

FACT SHEET

CARING FOR THE PAINTWORK IN YOUR HOME

One of the most important things in caring for your home is looking after the paintwork, says the APMF. Just like the paint on a new motor car, care must be taken when washing. For example, you would not use an abrasive cleanser or a scourer otherwise you would scratch and may even rub through the paint finish.

In a home it is not usually acceptable to have a high gloss finish like on a motor car, hence walls are usually finished in a soft low lustre, bordering on flat. If these finishes are not washed correctly they can be abraded, removing the paint film completely.

For normal everyday stains use a mild detergent in warm water on a soft cloth, rubbing in a gentle circular motion. It is sometimes better if a little detergent is dabbed onto the stain and let work awhile, then wash with ingrained marks, ie, those caused by solid objects coming into contact with the walls. Biro, Marking Pen or Blue Tack are more difficult to remove and a spray cleanser may be used. These should be sprayed on and let to work awhile, then rinsed clean using fresh water. It is always better to wash a much larger area than the stain to eliminate the polishing of the surface.