

EVERY DAY

REAL WORLD

1876

PAINING

By Rudy Reid

FOREWORD

This book was written to provide both the painter and homeowner with non-technical and accurate instructions and answers to questions that might arise concerning residential painting.

This brief, yet informative manual will serve as a valuable reference guide for those who desire to acquire a practical knowledge of preparing and painting their home.

This book uncovers many of the tricks of the trade that have been learned over a 25-year painting career.

I hope you enjoy reading this work.

In Memory Of
William "Spooky" Atkins

Rudy Reid

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An Introduction To **EVERYDAY REAL WORLD PAINTING** by Rudy Reid

In this approach to painting, we will take a look at why many people gravitate towards this craft. We can often trace the origins of our interest back to our early childhood development, the days of identifying coloring crayons and sketching in coloring books through years later in life. We become familiar with colors and geometric shapes, as well as pencils and erasers.

These early and rather crude forms of art influence our creativity and imagination, and over time helps us gain perspective. For example:

Red= Sacrifice and selflessness _____
White=Pure Motives _____
Blue = Ingenuity and industry _____

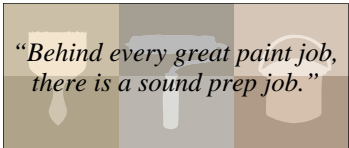


From here our true colors shine through!

Because of circumstances we are unable to change or alter during our journey through life, artistic expression offers change, and can be empowering. Here, the art of painting becomes a door to creativity that allows change in color and mood inside or outside the home. In this book, we will identify many steps and procedures to help you communicate these inner impressions.

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For our purposes, I will focus attention on challenges that face today's residential painter or non-professional painter, such as product knowledge, cost estimating process, quality control, scheduling, maintenance and personnel.



*“Behind every great paint job,
there is a sound prep job.”*

P R E P A R A T I O N

Consider some of the different challenges that modern painters face. First, they must be mentally prepared and have a healthy respect for producing excellent work. Behind every great paint job, there is a sound preparation. One has to decide what type of surface is to be prepared, and then determine the top products available to get the optimum results and complete the project. Much of preparation involves pressure washing, acid etching, sandblasting, caulking, scraping, sanding, puttying, dusting, burning old paint, reglazing, windows and block filling, to name a few.

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The prep job is put aside once the finish is applied; therefore, I will place a good deal of emphasis on preparation. The preparation stage is really what determines the adhesion of the primer to the surface and the bond between the paint and the primer. Some estimate that as much as 70% of the time invested in a successful job can be attributed to prep work; therefore, we should emphasize this important part of the process.

P R O D U C T K N O W L E D G E

Product knowledge is essential when selecting the best materials for each job. Retail paint stores carry very different product lines. The painter acquires a sense of what effect he wants to create by visiting two or three area paint stores where he can get the best recommendations and information on what is available. Then, estimating cost becomes the critical skill because miscalculating a budget can kill a project. Diligence and patience must characterize this part of the process. Later in this book, there will be additional aid in making estimates.

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C O S T E S T I M A T I N G P R O C E S S

Measuring tools are part of the painter's arsenal. Tape measures and measuring wheels are used to determine the number of square feet. An estimator or draftsman can help interpret a set of plans. Here, choosing the most knowledgeable person is important. When one paints new construction, an excellent set-up resembles an assembly line. Repainting is rather different because everything is fixed in place. Selecting high quality tools and equipment like spray equipment, scaffolds, stilts, lifts, step and extension ladders can expedite the job.

Q U A L I T Y C O N T R O L

Quality control should occur throughout a painting project, keep the job moving. Prompt service is central here. As one's experience grows, the mind and eye become more acutely aware of first and second grade craftsmanship. Scheduling work is also an important aspect if there is interior work to be done. In most cases, this work can be done on rainy days or if some other event prohibits working outside. This maximizes

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productivity. Putting a person with specialized skills on a job is also important because each individual has a certain skill set within which they can do quality work. Keeping the same person or persons on a job also helps to maintain a level of familiarity, as well as a steady and productive pace of work.

M A I N T E N A N C E

Maintenance of a paint job is often neglected because some owners ignore upkeep after the job is completed. Left exposed to weather conditions or just normal wear and tear from traffic, structures deteriorate and property value suffers; therefore, care should be routinely given to keep the property looking its best. Damage from extended neglect can cost thousands to repair, for example, fixing neglect of exterior wood surfaces such as novelty sidings, window sash, fascia boards and window seals. However, if these surfaces are routinely inspected and maintained with caulk, glazing primer, and a coat of paint, the maintenance of them can be kept up for a fraction of the cost of repair or replacement. Maintaining a home can help to increase its value and to enhance the neighborhood.

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PERSONNEL

Personnel is a very important subject worthy of our attention because each person involved in the painting process is on a learning curve and is at a different level of growth and development. One of the basic calculations in this equation is appearance. Each crew member involved should display a positive and cooperative attitude to include grooming and suitable attire for the trade. Painter whites and shirts are widely accepted by the painting industry and can be purchased from the local paint store. Painters' adhering to a dress code reinforces credibility, lends respect to the painter and conveys competence and acceptance to the owner.

THE GOALS OF PAINTING

The goals, of painting is beautification, preservation and sanitation. Beautification is one of the main reasons for painting. For a reasonable investment, one can add a totally new and appealing facelift to a piece of property. Preservation has to do with the upkeep and

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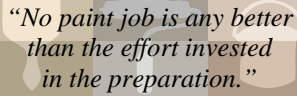
maintenance of a property. This is very critical because unprotected wood surfaces can become so weather beaten and damaged until it becomes impractical or too expensive to salvage or repair it.

Sanitation is also an important area of attention. Many times, commercial restaurant and kitchen areas become unsanitary due to grease and smoke build-up on the walls and ceilings. Most restaurants must undergo quarterly inspections by the local health department. These businesses must maintain a high level of cleanliness at all times or face penalties, fines or loss of their food license. Walls and ceilings must be cleaned and a fresh coat of paint must be applied. Sanitation also plays a vital role in multi-family apartment complexes. People are moving in and out of apartment dwellings regularly. Many times, these apartments have to be sanitized and repainted to provide a clean and safe environment for future tenants.

In approaching the start-up date of the preparation phase of the job, you will do well to keep in mind that no paint job is any better than the effort invested in the preparation. The character of the job (whether interior,

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exterior, new or repaint) will be the first topic of concern. The next will be which products will be best for the job.



*“No paint job is any better
than the effort invested
in the preparation.”*

Throughout, I will address each phase of preparation and painting, and try to familiarize you with many of the problems associated with each.