

INTERIOR SURFACE PREPARATION GUIDELINES

Dirt and grime are easy to cover with an opaque coating. Outwardly, the appearance looks perfect, but one key ingredient has been eliminated from the coating process—the surface preparation. Surface preparation is necessary to reduce the probability of coating failure.

To reduce the probability for a coating failure, certain steps should be followed to insure long term coating service.

CLEANING

All surfaces must be cleaned completely prior to making any repairs to the surfaces to be coated. Contaminants that need to be removed include dust, grime, dirt, stains and all foreign material that has accumulated on the surface. Usually a mild detergent soap mixed with clean water will remove most of the contamination. Care should be used when using any type of cleaning compound that may leave a residue. A rinse with clean water and a clean cloth is normally required after a detergent wash. For stubborn stains, such as grease, oil and mildew, clean the surface with a scrub brush and a cleaning compound solution containing ammonia (non-sudsy) or regular household bleach.

NOTE: Ammonia can be mixed one to one with clean water; bleach should be mixed one-part bleach to a minimum of three parts clean water.

WARNING: Bleach and ammonia should never be mixed together as they will form dangerous fumes. Always use rubber gloves when using these cleaning compounds and wear additional safety equipment for proper protection (see precautions on the labels of the cleaning materials).

When you use a cloth to wipe or clean the surface, remember to discard the cloth as it becomes saturated with the contamination. Failure to do this will only move the contamination from one area to another and will not result in the total removal of the contaminate.

Always allow the cleaned surface to dry completely before starting any repair work or coating of the cleaned surfaces. Residual water can prevent patching materials and stains from curing properly.

SURFACE REPAIRS

Most interior surfaces that require a coating will require some form of surface preparation. Common needs are filling small nail holes and "cracks" or "gouges" on the wood surfaces.

NOTE: Sanding is almost always required, after drying, to achieve a finished surface.

CAUTION: Always use proper safety equipment, such as an eye or face shield, eye goggles, rubber gloves, long sleeve shirts, lanolin hand creams for exposed skin, etc., to insure your complete protection during the cleaning and coating process. Consult and follow recommendations on the packaging of the material being used.

Valentus Specialty Chemicals urges all its customers to use safety equipment and read the directions twice before starting any procedure for the cleaning, repairing or coating a surface.

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