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**05**  
**INFO PAGE**

## PAINTING NOTES & TIPS

### ROLLER MARKS, FLASHING, OVERLAPPING

One of the most common difficulties encountered while applying quality 100% acrylic latex paint is an uneven look due to roller marks, flashing and picture framing (when the cutting and rolling looks different). There is a very simple explanation for this and it has to do with the drying time.

In the winter, when temperatures drop below about  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  it become extremely dry inside your house causing the drying time for quality 100% acrylics to be reduced from 20-30 minutes to under 5 minutes (sometimes when it is extremely cold out it can be less than 2 minutes). When this occurs, if no action is taken to slow down the drying time back-rolling becomes nearly impossible and you are in essence putting 2 coats in some areas and 1 in others causing a very uneven look on the wall. This problem becomes more noticeable with darker colours.

This problem can occur at any time of year when conditions are very dry and/or the painter/homeowner does not have much experience with high-quality Acrylic paints. The lower quality vinyl-acrylics, vinyl-acetates and clay-base emulsion paints do not dry near as fast and are much more forgiving to apply with respect to roller marks. The downside is they don't last as long as 100% acrylics and you can't achieve the same colours.

### WHAT CAN BE DONE?

1. Reduce the temperature and air circulation in room by closing the doors and vents while the room is being painted to allow the product to flow and level better as it will slow down the drying time.
2. Floetrol (or another extender) can be added to wall paints (1oz) to further slow the drying time and improve flow and leveling.
3. When painting a ceiling Floetrol cannot be used as it will affect the sheen so water should be added instead (1-2oz/gal).
4. A top quality roller with the proper nap will also aid in achieving an even finish.
5. The proper amount of product needs to be used on the wall as stretching out your paint will aggravate the problem by reducing the flow and leveling of the coating.

The reason this problem is not as significant in lower quality paint is due to the fact they have a higher solvent content while quality acrylics are much higher in solids (and lower in VOC's).