

Touch Up & Storage



Mr. Painterman®

Written by a contractor with over 35 years of residential painting experience.



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Learn how to do touch up painting like a professional painter.

How professionals do touch-up and store paint - using time-saving shortcuts.

Touch Up & Storage



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Touch Up Tools

Assembling the tools you need is the first step to doing a touch up job.

- A small drop cloth.**
- A rag**
- Hard or stiff putty knife**
- Small paint pot**
- Small brush (2" angle sash is recommended) We prefer Purdy brand. Buy a good brush, clean it and rewrap it and it can last you 30-40 years. 1.5" or 2.5" brushes are also good ones to have around. All 3 sizes are good.**
- Small 4" roller frame, cover and tray**
- Appropriate ladder (4, 6 or 8 foot)**
- Use the original can of paint from the surface if possible. There are slight variances and small shifts in tints from batch to batch. Your results will almost always be better if you have the original batch of paint to work with.**
- Be sure To check the can carefully and make sure the paint matches the surfaces properly not only with color, but with sheen. There are about 5 different sheen surfaces to consider.**
- The paint may need stirring thoroughly before using. This process can take 5-10 minutes as needed.**
- In extreme cases, you will need to strain the paint if there are lumps and debris in the paint that will not mix together.**

You can purchase a strainer bag at the paint store or use a pair of old panty hose in a pinch.



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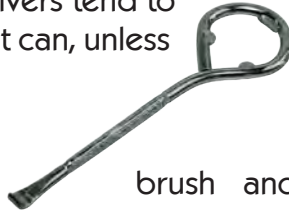


Touch Up Setup

A good paint job begins with a good brush.

Do NOT paint directly out of the can of paint, unless you are only painting one or two strokes of paint somewhere.

Open the can with a paint can opener or flat stiff putty knife. Screw drivers tend to chew up the edge of paint can, unless it is a very large one.



Remove cover from brush and keep handy.

Have the paint pot ready to use.



Pour from the back of the can about an inch of paint into the paint pot.

Thoroughly wipe excess paint from the paint can back into the can with your brush. Wipe excess from not only the can, but clean out the rim with your paint brush.



You are now ready to do the touch up job.

Spread out the drop cloth. (don't use newspaper)

Set up the ladder if necessary.

Do any preparation necessary and you are ready to paint.



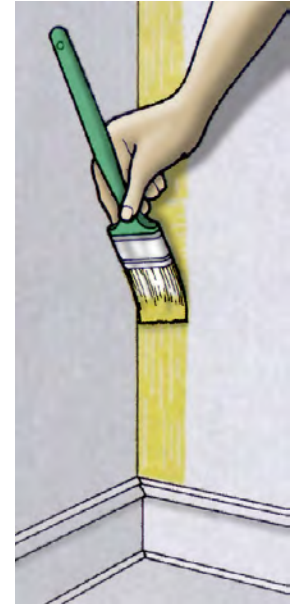
A paint pot a professional typically uses, which is a gallon can with the rim removed.





Touch Up Setup

- ❑ Use only the bottom 1" of brush tips.
- ❑ Do not apply a heavy coat.
- ❑ Feather the wet the paint into dry surface as much as possible.
- ❑ If you have to do difficult or exact "cut-in" (edging) surfaces to paint use the pointed edge of the brush and pull the brush down as much as possible.
- ❑ If you paint does not match perfectly, you will need to do an entire wall or surface from edge to edge.
- ❑ Always look for a demarcation point to stop. The eye can't really tell if there is a slight difference in color if you stop at a logical edge.
- ❑ Other than a small surface, consider using a 4" roller and tray and then brush the edges.
- ❑ Remember when you apply paint, it typically d r i e s darker. You must judge the color matching properties only with dry colors.
- ❑ Judge colors and sheen looking both straight on and at an angle. Some sheen is only noticeable at an angle - called "side sheen".
- ❑ You will need a small drop cloth handy.



Rolling Touch Up

A good paint job begins with good tools.

There is no good reason to use a full 7 or 9" roller frame and cover when a 4" small roller will work just fine, unless you have to paint many walls.

