



SOLUTIONS

LEAD PAINT IN THE HOME - ABATE OR REPAINT?

Any home built in America before the mid 1970's probably contains some lead in the paint. This Scott Paint Solutions sheet assumes that you have tested and discovered lead in the paint on the inside or outside of your home in Florida and have been given conflicting advice on painting over (encapsulating) the old paint versus completely removing it. For many years it was assumed that only the complete removal of paint containing lead would permanently solve the problem. Through many years of this total abatement approach, it has been demonstrated that sometimes the cure is worse than the disease. The extreme cost of complete abatement has rendered many a building to be economically unviable, so alternative methods of ensuring the occupants health are necessary. At Scott Paint, we recommend the following approaches as potential alternatives to lead paint safely in your home or building.

1. If the paint is flaking off in brittle chips it may be less expensive to remove the doors, door jambs, or other lead-containing trim, substituting a new, prehung door unit or new trim for the old. Reasonably priced prehung door units will only require new priming and painting, eliminating the difficulty of safely preparing old lead paint surfaces for refinishing.
2. If the finish is sound, it may be suitable for repainting. Important warning: Under no circumstances should lead containing paints be sanded, wire brushed, or steel wooled. Airborne dust particles from sanding can pose an even greater hazard to people and pets than solid chips of lead containing paint. If the finish is sound, prepare the surface for painting by utilizing a commercial cleaning and deglossing agent such as Allpro Dull n' Bond. The same goes for any exterior surfaces that contain lead. When prepped, priming the clean surface with one coat of Scott Seal Alkyd Primer #510 and then topcoating with two coats of Scott Polythane Alkyd Polyurethane Semi-Gloss Enamel #540 will provide a well adhered, tough and durable barrier to lead exposure to people. Even if sanded years later, the three coat system will be thick enough to most likely avoid the production of lead dust.
3. In areas where solvent based paint is prohibited or is ill-advised such as in a hospital or school, prime with Scott Aquaseal Latex Surface Conditioner #692 White and then topcoat with two coats of Scott Allgrip Acrylic Semi-Gloss Enamel #435.
4. On exterior walls, the application of Scott Plastiflex® Elastomeric Mid Coat #1100 and Ultra 100% Acrylic Semi-Gloss #430 over a prime coat of Aquaseal #692 is an excellent way to avoid exposure of lead surfaces while providing a weather resistant, flexible coating that will protect for years to come. Follow the instructions in the Plastiflex® brochure for best success.

To Summarize: In some instances, it pays to remove the contaminated surface and replace it with new wood or trim rather than painting over it. In many cases though, it is far more economically feasible and practical to paint over with an appropriate Scott system. In any event, do not create lead containing dust by sanding, wire brushing, or steel wooling and remember, the thicker the paint film going over the old lead containing coatings, the more protection you'll get. Easy to use **Lead Check™** swab testing kits are available at all Scott Paint stores. Be sure to read the instruction manual carefully to ensure accurate results.

Warning: This sheet is for general informational purposes only. Lead abatement or containment may involve building codes or other legal statutes. Scott Paint is not responsible for the correctness of any advice given by anyone or contained in this sheet regarding lead. Seek advice from the appropriate authority before proceeding.

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