



Painting Aluminum & Vinyl Siding

Aluminum and vinyl siding are a common building materials found in residential and even some commercial construction. Painting whether to change the color on newer siding or to brighten up aged, weathered siding may be conducted as long as the following are taken into account.

When can New Aluminum and Vinyl Siding be Painted?

New aluminum and vinyl siding should be allowed to weather at least six months before painting. The factory finish on aluminum siding may contain wax or silicone that could adversely affect adhesion of an applied paint. Vinyl siding contains a plasticizer that may also cause adhesion problems. Allowing the siding to weather basically neutralizes these materials adverse affects on a subsequently applied paint by removing them.

What is the Best Recommendation for Painting Weathered Aluminum Siding?

Aluminum siding tends to chalk after extensive weathering. The chalk should be removed prior to painting by cleaning with soap, water and a soft scrub brush. High pressure power washing can also be effective if done properly. Thoroughly rinse the surface and allow to dry before painting. If no chalk remains, a 100% acrylic latex house paint such as **FORTIS® 450 or 350** exterior flat, satin or semi-gloss finishes or **ULTRA-HIDE® 250 or 150** exterior flat, satin or semi-gloss finishes can be applied directly. If light chalk remains, prime with a chalk penetrating acrylic latex primer such as the **6001 Hydrosealer Primer Sealer**. If heavy chalk remains, prime with an alkyd primer such as **2110N Stain Stomper Exterior Primer Sealer**. Finish as desired. **FORTIS 450 or 350** exterior satin finish or **ULTRA-HIDE 250 or 150** exterior satin finish most closely approximate the original factory finish sheen of the siding. Two coats of finish will provide a longer service life.

What is the Best Recommendation for Painting Weathered Vinyl Siding?

Since vinyl siding does not chalk when weathered, it need only be washed thoroughly like any other exterior surface before painting. It can then be painted directly with a 100% acrylic latex house paint such as **FORTIS 450 or 350** exterior flat, satin or semi-gloss finishes or **ULTRA-HIDE 250 or 150** exterior flat, satin or semi-gloss finishes. Again, **FORTIS 450 or 350** exterior satin finish or **ULTRA-HIDE 250 or 150** exterior satin finish most closely approximate the original factory finish sheen of the siding. Two coats of finish will provide a longer service life.

NOTE: Never paint vinyl siding with colors darker than the original color. Increased heat buildup from sunlight will cause warping.