1. Buy the 18-24" frame handle, which will save lots of reaching and climbing ladders.
2. Mask off the top of baseboards with masking tape to protect against splatters.
3. Do NOT roll fast in a downward Motion to avoid splatters.



This type of roller is best for walls with a texture finish. The cover slips on/off & looks like its larger 9" frame brother.



This type of roller plastic mini-pan is perfect for touch up, because it is inexpensive and easily cleaned after use.



This type of roller is best for smooth walls. It is a foam cover with a small hole to slip over frame..



Misc Touch up Tips

Always keep a damp rag handy when painting to wipe up spills or clean off the surface before painting.

There is no good reason to use a full 7 or 9" roller frame and cover when a 4" small roller will work just fine.

1. Buy the 18-24" frame handle (roller pole), which will save lots of reaching and climbing ladders.
2. Mask off the top of baseboards with masking tape to protect against splatters.
3. **Do NOT roll fast** in a downward motion to avoid splatters.
4. If you are using the touch-up paint within about 6 months after originally applied, you may be able to apply a spot in the middle of a large surface without it showing.



5. An alternate to using a paint brush could be a simple **foam brush**, available for \$1.00 or less in many stores.



6. This is a visual of how to hold a paint pot, your brush and tapping the side of the pot.

7. Use this product for old support **removal of paint stains**. Use a damp rag with hard putty knife and rubbing strokes to remove fresh paint.



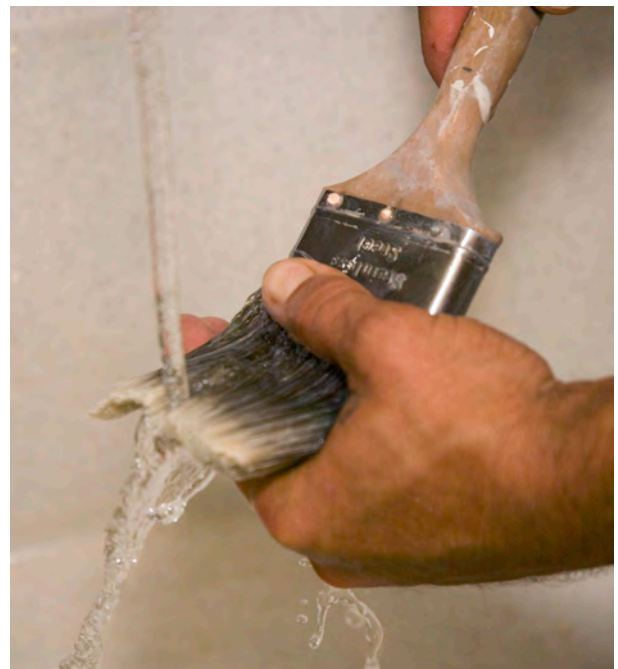
Brush Cleaning

Brushes should always be cleaned at the end of the day or beginning of the next day to avoid deterioration of brushes and rollers.

The first step to clean brushes is to thoroughly wire brush the bristles, the ferrule and handle. Be sure to place the brush firmly on a can or solid surface. Do not try to clean a dirty brush holding it in the air, as you have no leverage. **Use firm downward strokes with the wire brush.** Use a putty knife or 5 in 1 to remove very crusty paint. Bad brushes can take 5-10 minutes each to clean properly.

Then rinse off several times as shown in photos to the right. If you don't have running water available, use several empty pots.

Running water from the tip of bristles through the ferrule (metal band) helps get it clean.



Vigorous brushing with power strokes are effective.



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Brush Storage

After washing the brush, it should be dried with a dry rag, combed and wrapped in the original cover. Do not let brushes & rollers stand for more than a couple hours before cleaning them. If you can't clean them immediately at least wire brush the ferrule and handle and soak them in water.



In severe or very damp weather or damp climates, you may need to bring the brushes inside a house overnight to dry them out. Sometimes it takes one to three days for them to dry out before they can be used again at their best.

Keeping the brush in the cover or "brush keeper" is important.

Roller Cleaning

Insert brush into the Mira-spin spinner and wash brush in dirty or first wash thinner for oil materials or water for latex materials and spin dry. Dry off with rag.

