shingles in handsome earthtone colors of browns and beiges that serve to relate a home to its surroundings.

Designed to last up to 25 years with little maintenance, multi-layered asphalt shingles produce deep, attractive shadow lines that give a roof dimension.

Additional information on the selection of roofing is available in a 20-page booklet, "A Homeowner's Guide to the Selection of Quality Roofing." It can be obtained for 35 cents from ARMA, Box 3248, Grand Central Station, New York, New York 10017.

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## Save energy: shop wisely for windows

With new home prices steadily rising and existing homes changing ownership at a rate about double that of sales of new homes, it's no wonder home remodeling and modernization activity is so hectic.

Since many home improvement projects involve the replacement or installation of windows, homeowners are wise to keep energy conservation in mind when shopping for windows.

And the same care should be devoted to the selection of windows as to other factors in an energy-efficient house.

Like other energy-conservation measures such as adding wall, attic and under-floor insulation, windows should be chosen for their ability to provide insulation.

Double-pane insulating glass for example—standard in Andersen Corporation's Perma-Shield windows and gliding doors—sharply reduces expensive heat loss through the glass.

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