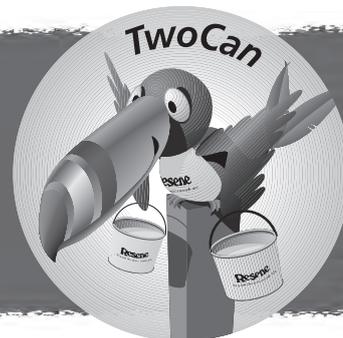


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“ If you’re stuck indoors due to bad weather over winter, it’s a good time to tidy up all those things you have put off. Clean out your shed, van or storage place and give yourself more room to move, plus you’ll probably unearth some useful materials that will come in handy in the future... ”



Have you tried out this one?

Ever come across a surface that looks rough and ready with no hope that a layer of paint will tidy it up? Then if you haven’t tried it yet, you should give **Resene Timber Surface Prep** a go. Resene Timber Surface Prep is a thick paint that is very easily sanded, much like a fairing compound used on boats and in automotive refinish to even out imperfections and create a very smooth surface before the paint system is applied.

Use Resene Timber Surface Prep

- On old windowsills and window joinery to help disguise the cracks and depressions left when paint flakes off and the imperfections caused by years of sanding and scraping.
- On weatherboards (or joinery) when they have been stripped either chemically or mechanically to achieve a smoother even finish.

Feeling the chill?

Remember we have a wide range of wintergrade products available for you to help keep you working through the winter months. Ask your Resene ColorShop staff whether a wintergrade option is right for your project.



- On boards affected by borer – it won’t kill the borer but will help fill the small holes they leave.
- On internal MDF and interior/exterior plywood for a smoother even surface – especially if a gloss or semi-gloss finish is planned.

It’s especially ideal for fussy and fastidious clients who want their old surfaces to look brand new.

Paint that bounces back

Brent Hare learnt the hard way that it pays to take care where you put your paint!

“One Saturday a few months ago I decided to have a cleanup and take some rubbish to the tip. My son and I filled the work van up and off we went. It was all go when we got there, the truck was in the pit clearing all of the rubbish.

I backed up at a cleared area and we opened the back door of the van and started throwing the rubbish out into the pit. Along with the rubbish there was a can of oil based enamel that I had put aside but had forgotten to tell my son to leave in the van. Before I could say stop, I saw the can sailing through the air into the pit landing the right way up.

We both then turned around to get more rubbish out of the van when suddenly we heard a bang and felt a shower of spray come over us. As I looked over my shoulder I saw that the truck had run over the paint can and popped the lid off causing an explosion of paint spray that just happened to land all over us and gave the van a new paint job. The unfortunate thing is that I had just had the van signwritten three weeks earlier.”



If you do happen to have paint you do want to dispose off, we recommend using the **Resene PaintWise** service to take care of any unwanted paint cans and packaging that you have lying about.

Washwisely – mini style

Now you can wash wisely, but without the bulk! Resene has introduced a mini **Resene WashWise** unit that can be moved around as needed.

The Resene WashWise system 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. The high quality effluent produced by this system can be reused saving massive amounts of potable water vs washing under running water.

Ideal for waterborne paints, with the exception of metallics.

Resene also sells the **Resene WashWise Reclaimer**, ideal for large projects and premises.

Available as a starter kit with treatment chemicals so you can get underway without breaking the bank.

Resene
WashWise



Reusing that paint pile

We're often asked how long you can store and then reuse paint... which is kind of like asking how long is a piece of string?!

Invariably no matter how well you estimate the quantity of paint you need, you will end up with various bits and bobs of paint that tend to get piled up and stored for later use, which will often never be looked at again.

So if you've decided to use winter to finally sort through the pile of paint you have collected over the years, here's some suggestions about what to keep and reuse and what to dispose of. A good plan is always that if you have no intention of using a paint again, donate it or recycle it while it is still fresh as it is more likely to be of use to someone else.

Rusty cans

Invariably the rust will have tinged the paint colour or affected the paint so using paint in rusty cans is best avoided.

Solventborne paints

For solventborne enamels and varnishes the main enemy is gravity, which will cause the paint to settle. Settling can vary from soft, easily re-incorporated to dense and hard. Getting good re-incorporation of the latter is the key to reinstating a usable paint.

How to reincorporate: First decant the supernatant liquid, break up the 'cake' in the bottom of the can with a broad knife and stir vigorously, preferably with a drill mixer (with the tin well secured) adding the liquid part back in very small amounts. Do not add further liquid until a smooth paste has been achieved with the existing blend. If a smooth bit-free paste can be achieved, then the paint should be usable.

Part cans are particularly vulnerable to 'skinning'. When a part-filled can is stored, the binder will react with the air in the void in the can and 'skin'. The harder the skin the better, as it is easily removed and, more importantly, provides a good air barrier to the paint underneath. If the skin can be cleanly removed with a knife, after stirring the paint is likely to be able to be reused. With some formulations a hard skin does not form and the oxygen permeates the bulk of the paint (or varnish) causing it to gel. If paint cannot be recovered with 10% of its **recommended** solvent then it is beyond redemption.

Waterborne paints

For waterborne paints, the most significant problem is loss of colloidal stability, which results in increasing viscosity either in localised centres (leading to 'bits') or uniformly proceeding from very thick liquids, to gels, to solid intractable masses. This instability may be seen as an excess thickening in what appears to be perfectly normal paint or a 'phase separated' paint, which has a watery layer at the top and a thick layer underneath.

There is a simple rule of thumb! If the gelled material, when rubbed out between the thumb and forefinger, rubs out smoothly, the paint is generally recoverable. Re-mix using the same method as for solventborne paints above. If however, the gel balls up into rubbery particles, it is past it.

The second problem for waterborne paints is bacterial attack. Bacteria will inhabit any watery environment and paint is no exception. Paints, as they leave the factory, should be stable for years in unopened cans but once the can is open bacteria can enter from the air, thinning water and from the surface being painted. As the bacteria burden increases, the preservative in the paint is used up and loses its ability to protect. For this reason, it is best to work from a separate paint pot keeping the main container tightly sealed at all times and, when finished (even though it may go against the grain), discard the unused material in the paint pot rather than pour it back into the original container.

Mild bacteria infestations do not seriously impair the ability of paint to perform but the inevitable odour, which invariably accompanies bacterial growth, may persist. Heavier infestations will generally result in phase separation and gelled sediment, which is best jettisoned.

Two pack products

Part cans of premixed two pack coatings and moisture-cured products can't be reused later. So it pays to only buy and use what you think you will need for the job and then dispose of any excess at the time. If the packs are sealed and have not been mixed then you may still be able to use them, providing you still have the matching hardener or base for the two pack products.

In all cases, with paint stored for a long period if you are planning to reuse it, it's best to try it on a small inconspicuous area first to make sure it applies and cures ok before tackling a larger more noticeable area.

And if you find once you have sorted your pile that you have some paint to dispose of, use the **Resene PaintWise** service or ask your local council if there is no PaintWise service in your area.

Ask us anytime online

Need help with a painting project or perhaps you've got a paint or colour question and are not sure know who to ask? Ask our Resene experts and they can help you with free advice and information direct to your inbox.

Try out the Resene Ask a Technical Expert service.
www.resene.com/techexpert

Or try out the Resene Ask a Colour Expert service.
www.resene.com/colouexpert

Or you can call our freephone number for advice over the phone during normal working hours Monday to Friday – 0800 737 363 (NZ) or 1800 738 383 (Aust).



Catch you next month!
TwoCan, Editor.