Do this twice and then wash brush in clean thinner or clean water again and spin dry. A third time may be necessary, especially for deeptone colors.

Spinning brushes/rollers are very important in the cleaning process. We suggest you do your spinning in an old empty 5 gallon bucket to minimize splattering on surrounding areas if a laundry tub is not available.

If residue or stickiness remain, use a little synthetic thinner in last wash. Use clear water for the final wash when cleaning oil brushes - it removes most of the thinner residue.

Use clear water for the final wash when cleaning oil brushes - it removes most of the thinner residue.

If you can't justify the purchase of a Mira-Spin for about \$30, you can manually knock water off the brushes. Roller covers are much harder to clean rollers, since they hold so much paint and water.



Brush & roller cleaning is simple today with the invention of Mira-Spin brush spinner tool.



Paint Storage

Do not throw away the touch-up paint! - There is NO known shelf life on latex paint! Store in a dry place (out of sun) that will avoid freezing.

Using touch up paint after 30 days --

Keep the lid on all paint cans tight. Many cans of paint are simply unusable because the lid was not on properly. Latex paint has no known shelf life, so you can store it for years. Oil paint breaks down after 5-10 years.

Do not obliterate the name and numbers of paint on the can. If you use the paint from the can, be sure to wipe any excess off. Pour paint out of the back of the can.

Write down the paint manufacturer, type of paint and color name and number and put it into your permanent inventory. There are a lot of possible ways to store your belongings, such as paper and electronically (I use Excel).

Do not use up every drop of the touch-up paint, if it is a custom color. It is much easier to match paint if you have a wet sample. Remember that paint colors change slightly over the years. If you use paint from the original can for touch-up, you have a better chance of having it match, than from a new can.

Anything over about one year may have changed enough to be noticed. We suggest you always touch up a panel instead of one small spot. Have a cut-off point where it won't show any difference, such as a corner.



Always use a mallet to put the lid back!



Always clean the paint can rim thoroughly before closing!



This is what happens when you use a hammer and not close the lid carefully!

Touch Up & Storage



Books for sale:

Professional Series in PDF format

House Painting as a Business	<i>Learn how to run a successful house painting business, achieving greater profits.</i>	\$ 8.99
House Painting for Professionals	<i>The complete guide to train or learn the art of residential house painting.</i>	\$9.99
Deck Finishing for Professionals	<i>A guide to protecting/beautifying natural wood decks/surfaces with great profits.</i>	\$ 7.99
Pressure Washing for Professionals	<i>A complete guide to pressure washing, learning how to profit from this business.</i>	\$ 7.99
Choosing Exterior Color for Professionals	<i>Assist customers in choosing, imagining & understanding dynamics of colors.</i>	\$ 8.99
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Pressure Washing for Homeowners	<i>A complete guide to pressure washing, learning how to profit from this business.</i>	\$ 6.99
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Choosing Interior Color for Homeowners	<i>A guide to assist customer in choosing & understanding dynamics of interior colors.</i>	\$ 6.99

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This free guide features a lot of information on touch up and paint storage.

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Jim Grover started painting residential homes in the East Bay of San Francisco Bay Area, California in June of 1967. During the 80's he started a seamless aluminum gutter business, while maintaining the painting business. He specialized in existing residential homes where he gained invaluable experience painting all types of residential applications for both interior and exterior. He has painted virtually every type of house available: stained wood, painted siding, stucco, block, brick, and shingles. His firm also installed gutters on over 2000 homes during the 80's and he has painted over 2500 homes during his career. His painting crews have logged over 250,000 man hours. In 1991 Jim moved back to the Northwest (where he spent his teenage years) and soon after reestablished his painting business. His main hobby is photography.



Jim's over 35 years of experience as a house painting contractor has given him a strong business background. Jim believes in good customer service and actually shows up for estimates and jobs. This is a real business like any other and must be conducted in a business like manner. All estimates and contracts are done on the computer and delivered by email, fax or snail mail. Mr. Painterman is a DBA of Grover Enterprises Ltd, a privately held Washington corporation.

Jim has written a total of nine books on painting, including one used to train paint employees, one to help painting contractors succeed in the painting business, Choosing Exterior Color and Deck Finishing,

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