

“ Another holiday period is done and dusted and Eneser’s on an extended holiday, so that takes care of any excuse I had not to get any more work done. The warm weather is great for the paint, but not always so great for the painter. Make sure you are coated in sunscreen before you start work to make sure you don’t get fried. If you haven’t already, pick up a free pot of Resene suntan lotion from your Resene ColorShop. And of course being summer, some areas are in water watch mode. With this in mind, we have some water wise ideas for you that you can apply all year round...”



Washwise-ly

Resene has long recommended the ‘two container’ system for cleaning decorating tools and accessories as it is easy to do and minimises water and solvent use. Sometimes the best things in life are easy, and this is one of those things. Best of all this system is quick and simple and ideal for most projects with no investment other than a couple of large containers.

For those unfamiliar with the ‘two container’ system, here’s how you go about it...

Follow these steps:

In the case of waterborne paints:

- At the end of the job wipe or squeeze excess paint onto an absorbent material, such as old rags, shredded newspapers or cardboard boxes.
- Allow to dry and dispose of with household waste.
- Wash brushes, rollers and other equipment with water in a large pail.
- The most effective method is to use a roller spinner.
- Transfer the washed equipment to a second container filled with clean water for a final rinse.
- Place lids on the containers or cover in some other secure manner and allow to stand overnight.

By morning the paint solids in the first container will have settled down to the bottom of the container. The clear water from this container may now be poured onto the garden or any grassed or open area away from streams, rivers or lakes, where it can be absorbed into the ground, or into an inside sink.

Now to dispose of the paint solids at the bottom of the first container.

Scrape the paint solids out onto absorbent material, such as old rags, shredded newspapers or cardboard boxes. Allow to dry, then place in a plastic bag and dispose of it with the household rubbish or take directly to the nearest council tip.

The second container now can be used as the first wash. Use this rotation system until the job is completed.

In the case of solventborne paints, follow the same procedures as for waterborne paints but with these exceptions:

- Use solvents to wash equipment.
- Allow the first container to stand at least 24 hours as it will take this long for the paint solids to settle.
- Do not pour the clear solvent onto the ground or into a sink - use it to top up the second container or decant and keep for future use.
- Use the least amount of solvent.

If you master the ‘two container’ system then for most painters that is all you need to keep your wash water and solvent use under control and minimised.

However, for those that prefer to have a wash unit, Resene has worked with RA Industries of Australia to bring their Reclaimer system to New Zealand.

RA Industries design and manufacture the Reclaimer system and they have been sold and used successfully in Australia for many years. All waste suspended in water can be treated in a system - printer’s inks, cement effluent, tiler’s, painter’s, renderer’s and artist’s washout can all go into the Reclaimer system. It’s been used very successfully with all kinds of paint, including Resene, so you can treat all your waterborne paint wash wastes the same way.

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WIN A Resene WashWise Reclaimer worth NZ\$2990 (inc GST).

Simply buy 20L or more from your Resene ColorShop in a single visit, fill out an entry form and go into the draw!!

Entries will be drawn 30 April 2008. Entries are open to New Zealand and Australian Resene trade customers.

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The **Resene WashWise Reclaimer** is portable, quick and easy to use with quick separation, requires only a low quantity of treatment chemicals reducing the materials needed to separate the water and paint, and the water phase can be used as the primary wash for application equipment and returned to the unit minimising water consumption.

The waste water from a Reclaimer after 1 hour of settling will pass through a 5 micron filter. After 12 hours settlement it will pass through a .5 micron carbon filter. The technology is based on the same flocculation techniques used in paint factories that require stages of additives and agitation. All that is needed for ongoing use is **Resene WashWise Reclaimate**.

These units are built to last and are made out of industrial grade fibreglass coated on the inside with chemical resistant gel coat. So they'll sort out your paint wash wastes and stand up to the rigours of the weather.

The high quality effluent produced by this system can be reused saving massive amounts of potable water. Field-testing shows that 95% of the

original water can be saved each treatment and reused. A Mk1 300 litre Reclaimer can therefore recycle the content of the holding tank 20 times and have 50 litres remaining in the tank. This equates to a saving of approximately 2,500 litres of potable water – that's enough to supply one adult their daily recommended water for over 6 months! If the system is in permanent use in a static situation the holding tank can be regularly topped up and polished to extend water quality and water savings.

