

Tips for maintaining Wattyl, Solver and Granosite finishes:

How to improve coating performance through regular inspection & maintenance.

Exterior:

The performance of any paint coating is reliant on its suitability for application to the substrate on which it has been applied, and its suitability for the conditions to which it is exposed. The integrity of the substrate, the correct film builds and environmental conditions will all combine to determine the performance that is achieved with a paint coating.

Regular inspection, cleaning and repair of a paint coating will prolong its serviceability, highlight any structural problems and maintain the appearance of the painted item for longer. Material that is deposited on, or grows into, a paint film can degrade the coating and mask any underlying structural problems which may arise.

A simple plan of regular inspection and maintenance will help highlight any potential areas of concern.

As a guide, for solid cover paints;

Once a year clean the surface thoroughly using a “soft wash” approach.

A combination of mild detergent, a soft brush and low water pressure (< 1000psi) will clean off most dirt and grime deposits and reveal any areas of potential concern.

Mould and other fungal growth will also be identified. This can be treated using a mild bleach solution and then rinsing well with water.

Surfaces which have started to open due to changes in their structure will also now be apparent and some remedial action should be planned to cope with this.

At this point it will be extremely important to identify and repair the cause of any underlying issues before reapplying any more paint coatings.

Note:

While most paint finishes are long lasting it is much easier to repaint a sound surface in good condition than it is to repair and repaint a surface which has been left too long and has deteriorated badly.

Where large areas of touch up are required then it is best to repaint the entire section back to a break in the wall e.g. corner or doorway.

As a guide, for oils, stains and varnishes:

Regular inspection is recommended with these types of finishes as they often require more maintenance than solid cover paints.

Clean these finishes as above using the soft wash method, identify and treat any mould, and recoat those areas which are showing signs of wear or deterioration.

Touch ups / repairs will be very noticeable if they are not controlled and should cover full sections of the oiled or stained substrate.

INTERIOR:

Three Monthly:

Inspect all painted surfaces and remove any surface marks, stains or dust as follows:-

Dust:

Use a soft cloth or soft bristled brush to remove any loosely adhering material. Avoid excessive rubbing or abrading as this can result in glossing up of the paint film.

Stains/Marks:

Dab stained areas using a soft cloth soaked in a mild detergent solution. Rinse with clean water and let dry. Avoid excess rubbing or abrading as this can result in glossing up of the paint film.

If stains cannot be removed by mild detergent use a proprietary cleaner following the manufacturer's recommendations (1*).

All stains should be treated as soon as they are noticed as this is when they are easiest to remove, however, the paint film must be fully cured first or else damage may be done to the surface.

(1*) Note: All cleaning treatments should be tested first on an inconspicuous section of the wall to ensure the treatment will not cause unacceptable damaged to the painted surface.

Annually:

Repair all surface defects with appropriate patching compounds and touch up these areas using matching paint imitating the texture of the original coating.

Where large areas of touch up are required then it is best to repaint the entire section back to a break in the wall e.g. corner or doorway.

Five Years:

Repaint all walls following Wattyl's recommendations as per product label / data sheet (2*).

Ten Years:

Repaint all ceilings following Wattyl's recommendations as per product label / data sheet (2*).

(2*) Note: Whilst Wall and Ceiling Finishes may last longer than five or ten years, it is much easier to recoat a still intact surface which will minimise preparation time and cost.