

CARE GUIDE

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR PAINTWORK



INSPIRE



Multiple trades under one roof with flexible resource

www.inspireliving.co.nz

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR PAINTWORK

At Inspire Living, we want to ensure that your newly painted home stays vibrant, beautiful, and protected for years to come. Proper maintenance of both interior and exterior paintwork is essential to preserving the quality and appearance of your investment. This guide will help you care for your painted surfaces, offering advice on cleaning, maintaining, and replacing paint when necessary.

1. Interior Paint Maintenance

- **Regular Cleaning** - To keep your interior walls looking fresh, regularly dust or wipe down surfaces. For high-traffic areas like hallways or kitchens, use a soft cloth or microfiber mop to remove dust and dirt. For walls, a gentle vacuum with a soft brush attachment works well for removing dust from textured surfaces.
- **Spot Cleaning** - For spots, smudges, or spills, use a mild dish soap solution (a few drops of soap in water) and a soft sponge. Test any cleaning solution on an inconspicuous area first to ensure it doesn't affect the paint finish. For tougher stains, consider using a cleaner designed specifically for painted surfaces. Speak to your local Resene or Dulux supplier, as to what cleaner they would recommend is best for your build.
- **Avoid Abrasive Materials** - Harsh scrubbing or abrasive pads can damage the paint finish, especially on glossy or satin paints. Stick to soft sponges, microfiber cloths, or non-abrasive brushes.
- **Touching Up Paint** - Over time, scuffs or chips may appear, especially in high-use areas. If you notice any areas of damage, it's a good idea to touch up those spots with matching paint. If you have leftover paint from the original job, it's perfect for this. If not, contact us for a colour match.

2. Exterior Paint Maintenance

- **Cleaning** - Exterior paint is exposed to the elements and requires regular maintenance to stay in good condition. Use a garden hose or pressure washer on a low setting to rinse off dirt, leaves, and other debris from the exterior surfaces. Clean windows, doors, and trims every few months to prevent buildup.
- **Removing Mildew or Mould** - In damp climates, mildew or mould can develop on painted surfaces, particularly on the south side of buildings or shaded areas. To clean, use a mixture of 1 part bleach to 3 parts water, applying it with a soft sponge or cloth. Rinse thoroughly with clean water after cleaning. Always wear gloves and ensure proper ventilation.
- **Inspecting for Damage** - Regularly inspect exterior paint for any signs of peeling, cracking, or chipping. These could indicate that the paint has been compromised by moisture, sun exposure, or wear and tear. If you spot any issues, it's important to address them promptly to prevent further deterioration and protect the underlying surfaces.

3. When to Repaint: Signs It's Time to Update Your Paintwork

- **Interior Paint** - Interior paint typically lasts 5-7 years before showing signs of wear, depending on the room's use and the quality of the paint. High-traffic areas, kitchens, and bathrooms may require repainting sooner. Look for signs like discolouration, cracks, or peeling, and consider touching up or fully repainting as needed.
- **Exterior Paint** - The exterior of your home takes a beating from the weather and elements. Depending on your climate and the quality of paint used, exterior paint may need to be reapplied every 5-10 years. Extreme weather conditions, including heavy rain, snow, or intense sun, can cause the paint to fade or peel more quickly. Regular inspection for cracking, peeling, or bubbling paint can help you determine when it's time to repaint.

4. Additional Tips for Long-Lasting Paintwork

- **Protect from Extreme Conditions** - Extreme weather conditions, such as heavy rain, strong winds, or direct sunlight, can impact your paint's longevity. Where possible, use outdoor furniture or shading structures to protect exterior walls from prolonged sun exposure. Inside, avoid placing furniture or objects directly against painted walls, as this can cause scuffing or peeling.
- **Avoid Heavy Impact** - On both interior and exterior surfaces, avoid knocking or scraping the painted surfaces with heavy objects. While paint is durable, harsh impacts may chip or crack the finish.
- **Humidity and Ventilation** - Proper ventilation in areas like kitchens, bathrooms, and laundry rooms is key to preventing moisture buildup, which can cause paint to peel or blister. Use exhaust fans or open windows to ensure proper airflow, and address any leaks or water issues promptly.

5. Touching Up and Maintaining Trim and Doors

- Trim, doors, and window frames often take a beating, especially with frequent use. These surfaces may need touch-ups more frequently. Check regularly for nicks, chips, or fading, and touch up these areas with leftover paint from your initial job. Keep an eye out for moisture buildup around windows and doors, as this can affect paint adhesion.