

Time to be allowed for latex paint to dry and “cure” following application will depend on the nature of performance required. While an applied paint may be truly dry to touch after a matter of a few hours, waiting time will vary depending on the aspect of performance being considered, and on other factors.

A. Re-coat time

Generally, the next coat of paint should not be applied for at least 2 – 4 hours following the application of the previous coat. Factors that will result in needing longer dry times include:

- High humidity and/or lower temperatures
- Application of the paint in a very heavy coat
- Colors that require heavier amounts of colorant

Problems that can arise from too short a dry time before applying the 2nd coat are:

- Blistering or wrinkling
- Uneven sheen

B. Drying/Curing Time Before Cleaning

Normally, at least two weeks should be allowed for an interior paint, following application, before attempting to clean the surface. Some factors which are involved in allowing the coating to cure completely are:

- Gloss level of the paint: higher gloss paints will take longer to fully cure as compared lower sheen paints
- Heavier colorant amounts will slow the curing process of the coating
- Cleaning with a wet sponge is less demanding than with a brush and detergent

Problems that can arise from too short a dry before cleaning the paint

- Paint is abraded off; blistering may occur
- Variation of sheen (burnishing) and in color (crocking) can occur

C. Application of Masking Tape or Painter’s Tape

When applying masking or painter’s tape to a freshly painted surface, it should be removed as soon as practical, and not be left on the surface for an extended period of time.

For further information on specific drying/cure times, contact your Diamond Vogel® representative or visit the Diamond Vogel® web site at www.diamondvogel.com.