

✓ Homeowner's Painting Checklist (Free Version)

Introduction

Getting a paint job done right is about more than just slapping paint on a wall. It's about **quality, durability, preparation, and attention to detail**. This checklist will help you avoid common mistakes, ask the right questions, and make sure you're getting your money's worth.

If you want the complete guide with all the insider tips and secrets, you can download the Premium Painting Guide at the end.

1. Preparation Checklist (What to Expect Before Painting Starts)

- **Surface Cleaning:** Make sure all walls, ceilings, and surfaces are properly cleaned of dirt, grease, dust, and mildew.
 - **Repairs:** Inspect for cracks, holes, or damaged drywall and make sure repairs are completed **before** painting.
 - **Sanding & Smoothing:** All surfaces should be sanded and smoothed for proper adhesion. Glossy surfaces must be scuffed for paint to stick.
 - **Priming:** Bare surfaces or repaired areas **must** be primed to ensure paint sticks properly and provides consistent coverage.
 - **Protection:** Furniture, floors, trim, and fixtures should be properly covered with drop cloths or plastic sheeting.
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2. Paint Selection (Understanding Your Options)

- **Type of Paint:**
 - **Latex (Water-Based):** Best for walls and ceilings, easy to clean, durable, dries quickly.
 - **Oil-Based:** Best for trim, doors, and high-traffic areas; more durable but takes longer to dry.

- **Finish Choices:**

- **Flat / Matte:** Hides imperfections but less durable—best for ceilings or low-traffic areas.
 - **Eggshell:** Low sheen, moderate durability—ideal for living rooms, bedrooms.
 - **Satin:** Durable and washable—good for kitchens, bathrooms, and hallways.
 - **Semi-Gloss:** High durability and moisture resistance—perfect for trim, moldings, bathrooms.
 - **Gloss:** Most durable and shiny—often used for cabinets, trim, and doors.
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3. Application Process (How It Should Be Done)

- **Cutting In:** Ensure edges and corners are carefully brushed before rolling the larger areas.
 - **Rolling Technique:** Use a 'W' or 'M' motion for even application, avoiding streaks and roller marks.
 - **Drying Time:** Make sure paint has sufficient time to dry between coats (typically 2-4 hours for latex).
 - **Number of Coats:** At least **two coats** for proper coverage and durability.
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4. Cleanup & Inspection (What To Look For After the Job)

- **Cleanup:** Check if tools, materials, and drop cloths are properly cleaned up and disposed of.
- **Final Inspection:** Look for streaks, drips, uneven coverage, or missed spots.
- **Edges & Details:** Make sure trim lines are clean and crisp with no bleeding.
- **Durability Check:** Lightly touch surfaces to ensure they're fully dry and not tacky.

5. Questions To Ask Any Painter (To Avoid Wasting Money)

- Are you properly preparing the surfaces before painting?
- What type of paint and finish are you using? Why?
- How many coats will you apply?
- Will you be priming before painting? If not, why?
- How do you handle protection and cleanup?
- Can you provide references or show examples of your past work?

Want the Full Insider's Guide?

This checklist covers the basics, but if you want to make sure you're **getting the absolute best quality and protecting your investment**, ask me about the **Premium Painting Guide**.

It includes:

- Complete breakdown of **the best paints and finishes** for every surface.
- Insider tips on **how to spot shortcuts and mistakes most painters won't tell you about**.
- Detailed step-by-step guide for **proper prep, application, and finishing**.
- Professional advice to help you **choose the right contractor or do it yourself the right way**.
- Updates on new products, techniques, and more!!
- **THE INSIDE SCOOP** on the construction industry in Brevard!!