



EXTERIOR PAINTING PROJECT GUIDE

Tools and Materials:

- ▶ Paint
- ▶ Paint Trays
- ▶ Paint Brushes
- ▶ Paint Rollers
- ▶ Masking Tape
- ▶ Rags
- ▶ Paint Buckets
- ▶ Drop Cloths

- ▶ Spackle
- ▶ Ladders
- ▶ Scrapers
- ▶ Putty Knife
- ▶ Caulk
- ▶ Masks
- ▶ Tool Box
- ▶ Broom

Prep:

1. Lay out tarps / drop cloths covering the ground from the edge of the house out to about 5 feet. Use these over any area that you are scraping so that they will catch the paint chips you scrape off.
2. Fill holes or cracks in the walls. Smaller cracks can be filled with caulk and leveled with a scraper or putty knife. Larger cracks or holes may need spackling or even wood or siding repairs. Be sure to sand down any areas that you cover with caulk or Spackle.
3. Scrape all the loose paint off the house. Use a flat scraper or a four-edge scraper for light scraping and wire brush scrapers for areas that need more heavy-duty work. *Scraping should usually take most of the first day.*
4. Clean the walls. Because the wood needs to dry again before you begin painting, if you do wash, do it in phases. For example, once one side of the house is scraped, wash that side. That side should then be dry and ready to paint by the time you are fully done scraping.
5. Tape surfaces. Using masking tape, at least 1 inch in width, cover the edges of all surfaces that you don't want paint to cover. That includes windows, trim, doorbells, mailboxes, etc.

Process:

1. Paint the first coat on the building using the techniques described in orientation– Paint with the grain using the feathering technique. Use the following guidelines for brushes:

Surface	Brush
Wood siding	Brush or roller with 3/8" or finer nap
Vinyl siding	Brush or roller with 3/8" or finer nap
Particle board	Brush or roller with 3/8" nap
Stucco	Roller with thick nap – 3/4" or thicker
Concrete	Roller with medium to thick nap – 1/2" to 3/4"
Plaster or dry wall	Roller with thin nap (trim brushes around tight edges)

2. If painting trim, re-tape using masking tape to keep from getting drops or splotches of the trim paint on the main part of the house which you just painted. (Make sure the paint is dry before putting masking tape over it.)
3. Paint 2-3 coats as needed.

Clean-Up:

1. Remove all tarps, taking care not to spill any paint chips or drips. Fold the tarp up towards the middle from all four sides. Then continue to fold it until it is small enough to pick up easily. If you run a strip of tape around the mouth of the rolled-up tarp, it becomes a garbage bag.
2. Check windows for any paint drips or smudges; clean if necessary with a wet rag.
3. Clean paintbrushes and tools (Unless you are returning tomorrow– put in a plastic bag or plastic wrap to preserve)
4. Close paint bucket lids tightly.
5. Pick up and bag all trash.

*See Work Project Cleanup List for more detail

Team Tips and Strategies:

- **Start High and Low:** Some youth can start painting from the top down while others start at the bottom and work their way up. Just make sure all ladders are being held and youth aren't painting directly underneath a ladder!
- **Divide and Conquer the Building:** Start in different areas of the building
- **Take a Relationship Break:** Ask your Work Projects Partner to tell a story or share a special picture.