



SISSONS - CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

NEW SURFACES:

Poured concrete or precast concrete surfaces should cure for 50 – 60 days. Plastered walls should cure for 20-30 days depending on prevailing weather conditions. Before painting new concrete surfaces, the presence of form release agents must be considered. If form oils or waxes are present, sandblasting or washing with a detergent solution must be done to assure good adhesion. Poured concrete floors must be etched with a 20% solution of muriatic acid in water to dissolve the milky film formed on over troweled cement surfaces and open the pores to allow for penetration and to promote adhesion of the paint.

Plastered surfaces usually contain voids and honeycomb pockets near the surface. The surface should be thoroughly cleaned with a stiff brush to remove loose sand granules. The first or primer coat should be thinned down and applied by brush to ensure that there is good penetration of the paint. Failure to do this can result in a flaking paint problem.

OLD OR PREVIOUSLY PAINTED SURFACES:

The most common exterior paint failures in the tropics on masonry surfaces are cracking, flaking and discoloration from Fungus/Algae/Mildew.

CRACKING & FLAKING:

This is mainly caused from painting over heavy chalk deposits that have not been properly removed. Chalk deposits are formed on old exposed painted surfaces when the coating system has started to disintegrate. The most efficient way to remove this loose, friable substance is with high pressure spray equipment. Multiple coats of paint must be completely removed, thereby exposing a sound substrate before attempting to repaint. It is recommended that the prepared surface be sealed with Sissons Penetrating Liquid or Sissons Weather guard, thinned 2:1 with clean water as a first coat.

MILDEW / FUNGUS INFESTED AREAS

This is a major cause of paint discoloration and disfigurement of exterior building in the tropics. Surfaces must be sterilized before painting. External concrete or plastered surface left untreated for several months may become infected with fungal spores and may require washing with Sissons Biocidal Solution before painting. Old paintwork which shows signs of disintegration must be pressure washed to a sound substrate and sterilized with Sissons Biocidal Solution

EFFLORESCENCE

This is a white crystalline deposit on the face of a wall and often seen on newly laid bricks/tiles. It is caused by the presence of moisture bringing soluble salts to the surface and eventually drying, leaving a white deposit. Removal is done by wiping or washing off with 10% muriatic acid solution, followed by flushing with clean water, to remove the acid. If the problem is persistent then a major build-up of salts may occur, pushing the paint film to form unsightly craters/blisters. The solution to this is to locate and correct the sources of the moisture conditions causing the problem. In some cases, especially on old building when damp-proofing was never done, the problem may only be solved by major re-construction work.

WOODEN SURFACES

New Wood

Sand to a smooth finish and dust off. Apply two (2) coats Sissons Sanding Sealer over knots or heavy resinous area e.g. the very dark oily areas on some pieces of pitch pine. Finish using one coat Sissons Universal Undercoat and two (2) coats of paint, allowing adequate drying time between coats and sanding lightly after each coat. An ideal paint for interior or exterior work is the SISSONS Super Gloss Paint in which case a primer is not required as the paint has a built-in primer.

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OLD PAINTED WOODEN SURFACES

Old paint showing blistering or flaking should be cleaned by scraping and sanding to a sound substrate. Exposed wood should be spot primed using Sissons Super Gloss paint before finishing with one or two coats of Super Gloss Paint.

A Paint system to be used is determined by several factors, and these are:

- Type of surface to be protected/decorated, metal, wood, etc.
- Location of surface e.g. interior, exterior, harsh environment etc.
- Type of finish required e.g. gloss, flat textured etc.
- Cost.

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