

PAINTING YOUR HOUSE



HOAP

HOME OWNERS' ADVICE PAMPHLETS





PAINT TYPES

Ask a good painter or paint supplier to recommend a paint suitable for your needs. Good quality paint is more expensive, but will last longer than cheaper brands.

Commonly-used paints are:

- Use acrylic-PVA water-based paints for walls, ceilings and roofs.
- Cement-based paints are sold as powder in paper sacks and mixed with water. They are economical, waterproof washes suitable for brickwork and blockwork without plaster.
- Enamels and varnishes are oil-based paints used for painting metal and wood.
- Oil-based paints have solvents in them which are health-risks, and pollute the environment.
- Try to use environmentally-friendly products such as "BreatheCoat", which is a powder mixed with water. It can be used instead of acrylic-PVA paints. Also use "EnviroTouch" paints to paint other surfaces such as wood.



WHAT DIFFERENT COATS OF PAINTS DO

- The primer seals the small holes and prepares good contact between the surface and the paint.
- The undercoat provides an even colour to paint the finishing coats onto.
- The topcoat provides the finishing colour and protection from weather and damage.
- Try to make sure all the coats of paint come from the same manufacturer.

PREPARING SURFACES



WALLS

- Scrape off old peeling paint, scrub walls, allow to dry completely. Fill holes and cracks with fillers - suitable for outside walls or inside walls as you require.
- Apply one coat of acrylic primer paint and apply two finishing coats of acrylic PVA paint or "BreatheCoat".

WINDOWS AND DOORS

Steel

- Clean off all dirt, grease and rust.
- If the metal has not been galvanised, apply one coat of red lead primer.
- Apply one coat of undercoat, followed by one coat of enamel paint.

Wood

- Clean and sand lightly with fine sandpaper.
- Apply two coats of varnish or other wood sealers.

Inside doors

- Clean and sand lightly with fine sandpaper.
- Apply one coat of undercoat, followed by two coats of enamel paint.



