



Sheen or Gloss Non-Uniformity

If a surface appears to be non-uniform after staining or painting, there could be several reasons for the occurrence of this condition. The following explores several of the most common uniformity issues that may be encountered and the factors that influence sheen uniformity during application.

Lap Marks

Unless a "wet edge" is maintained during application, working back into a semi-dry or dry area can double the film thickness and result in lap marks. To avoid lap marks, paint in small sections so there is less time for each section to dry completely before you start in on an adjacent one. For example, on horizontal siding begin at the edge of a few boards and work across to a logical break such as a door or window. On vertical siding, begin at the top of a few boards and work down to the bottom. Avoiding applications in direct sunlight will also minimize lap marks, since heat speeds up the drying time. Following the shade around the house is recommended during staining or painting if possible. If lap marks have already occurred with a paint or solid color stain, a second coat, spread evenly, and applied as directed above is necessary to uniform the surface.

Flashing

This is a term used to describe shiny spots that occur due to improper or non-uniform sealing of a surface that is porous or varies in porosity. The stain or paint will tend to penetrate or soak in the porous areas more than the dense areas, causing apparent shiny spots on the dense area. If the surface is extremely porous, a prime coat is necessary. Otherwise, another finish coat of paint spread uniformly will generally correct the condition. Some unevenness can be expected on rougher surfaces, but additional coats of paint tend to achieve better uniformity.

Uneven Sheen or Gloss

Uneven brushing or rolling during application can result in varying film thicknesses and uneven sheen or gloss. Thinner films will generally be lower in sheen than thicker areas. Stain or paint must be spread uniformly to avoid this.

Flattening or Whitening

High moisture conditions such as high humidity, dew, or rain during or shortly after application can flatten glossy finishes. These conditions can also cause whitening of finishes. If either of these conditions occurs, application of another finish coat under more favorable conditions will be required to correct.