The Reclaimer system has been thoroughly tested and confirmed for use by The Queensland Government and separately Sydney Water in conjunction with the Master Painters Association of NSW. And for the first time they are now available in NZ too!

With the **Resene WashWise Reclaimer** taking care of all waterborne paint wash waste, the Resene 'two container' system can be used to take care of the solventborne wash.

For more information on the **Resene WashWise Reclaimer** system, contact your Resene representative.

Clean up

On the topic of washing, summer is the season for getting those exterior timber substrates in tiptop condition before the winter bites again. To make preparing the surface easier, Resene has developed new **Resene Timber and Deck Wash**. Based on popular **Resene Paint Prep and Housewash**, this product has been formulated especially for new and weathered timber and is recommended prior to all exterior timber painting and staining projects.

Check out the **Resene Caring for your paint finish brochure** for info on cleaning surfaces.



Read in NBR in 2007...

Just to prove shopping can get you into trouble, it was reported in NBR that a KPMG practitioner had referred to a case they had heard of in NZ where a woman and some children parked their fully signwritten van at 277 Newmarket and went shopping, loaded the shopping into the van and drove off. The IRD checked on the vehicle to see it had been recorded as 'not available for personal use' for the purposes of fringe benefit tax (FBT). This means the business owning the vehicle was not paying FBT. At the time of writing the results of the case weren't known, but to all accounts the business was in a very sticky position and possibly liable for a lot of unpaid FBT.

Off the wall customers

Most customers have perfectly reasonable requests and questions, but from time to time, some customer experiences are just enough to tickle the funny bone. Here's a few funny true stories from those manning Resene ColorShops...

Half and half

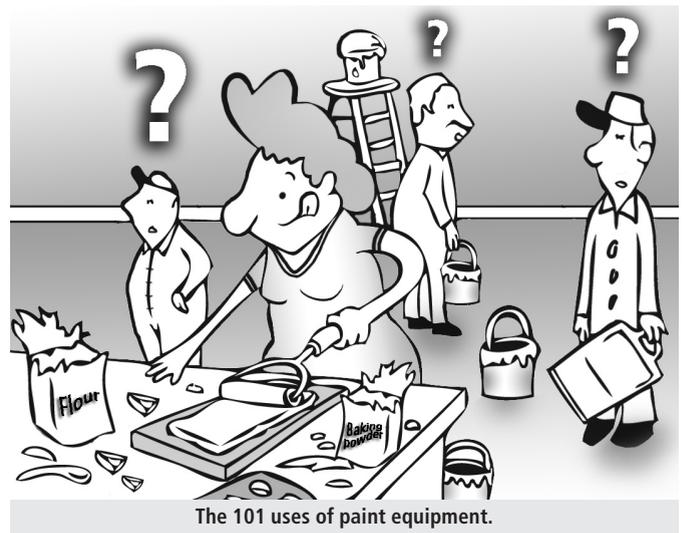
"I had a customer in and she couldn't decide on Resene Half Tea or Resene Tea so she proceeded to ask me if she painted one coat of Resene Half Tea testpot and didn't like it then painted a second coat would that give her full Resene Tea."

Lost in translation

"Our shop manager was serving an elderly lady who was trying to describe her bedroom. She couldn't think of the word to describe the wooden trim around the room at head height – our shop manager thought perhaps it was a dildo – maybe he meant dado? The customer thought nothing of it and carried on her conversation – blissfully unaware that everyone else in the shop, customers included, were struggling to keep their composure."

Dead duck

"Once while I was helping out in the ColorShop a customer asked if we do colour matches. We said 'Yes we do'. The customer then promptly plonked a dead duck on the counter. The Shop Manager who was standing beside me freaked out and I replied 'what part of the bird would you like us to match to?'. The things we see and do huh!"



The 101 uses of paint equipment.



More news next month!
TwoCan, Editor.

