



Tools for House & Home

Painting The Exterior

With fall rolling in and the holidays around the corner, many homeowners start thinking about painting the exterior of their homes. And that's where it stops—at the thinking stage. Why? Because they don't know what colors to pick...what type of paint...how to minimize or maximize their home's architectural details, etc.

Here are some tips to help you achieve the exterior look you want:

- If you are concerned about historic authenticity, you can either hire a professional to analyze old paint chips and recreate the original colors or you can refer to "historic color" charts and select shades that might have been used at the time your home was built. The difference in the choices is the word *might*.
- If you're not concerned about authenticity, begin with already established colors. Look at the color of your roof...masonry work...siding. The new paint does not have to match—but it should harmonize with the existing colors.
- Choose colors that coordinate with your surroundings. Don't pick colors that clash with those around you.
- The brighter and more intense the color, the more likely it is to fade over time. Dark colors absorb heat and have more moisture problems than light colors—and are difficult to touch up.
- Use dark colors to emphasize shadows or accent recesses and use lighter colors to highlight projections. Light colors will make your house seem larger,



while dark colors or bands of trim will draw attention to the architectural details.

- Avoid extreme contrasts. Balance color over the entire building.
- Most houses will use at least three shades—a siding color, a contrasting color for window and door trim and an accent color for details such as, shutters, doors, porch decks, railings, etc.
- Drive around the neighborhood and look at different schemes you like. Take a picture of your home, make a photocopy of it and trace the photocopy. Get out your colored pencils or pastels and color the tracing, using the schemes you like best. This will give you an idea of how those colors will look on your house.

Think of your home as an artist's canvas and create the picture *you* want. ♦

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DWIGHT & SONS does it again!

We've added another "first" to our growing list of accomplishments and special products that save our customers energy, money, and add beauty and value to their homes.

Dwight & Sons is proud to be a chosen dealer, in the Mt. Washington Valley Area, for two new stars of roofing—EcoStar and Guardian Shingle. Call us to see these gorgeous new additions to the world of roofing choices—you won't believe your eyes!

Slate roofs are beautiful, but can be fragile and costly. EcoStar Euroslate offers the look and feel of natural slate—without the weight or cost.

And it's 100% recyclable! EcoStar Majestic Slate imitates natural slate so well, it's used extensively for historical renovations and is warranted for *50 years!*

If you're thinking metal roof, think Guardian. Give your home the protection and economy of metal roofing with the beauty and durability of stone-coated Guardian Shingles. Stone-coated roofing adds a look of sophistication and polish to your home and lasts up to 75 years!

Dwight & Sons offers you these and other cutting-edge home exterior products, while keeping our tradition of absolute, 100% customer satisfaction. That's why we're the *only* roof-

ing contractor in the Mt. Washington Valley area that offers you a 12-year, 100% warranty on both materials and labor. We're here for you, so call us anytime at **356-8231** for a free consultation. Based on understanding your goals and what you're trying to achieve, we'll help you make an informed decision about your roof, windows, doors, or deck.

With Dwight & Sons, you'll do it once and do it right. Because we do it right—the *first* time. ♦

Turkey Day Tips

OK, so you agreed to make Thanksgiving Dinner.

But... you've never cooked a turkey... or you haven't cooked one in a long time. Here are answers to commonly asked questions:

Q What's the best way to thaw a turkey?

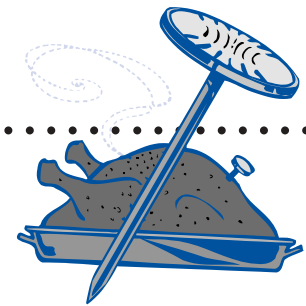
A Refrigerator thawing is recommended. Thaw it breast side up in its unopened wrapper on a tray in the refrigerator. Allow at least one day of thawing for every four pounds of turkey. If you're in a hurry, you can submerge the turkey in cold water. Place it breast down in its unopened wrapper in cold water—enough to cover it. Change the water every 30 minutes to keep it cold. Estimate the minimum thawing time to be thirty minutes per pound.

Q How do you prepare the turkey before roasting it?

A Remove the original plastic wrapper from the thawed or fresh turkey. Remove the neck and giblets from the body and neck cavities. Drain the juices and blot the turkey dry with paper towels. Stuff the turkey (optional) just before roasting. Return the legs to the tucked position if untucked. Insert an oven-safe meat thermometer into the thigh. Brush the turkey with oil to prevent drying of the skin.

Q How long do you roast the turkey?