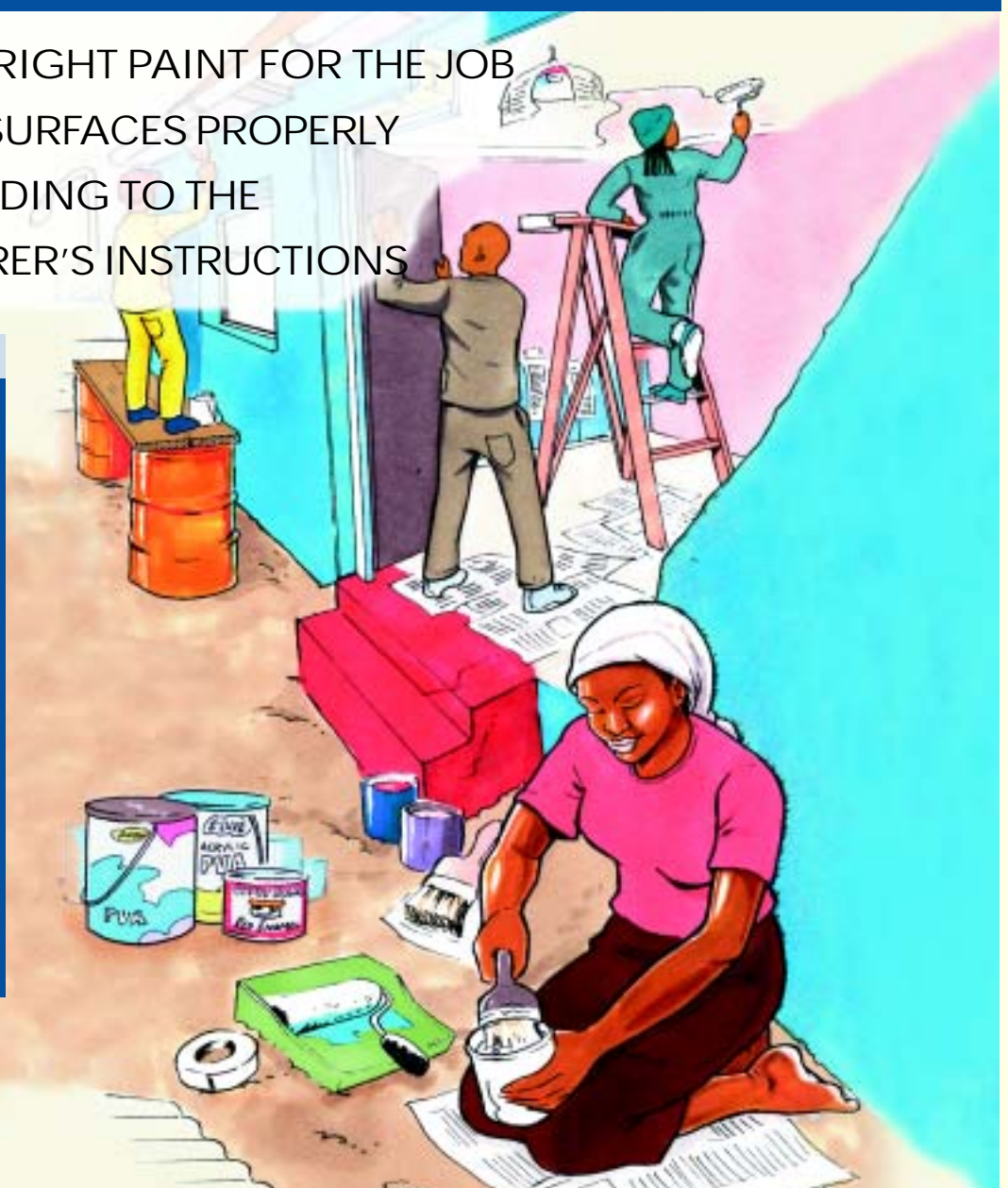
THE MOST IMPORTANT ADVICE IS

- CHOOSE THE RIGHT PAINT FOR THE JOB
- PREPARE ALL SURFACES PROPERLY
- PAINT ACCORDING TO THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS

TIPS:

To keep yourself and your house as clean as possible:

- Use old clothes or an overall when painting.
- Keep a wet cloth close to you while painting to wipe your hands and any small mistakes and spills.
- Don't walk on paint spills and spread it across the floor.
- Use newspaper and masking tape to cover your floor, furniture and fittings.



CEILING

- Clean off all dust and dirt. Paint the nail heads with enamel paint to prevent rust.
- Sand any uneven spots until level and smooth.
- Apply one coat of acrylic paint thinned to the manufacturer's instructions, then apply two coats of acrylic PVA.



ROOFSHEETS

Corrugated iron (also known as galvanised iron or 'zinc')

- Clean the surface carefully. You can use a special cleaner to wash off the galvanising and provide a good contact for the new paint.
- Apply one coat of acrylic-based primer and two coats of acrylic roof paint.

Asbestos or fibre cement

- Use a face mask when you clean asbestos to make sure you do not breathe in the asbestos dust.
- Apply two coats of acrylic roof paint.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED



- Paint scrapers and sandpaper to remove dirt and old paint.
- A roller and paint tray for painting larger surfaces.
- Large and small brushes for smaller areas.
- Smaller tins for pouring paint into from larger tins.
- Newspapers and plastic sheeting to protect floors and furniture.
- Masking tape to protect edges of glass, switches and lights.

CLEANING



- Clean brushes and rollers properly. The hair of the brushes should be soft and separate.
- Use water to clean acrylic PVA paint, and turpentine ("turps") for enamels and varnishes.
- If you are continuing with painting the next day, brushes can stand upright in water overnight.
- Left-over paint, spirits and cleaning materials should not be poured into drains or onto the ground. Rather place in containers to store or to throw away.



SAFETY HINTS

Many paints contain solvents (chemicals) which are flammable, and not safe to breathe in.

- Do not smoke or allow others to smoke near paint, turps or cleaning materials.
- Open the windows of the rooms being painted.
- Keep paints and cleaning materials away from children. Do not pour left-over paints or spirits into cooldrink bottles or other misleading containers.
- Wear a mask when working with asbestos – breathing in the dust is dangerous.



ALSO SEE OTHER PAMPHLETS ABOUT:

- Plastering your house
- Making home improvements



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