



## Recommended Paint Finish Over Drywall

**1. Scope.** This document describes and recommends various levels of paint finish as the final decoration over new interior gypsum board surfaces. The recommended level of paint finish over gypsum board wall and ceiling surfaces varies depending on their location in the structure, the type of paint applied, the finish achieved on the gypsum board substrate prior to final decoration, and the type of illumination striking the surface. Each recommended level of finish is described with typical applications.

**2. Terminology.** The following definitions are applicable to this document.

**back-roll (v):** Rolling a spray painted surface with a paint roller immediately following spray application.

**coat (n):** Paint varnish, or lacquer applied to a surface in a single application (one layer) to form a properly distributed film when dry. - **ASTM**

**critical lighting (adj):** A condition whereby interior surfaces are flooded by natural or artificial lighting at an oblique angle; such as lighting from large expanses of windows, glass curtain walls, skylights, or surface-mounted light fixtures. - **ASTM**

**drywall primer (n):** A paint material specifically formulated to fill the pores and minimize suction differences between gypsum-board surface paper and the compound used on finished joints, angles, fastener heads, accessories, and over skim coatings.

**gloss (adj):** A subjective term used to describe the relative amount and nature of mirrorlike (specular) reflection. - **FSCT**

**joint photographing (n):** The shadowing of the finished joint areas through the surface decoration. Syn telegraphing. - **GA-214-96**

**paint (n):** Any pigmented liquid, liquefiable, or mastic composition designed for application to a substrate as a thin layer which is converted to an opaque solid film after application. Used for protection, decoration or identification, or to serve some functional purpose, such as filling or concealing surface irregularities. - **FSCT**

**properly painted surface (n):** A surface that is uniform in appearance, color, and sheen. It is one that is free of foreign material, lumps, skins, runs, sags, holidays, misses, strike-through, or insufficient coverage. It is a surface that is free of drips, spatters, spills, or overspray which a contractor's workforce may cause. Compliance to meeting the criteria of a "Properly painted surface" shall be determined when viewed without magnification at a distance of five feet or more under normal lighting conditions and from a normal viewing position. - **PDCA Note:** A surface uniform in appearance, color, and sheen may not be achieved with a coat of primer or a single coat of topcoat.

**topcoat (n):** The finish coat(s) of a coating system, formulated for appearance and/or environmental resistance. - **PDCA**

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**wallcovering (n):** Any type of paper, vinyl, fabric, or specialty material that is pasted onto a wall or ceiling in a wide array of colors, patterns, textures, and performance characteristics, such as washability and abrasion resistance. - **FSCT**

**wallcovering primer (n):** Coatings formulated to seal the porosity of new drywall, joint compounds, and most surfaces; also formulated to promote adhesion and serviceability under wallcovering products.

**3. Recommended Levels of Paint Finish over Gypsum Board.** The following levels of paint finish are established as a final decoration guide.

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