



National LEAD Information Center

Call 1-800-424-LEAD (5323)
to receive a list of certified laboratories
in your area that will test for LEAD.

Repainting Historic Homes from the result of Age and Weathering

If the existing paint on wood siding, eaves, window sills, sash, shutters, and doors show evidence of paint deterioration such as blistering, peeling, or cracking then it is time to repaint the home.

1. **Peeling**: Peeling to bare wood is most often caused by excess interior or exterior moisture that collects behind the paint film. Generally beginning as blisters, cracking and peeling occur as moisture causes the wood to swell, breaking the adhesion of bottom layer of paint.
- Prior to painting, remove the source or sources of the moisture. Repair or replace faulty flashing, leaking gutters, defective roof shingles, cracks and holes in siding, and dig out old deteriorated caulking. Also, cut back trees and shrubbery growing too close to the painted wood. If moisture is severe, install exhaust fans and vents.



2. Inter Paint Coat Delamination: This occurs when previous coats of paint are not adhering uniformly and tightly. In the case, then you would not need to remove all the layers of paint down to bare wood but, only to the layer that is delaminating.

3. Mildew (not a paint failure): Mildew is caused by fungi feeding on nutrients in the paint film or dirt adhering to any surface.
- Mildew can only exist in shady, warm, and moist areas. The problem area may be shaded by trees, which need to be pruned back to allow sunlight to strike the home or lack of rain gutters for proper drainage off the home.
 - Remove Mildew with one-part household liquid bleach and three parts water. Allow the solution to remain on the surface for ten minutes, then rinse thoroughly with water.









Preparing a home for Re-Painting

1. EPA's new LEAD safety rules.
2. Power Washing: This will remove dirt, loose paint, and caulking. After the home has dried, you will be able to see a better picture of how much sanding, wood replacement, caulking, and priming will need to be done.
3. Methods of removing Paint:
 - Abrasive
 - Thermal
 - Chemical



Selection of Paint Colors for your Time Period

1. Date your home. Do research at the local courthouse to find out when your house was built. Different periods of construction during the Victorian era produced different paint colors.
2. Visit your local Sherwin-Williams paint store. We can show you authentic Victorian paint colors for the exact replica colors from the 19th century and have guides for color schemes based on your home's construction period.
 1. Classical / Colonial (1800)
 2. Classical / Colonial (1800-)
 3. Arts & Crafts (1900)
 4. Victorian (1900)

3. Sample it. Buy small samples of the colors you are considering and choose a well-lit side of the house to paint samples of color combinations. This will allow you to make a paint color selection with out purchasing unwanted gallons of paint.

4. Buy a Book or browse the Internet. You will want to look at whole house examples of color schemes and architecture before making your choices.











