



Five Minutes To A Successful Painting Project

Hire a professional painter at the right price the *first time*.



**It's
Easier
Than
Doing It
Yourself**

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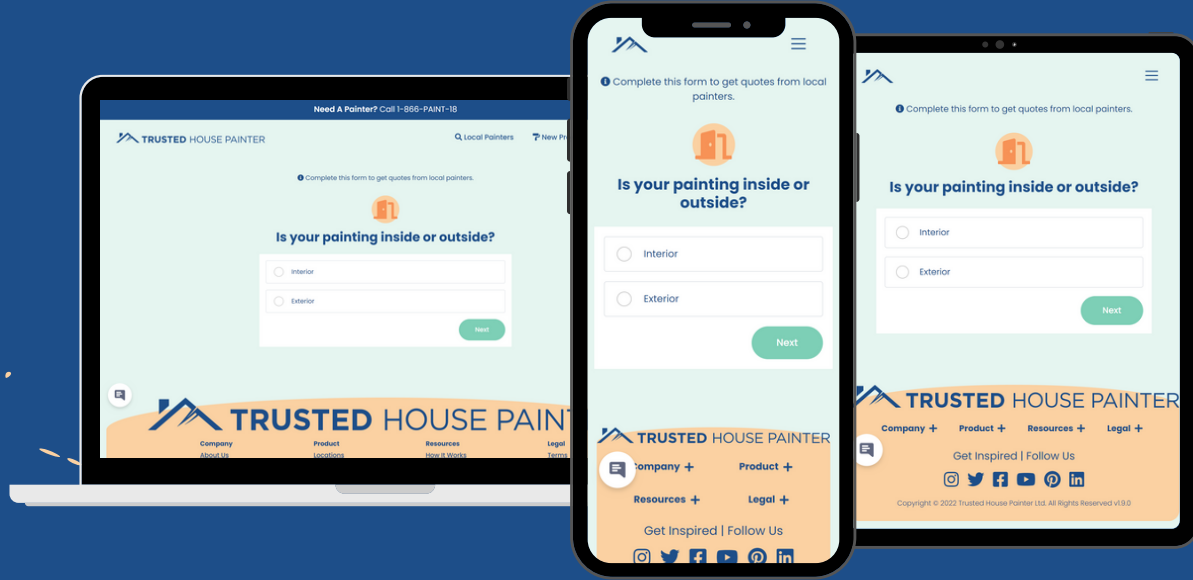
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The Homeowner Toolkit

It's packed with insider advice:

- House Painting Planner
- Painting Contractor Questionnaire
- Painting Service Agreement
- Color Palette Record Sheets
- ...and more!

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The 5 Stages of Painting

Project Roadmap

Get a clear picture of what needs to happen at each step.

Planning

- Make a list
- Set a budget
- Choose color palette
- Pick a start and finish date

Hiring

- Contact painters for quotes
- Interview painters
- Hire the best match
- Communicate expectations
- Pay a deposit
- Sign a formal agreement

Prep

- Meet the crew
- Set boundaries
- Painters prep for paint

Painting

- Discuss deficiencies with the crew's Supervisor
- Final walk-through
- Site clean-up
- Store leftover paint

Paperwork

- Discuss maintenance
- Get a copy of the warranty
- Pay the final invoice
- Get a receipt!

Mark It Done

Master Checklist

Use this checklist to help keep organized and on track with your painting project.

- Make a point-form list itemizing everything you want to be painted
This helps painters determine the price and makes quotes equally comparable
- Set a budget for this project with an additional 15% for safe measures
- Pick a start and finish date
- Choose a color palette and give the color chips, codes or numbers to your painter
- Contact at least three painting contractors for quotes
- Interview painters, review quotes and hire the appropriate painter
- Sign an agreement or contract and attach your point-form list to it
Each party will retain a copy of the signed agreements for their records
- Confirm your start date and pay a deposit if requested
- On start day, meet the team of painters and discuss tool storage, water access, and daily work hours
- During the painting, document all project changes and considerations
Use email or written agreements that document your communication
- Near the end of the production, communicate any concerns or deficiencies to the contractor
- When the painting is finished, perform a final walk-through with your painter to review the deficiency list and approve all work as complete
- Keep the color, product, sheen, and location information for each area painted.
Label leftover paint cans and store them in a cool, dry place
- Review warranty coverage and recommendations for a paint maintenance plan
- Pay the final invoice and remember to get a receipt!

Top 10 Painting Tips

Insider Advice

Trusted House Painter's advice will help you get the painter you need.

