

Field Painting of Factory Primed Exterior Wood Frames

THINGS TO KNOW:

1. Apply topcoat within 90 days of installation. If topcoating occurs after 90 days, the primed surface should be scuff sanded, cleaned and field primed with an exterior primer/sealer prior to finishing. Follow primer/sealer manufacturer instructions.
2. Otherwise, prepare surface to be coated using 180 and/or 220 grit, non-zinc treated sandpaper.
3. Prior to topcoating, the surface must be free of dust, dirt, chalking, oil, grease, wax, and other contaminants. Cracks should be repaired with exterior grade filler. Surface must be dry and free of any moisture. Wipe with a dust-free or tack cloth.
4. Apply two coats of high quality exterior paint, preferably a 100% acrylic-based product.
5. Follow the paint manufacturer's recommendations on thinning, application techniques, recoat time, drying time and when to paint if precipitation is expected.
6. In general, paint should be applied when both the surface and air temperature is between 50°F and 90°F. Relative humidity should be below 85%.
7. **DO NOT** paint weatherstrip or corner pads. Paints may contain solvents which, when coming in contact with plastics and vinyl used in weatherstripping, can cause these materials to lose their flexible qualities and reduce their performance.
8. Repainting every 1 to 5 years will be required, depending upon weather exposure and the paint manufacturer's recommendations. Any signs of blistering, peeling or cracking the finish should be immediately repaired to protect the wood underneath. Failure to properly protect the frame with a topcoat will result in wood damage, including finger joint damage.
9. Recaulking is required to maintain integrity of joints. Any signs of cracks along joints of the brickmould, frames, headers or mulls should be immediately resealed with a high quality exterior caulk.

