

FACT SHEET

BATHROOM WALLS AND COLOUR

Years of heavy use can take away the fresh, pleasant atmosphere so essential to the bathroom. A new coat of paint will brush away the dreary reflection in your bathroom mirror, says the APMF.

Colour is one key to a successful redecorating job in the bathroom. Careful consideration should also be given to the type of paint, proper surface preparation and application method. It is only by the effective employment of all four that you will be assured of the best results.

The bathroom, like the kitchen, is subject to a great accumulation of moisture and needs frequent cleaning. The paint chosen should be moisture-resistant and able to withstand frequent scrubbing. It should also have good light reflection qualities. Semi-gloss or gloss enamels meet these requirements. Be sure to use a quality surface coating, as this is your assurance of good hiding power, a long life, and colour retention. Remember, the better the surface the easier it is to clean.

By paying close attention to colour, type of paint, surface preparation, and paint

application, you can be assured of a first rate job when you decide to redecorate your bathroom.

In the past, solvent-based products were considered most suitable for application in 'wet areas', such as bathrooms. This is no longer the case, as water-based products are now available that can provide the same levels of protection.

Water-based products are also lower in Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), which is good for the environment.

However, before you select suitable paints for your bathroom wall or ceiling, check with your retailer that they will be suitable for 'wet areas' and they contain ingredients to reduce the growth of mould.

Finally, extra consideration should be given to air circulation and extraction. In some bathrooms, it isn't enough to open a window before showering, though it is better than nothing. A wall, ceiling or window extractor fan is the way to go and will help preserve your hard work.