- 1 Not all painting companies are equal.** Some painters are better at painting than business, and vice versa. Having quotes to compare will clarify price discrepancies and help you decide who to hire.
- 2 Start getting quotes early!** Start planning early, especially for exterior painting. It takes time to receive quotes, and painters can get booked up quickly.
- 3 Organize your colors before hiring.** Choosing color palettes can be a challenge, so start the process early. Look for inspirational images and use online palette generators to find colors that look great together!
- 4 Get it in writing and get a receipt!** Always sign a formal agreement when hiring a painter. Contracts are the best way to enforce accountability and provide quick conflict resolution.
- 5 Discuss the warranty.** Most painters provide a limited warranty on their work. Be informed of your painter's warranty and get a copy for your records, so you're covered if the paint fails prematurely.
- 6 It's all about the prep.** Skilled painters know that the quality of surface prep determines the lifespan of your coating. Hire painters that have a thorough preparation and clean-up process.
- 7 Beware of the subcontractor game.** Some companies subcontract their work to cheaper, less qualified contractors. This practice can result in poor quality work and often leads to conflict.
- 8 Hire busy painters.** As the old saying goes, reliable tradespeople are busy. Good painters won't hesitate to provide you with references or testimonials.
- 9 Good painters don't always appear on the first page of Google results.** Many quality painters don't have websites to search for online and rely on word of mouth.
- 10 Let your painters work uninterrupted to keep production on track.** Micromanaging production can cause time loss and errors. It's always better to talk to the supervisor and leave the crew to work.

Make it Foolproof

Recommendations

Follow our recommendations to ensure your project is a success.

Deposit

It's typical for painting contractors to require a deposit to start the project. The deposit is usually for purchasing supplies and materials. The industry standard is around 15-25%.

Boundaries

Communicate your expectations before the painting starts.

Boundaries you may want to discuss with your painter are bathroom usage, daily work hours, stereo usage, tool storage, cleaning, payment, products, and utility usage.

Colors

Lighting has a massive influence on a color's appearance.

Remember that the color will look different on the wall than when viewed on a digital display. It's best to provide your painter with physical color samples.

Dry Time

Allow the paint to cure properly to get the most life out of it. Most paint products take up to 30 days to fully cure, so wait at least two weeks before hanging pictures. Even if the paint feels dry to the touch, it might be soft and easily damaged. Surfaces like decks, railings, doors and window ledges should have ample time to cure so the coat thoroughly bonds.

Maintenance

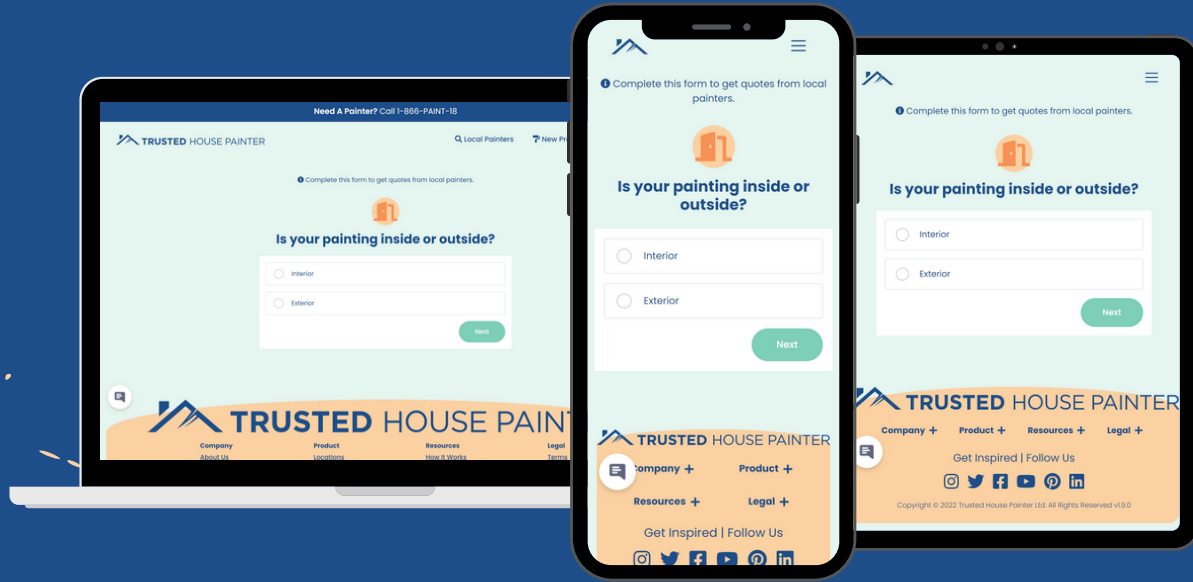
Like most things in life, maintenance is the key to lasting value. Here are a few tips that will help you maintain your paint:

Interior: Use 'scrubbable' paint products in high-traffic areas of your home. Washable or scrubbable paint is designed for regular cleaning.

Exterior: Keep bushes and trees trimmed away from your home. Doing so will allow for proper airflow and prevent moisture build-up, the leading cause of paint failure. It will also deter rodents and bugs from nesting in your home.

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