

Home Improvement Guide For '65

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What to Look For When Choosing New Paint Rollers

Thinking of sprucing up the old homestead with paint, on a "do-it-yourself" basis? To give the painting job a professional look, there's a fast, modern way to apply paint — with a roller.

Here are some key points to look for in selecting a roller, or set of rollers.

First, what's it made of? Newest trend in roller coverings is to the synthetic fibers — among them, Dynel, a mod-acrylic fiber.

Second question to ask is: How long is the nap? This has nothing to do with sleeping on the job! It refers to the length of the individual fibers on the roller cover.

The length of the nap determines the wicking capacity of the roller and how much paint it can hold ready to roll on. The right length varies with the surface to be painted.

Long-nap fibers (five-eighths of an inch and over) are recommended for rough-textured surfaces; short-nap (one-quarter inch or less) or standard-nap (three-eighths to one-half inch) for smoother surfaces.

Next, is the shape and size right for the job? Special

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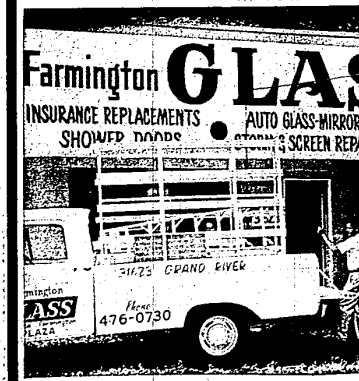
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Siding, Veneers Give Exteriors New Life

When it's time to give the exterior of the home a new lease on life, both the possibilities and the advantages are many. With any of a wide choice of sidings and masonry veneers, old walls can be re-covered and renewed, and the result is that the home becomes more attractive, is better protected against the elements and increases in value, too.

For the older home, re-siding provides an opportunity for basic changes that up-date the exterior by eliminating objectionable architectural details. More recently built homes, in developments where the houses are all pretty much alike, can take on a distinctive, custom-styled appearance with a wise selection of siding colors and textures.

Many modern low maintenance materials are available for exterior renewal projects — sidings such as shingles, asbestos cement, masonry veneers such as brick, stone or simulated stone.

Mineral Fiber
Factory-finished mineral fiber siding offers a number of benefits.

Mineral fiber siding is color-coated with acrylic plastic, an extremely durable finish. The siding is available in a wide variety of colors and textures. The acrylic coating is bonded, is fireproof, warp-proof and rot-proof.

It can be installed right over old walls — over brick, stone, stucco, clapboard or shingles. Installation is done with non-staining nails in colors to match the siding.

When properly installed, the wall needs no attention or servicing other than perhaps occasional sanding to remove surface dirt.

Mineral fiber panels are available in 12 inch by 24 inch and other sizes, with a choice of deeply embossed colors and textures ranging from brilliant pastels to deeper decorator shades.

Rigid Vinyl
Home renovation with a new rigid vinyl siding provides low maintenance and safety features, along with attractive appearance. Made entirely of tough, rigid vinyl, this type of siding will not chip, corrode, wear away, blister or peel.

Among the advantages provided with this siding is that no painting is required. An occasional water hosing to remove dust and dirt is said to be sufficient to maintain the siding.

One type of rigid vinyl siding on the market is a complete system of .045 gauge white rigid vinyl clapboards which clip onto one-half-inch thick pressed fiber backer boards, without nailing. The siding overlaps to an eight-inch width exposure.

Preformed vinyl corner caps and J-strips for vertical trim at openings are part of the builder's package.

Important safety features of this siding are that it will not support fire or conduct electricity. Its high insulating value helps to reduce heating and air conditioning costs.

News For Home
GLASS DIVIDERS
Free-standing dividers of patterned glass from the Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co. are available in many designs. Patterned glass has the ability to provide privacy while transmitting light.

Brick Veneer
Although brick as a construction material is at least 9,000 years old, men are still discovering new ways to use it around the home. Today, brick veneer is mounting in popularity as a means of re-surfacing and renewing home exteriors.

Brick veneer offers qualities of durability, permanence of color, variety of texture and low maintenance. Cost of veneering over old walls, with brick, is often lower than a homeowner may suppose.

For savings on heating and cooling bills, brick veneer adds substantial insulation to a house. It doesn't bend or dent, and doesn't require painting.

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