

# HOW TO PAINT YOUR HOME'S EXTERIOR

Techniques for professional-looking results and products to make it last



# EXTERIOR PAINTING STEPS

For a professional-quality repaint

## STEP 1: Choose the right primer, paint and gloss level

### PRIMERS

Priming ensures adhesion of the paint to the surface, helps cover darker-colored paints and stains, and promotes a smooth, even finish. Choose the right type of primer for each surface and its specific need:



**EZ-PRIME® Premium**  
Wood Siding



**BLOCK-IT®**  
Stain-Blocking Primer



**ULTRA-GRIP® Premium**  
Multi-Surface Primer



**EFF-STOP® Premium**  
Masonry Primer/Sealer



**SUPER-LOC®**  
Bonding Primer



**BLOC-RUST® Premium**  
Rust-Preventative Metal Primer



**ENDURAPRIME®**  
Galvanized Metal Primer

Visit your local  
Dunn-Edwards® store  
for quality paints,  
primers, supplies and  
expert advice.

### PAINT

Protect your home with 100% acrylic EVERSIELD® ultra-premium exterior paints. These high-quality paints are formulated to provide ultimate protection against moisture penetration and UV color fade for fewer repaints—plus exceptional performance in dirt pickup resistance for outstanding gloss retention. And ARISTOSHIELD® ultra-premium interior/exterior paints deliver a beautiful and durable finish due to their water-based formulation that performs like oil.



### GLOSS LEVEL

To determine the right gloss level for your project, consider the following—or request a Gloss Level Guide from a store associate:

- :: Flat & Velvet: conceals surface imperfections
- :: Eggshell & Satin/Low Sheen: use where a slightly higher sheen is desired
- :: Semi-Gloss & High-Gloss: easiest to clean; best for trim and areas prone to moisture

# EXTERIOR PAINTING STEPS

Continued

## STEP 2: Estimate how much paint you will need

Perimeter (distance around your entire home) = \_\_\_\_\_ ft.

Perimeter \_\_\_\_\_ ft. x height\* \_\_\_\_\_ ft. = \_\_\_\_\_ total home sq. ft.

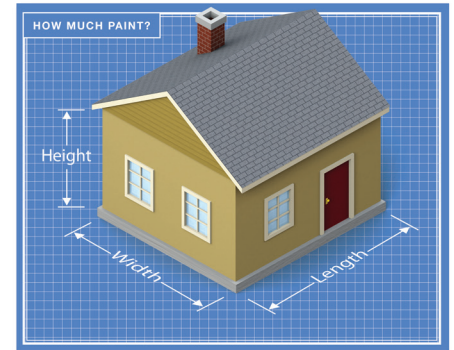
*\*If your home has wall areas of different heights, use the highest point. Do not include the roof.*

Use this calculation for each door and window: height \_\_\_\_\_ ft. x width \_\_\_\_\_ ft. = \_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft.

Add all of the door and window sq. ft. together, then subtract that figure from the total home sq. ft.:

\_\_\_\_\_ total home sq. ft.  
- \_\_\_\_\_ all doors and windows sq. ft.  
= \_\_\_\_\_ total area to be painted sq. ft.  
\_\_\_\_\_ sq. ft. area to be painted ÷ 400\*\* = \_\_\_\_\_ x 2 (coats) = \_\_\_\_\_ total number of gallons needed for 2 coats

*\*\*EVERSHIELD paint's spread rate is 350-400 sq. ft. per gallon.*



## STEP 3: Get the right tools and supplies

Use this checklist to make sure you have everything you need before you begin your project.

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sandpaper or sanding blocks     | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladder              | <input type="checkbox"/> Wire brush, scraper or putty knife        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caulk & patch tools             | <input type="checkbox"/> Paint tray & liners | <input type="checkbox"/> Masking material & tape                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brushes, roller frames & covers | <input type="checkbox"/> Bucket              | <input type="checkbox"/> Particulate filter mask, goggles & gloves |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden hose or power washer     | <input type="checkbox"/> Extension pole      | <input type="checkbox"/> Rags & cleaning solutions                 |





#### STEP 4: Prepare to paint\*

Identify and correct surface problems, and prepare your environment for the painting process.

- :: New, unpainted galvanized gutters and downspouts are coated with an oil that must be removed prior to painting. Use a moistened rag with a solvent or a water-soluble degreasing cleaner and thoroughly wipe it clean.
- :: Remove shutters and window screens where possible, and set them aside.
- :: Remove rust and peeling paint using a scraper or wire brush. Sand all edges and wash the area with a garden hose or power washer.
- :: Clean gutters and downspouts, and wash the area beneath the roof eaves.
- :: Remove all dust and dirt from the surface of the home using a rag or soft brush and soapy water. Remove all stains, such as chalking and mildew.
- :: Repair all voids, cracks and holes, and caulk all surface joints, cracks and seams. The caulk must be thoroughly dry before painting. When working with bare surfaces, prime before applying caulk.
- :: Fill any large holes with a flexible patching material. Allow it to dry completely before painting.
- :: Sand all surfaces and use a wire brush or paint scraper to remove loose paint. Be sure to protect yourself with goggles, a particulate filter mask and gloves.
- :: Cut back shrubs and plants so they are easier to cover or pull away, but do not leave plants covered too long.
- :: Cover all objects and surfaces not being painted with plastic, and move vehicles away from the painting area.
- :: Apply the appropriate primer to the all surfaces. Allow all areas to dry thoroughly per the instructions on the product labels.



