



SOLUTIONS

APPLYING LATEX OVER ALKYD (OIL) ENAMELS: NOW YOU CAN DO IT

A cardinal rule in painting has been to never put latex paint over alkyd. It is guaranteed to peel. However, with environmental pressures encouraging the use of water-based, low VOC products as well as for ease and convenience, sooner or later you're going to be putting a latex paint over an old alkyd enamel. Fortunately, the technology and techniques to successfully apply latex paints over alkyds are now available. With a combination of proper surface preparation and the selection of a top quality, high adhesion acrylic paint, you can successfully put latex over alkyd.

Scott **Allgrip** Satin, Semi-Gloss, and Gloss Acrylic paints are specially formulated to have low odor, with state-of-the-art acrylic resins to provide adhesion and hardness that rivals alkyd enamels. In fact, under some conditions, Scott **Allgrip** actually sticks to alkyds better than alkyds themselves. With some easy but important attention to surface preparation, **Allgrip** can provide excellent adhesion and durability on top of old alkyd and other solvent based enamels without peeling or flaking.

Recommended Surface Preparation:

The surface must be absolutely clean and free of hand oils, grease, waxes, dirt, and loose, peeling paints. To clean, degrease, and de-wax, the use of a liquid sandpaper or commercial surface de-glossing agent such as Allpro Dull 'N' Bond is recommended. Wiping the de-glossing solvent with a clean cloth over the surface until the surface is clean and slightly dull will provide adequate adhesion for most uses. On larger exterior areas, a heavy pressure washing with a strong solution of trisodium phosphate (TSP) will improve adhesion tremendously. Ultimately, for best success on painted trim and doors (areas that are regularly handled and banged into), a light sanding utilizing 120C sandpaper with just light pressure to rough up and dull down the surface will greatly improve adhesion. After the **Allgrip** is applied, it is important not to disturb the coating for at least 10 days, as maximum adhesion does not occur until this time. Picking at the coating with a fingernail or knife blade before full cure will cause the coating to peel. It is important to remember that even alkyd over alkyd or alkyd over epoxy will chip and peel if enough penetrating force is used.

So remember, by cleaning the surface thoroughly, doing a light sanding where possible, and using Scott **Allgrip**, you can successfully apply latex paints over alkyd for a durable, odor free, non-toxic paint job.

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Corporate Office and Manufacturing Facility

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