*\*For health and safety information related to paint and prep, download our Surface Preparation Safety guide.*

## STEP 5: Paint

- :: Protect yourself with appropriate gear (mask, goggles, gloves, etc.) and follow ladder safety best practices.
- :: Start on the shaded side of your home, and never work in direct sunlight.
- :: Begin with your walls, then move on to the trim, railings, porches, steps, foundation and shutters.
- :: Outline the walls with a brush before using a roller. Load your brush by dipping it one-third of the length of the bristles and tapping it gently against the side of the can, but don't wipe the brush against the lip. The bristles should flex slightly as you paint (don't press too hard). Use the brush to smooth the paint to an even finish.
- :: At each stage of painting, start at the top and work your way down. Paint along natural lines, using horizontal brushstrokes for horizontal siding and vertical strokes for vertical siding. Clean any water-based paint spills with a damp cloth before they dry.
- :: A roller can be used after you've outlined the edges with a brush. Roll in light, even strokes in several directions. Roll slowly enough to avoid spattering, going as close to the edges as possible.
- :: Pull shrubs away from the house using staked ropes as you go.
- :: When opening a new gallon of paint, intermix the old and new paints to ensure color uniformity.



The brush's bristles should flex slightly as you paint.



Intermix each new can of paint with some of the previous can for color uniformity.

## STEP 6: Cleanup

- :: Thoroughly clean brushes, roller covers and other tools with soap and water.
- :: Save leftover paint for future touch-ups. Place a layer of plastic wrap over the mouth of the can before replacing the lid securely. Store paint in an area that is not exposed to freezing or varied temperatures.
- :: Paint cans with fully dried paint residue may be disposed of in household trash. Leave the lid off the container so the collector can see that the paint has dried. **NEVER POUR LEFTOVER PAINT DOWN A DRAIN OR INTO A STORM SEWER.**
- :: Once the paint has dried, clean the window screens, then reinstall them as well as the shutters.



Remove tape at a 45° angle to unveil crisp paint lines.

## STEP 7: Maintenance

- :: Periodically check all painted surfaces and resolve any problems early.
- :: Promptly repair cracking, peeling or blistering paint.
- :: Remove dirt occasionally by rinsing with a garden hose.

# PROTECT WHAT MATTERS

The success of your projects depends on the performance and durability of the products you use. Safeguard your work with coatings engineered to last. You'll be doing your part to protect the planet, too. Made in the USA from domestic and imported ingredients in the world's first and only LEED® Gold-certified paint manufacturing facility, Dunn-Edwards products meet or exceed most environmental standards.



'LEED' and related logo is a trademark owned by the U.S. Green Building Council and is used with permission.



Products bearing this logo are EG-FREE™ and TAC/HAP-FREE. Ethylene glycol (EG), a solvent often used in water-based paints, is listed as a Toxic Air Contaminant (TAC) and Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP). In 1983, Dunn-Edwards was the first in the industry to voluntarily replace EG with propylene glycol, a nontoxic alternative "generally regarded as safe" by the FDA. Also, every Dunn-Edwards product with the EG-FREE logo is formulated without any other TAC or HAP.



## A GREEN LEGACY, A GREENER FUTURE.

Dunn-Edwards has a green legacy that makes us proud and inspires us to do more. We are firmly dedicated to the principle of eco-efficiency, which we define as the ability to satisfy human needs in ways that minimize adverse impacts on energy and material resources, environmental quality, and human health and safety.

**HEALTH & SAFETY** when using water-based paints:

**CAUTION!** INHALATION OF SPRAY MIST OR SANDING DUST MAY BE HARMFUL. Use only with adequate ventilation. Avoid breathing vapors, spray mist and sanding dust. Wear a NIOSH-approved N100 filter mask (particulate type) when spraying or sanding. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Do not ingest. Close container after use.

**FIRST AID:** If swallowed, immediately give 1 or 2 glasses of water to drink—for emergency information, call 1-800-222-1222. If having difficulty breathing, move to fresh air. For eye contact, immediately flush with water for 15 minutes. For skin contact, wash thoroughly with soap and water.

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.** For more information, see the appropriate Product Data Sheet(s) and Safety Data Sheet(s) available at [dunnedwards.com](http://dunnedwards.com)

**CAUTION!** Scraping or sanding surfaces of older buildings (especially pre-1978) may release dust containing lead or asbestos. EXPOSURE TO LEAD OR ASBESTOS CAN BE VERY HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH. Wear a NIOSH-approved N100 particulate filter mask to avoid breathing dust. Use a HEPA vacuum for cleanup, and finish by water-washing all surfaces. For more information, see Dunn-Edwards 'Surface Preparation Safety' guide or call U.S. EPA's lead hotline at 1-800-424-LEAD, or visit [epa.gov/lead](http://epa.gov/lead) or [epa.gov/asbestos](http://epa.gov/asbestos)—or contact your state or local Health Agency.

PHOTOGRAPHS: Paint colors depicted in the photographs in this brochure appear differently than on actual surfaces. Photographic processes and lighting will alter appearance. BACK COVER PHOTO: Wall: Lighthouse (DEW385) • Shutters: Black (DEA002) FRONT COVER PHOTO: Wall: Birchwood (DEC752) • Trim: Warm White (DEW380) PAGE 4 PHOTO: Wall: Lighthouse (DEW385)



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