A Place the turkey, breast up, in a preheated 325°F oven. When the skin is a light golden color and the turkey is about two-thirds done, shield the breast loosely with a tent of light-



weight foil to prevent overcooking of the breast. Use this roasting schedule for a stuffed turkey as a guideline; start checking for doneness 1/2 hour before recommended end times:

10–18 lb. turkey—3-3/4 to 4-1/2 hrs
18–22 lb. turkey—4-1/2 to 5 hrs
22–24 lb. turkey—5 to 5-1/2 hrs
24–30 lb. turkey—5-1/2 to 6-1/4 hrs

The turkey is done when the meat thermometer reaches 180° to 185°F in the thigh or 170° to 175°F in the thickest part of the breast, just above the rib bones. Let the turkey stand for 15-20 minutes before carving to allow the juices to set. ♦

—tips courtesy of the Butterball Turkey Talk-Line.

Home Fires *Can* Be Prevented

Fire! If the word send chills up your spine, you're not alone. Did you know that every 15 seconds a fire department responds to a fire somewhere in the United States? That a residential fire occurs every 66 seconds...that there is one civilian fire death every 118 minutes...and that there is one civilian fire injury every 18 minutes? *Pretty scary, huh?* But, home fires can be prevented if you take the proper precautions.

In the Kitchen

- Check the cords on all appliances. If they are worn or frayed, have them repaired. When you are finished with the appliances, turn them off and unplug them.
- Don't overload the outlets.
- Store flammable items like dishtowels and potholders away from the stove and cooktop burners. Don't store things over the stove. People get burned while reaching.
- Turn pot handles inward, out of reach. Teach children to stay three feet away from the stove while you're cooking. The same goes for pets.
- Keep an oven mitt and a lid handy to smother small pan fires. In case of a pan fire, carefully slide the lid over the flames and then turn off the burner. After cooking, always clean the stove top to prevent grease fires.
- Make sure that a fire extinguisher is readily accessible.

Around the House

- Keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children.

- Keep newspapers, magazines, old rags, kindling wood, etc. at least three feet away from fireplaces, space heaters or radiators.
- Keep space heaters at least three feet away from furniture, curtains, bedding or anything else that could burn. Turn them off before you leave the room.
- Have your chimney inspected annually and cleaned when necessary.
- Never smoke in bed. Douse cigarette butts with water before throwing them in the trash.
- Allow plenty of air space



around your TV and stereo to prevent overheating.

- Check your smoke detectors at least twice a year and replace batteries as necessary.
- Do not run electrical cords under rugs or behind draperies.

Don't become a statistic. Fires *can* be prevented. ♦

IN & ABOUT . . . DWIGHT & SONS

NEW SERVICES

What are two of the biggest, nastiest problems for homeowners every fall and winter? Clogged roof gutters! Dwight & Sons can solve that problem for you this year—with the Simple Solution to Gutter Pollution: Gutter Topper. Call us once and never clean your gutters again! Gutter Topper even has a unique Ice Release System—bye-bye, ice build-up and resulting roof leaks! Call us today for more information. Come fall, you'll be glad you did. ♦

WE'RE GOING GLOBAL!

Look for us on the web soon—watch for www.dwightandsons.com's late-September launch date. Our site will be just what you need, packed with home improvement info, tips and news about the latest trends in roofing, siding, windows, decks and doors. Plus—great features, like:

- **"Ask the Expert"**—where you can

ask your home exterior repair or remodeling questions and get an on-line answer, direct from Dwight!

- **Renovator Estimator**—find out if the renovation you're considering is worthwhile. Choose from multiple categories!

- **Talk and Tips**—tips from Dwight to help you save money, save time or learn about new solutions for old problems.

- **On-line Newsletter**—all the great stuff you've been getting in the "snailmail" version, now available to you on your PC! Of course, we know some of our customers will prefer to get our newsletter in their mailbox. No problem! Just call Lorna at 356-8231 and tell her you want to stay on our Preferred Customer Mailing. It's that easy! Lorna will make sure your newsletter is custom mailed, right to your door. Just another part of Dwight & Sons commitment to 100% customer service satisfaction. ♦



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Mt. Washington Valley's Best Roofing Experience

Conway

Ossipee

Western Maine

Plant *NOW* For Spring Flowers

It's fall—time to think about spring. Spring flowers, that is! Fall is the perfect time to plant many spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, crocuses and hyacinths. Planting them in the fall helps them to develop a strong root system, resulting in healthy plants and lots of flowers.

Buying Bulbs

Purchase the healthiest, best bulbs you can afford. Avoid any that are withered or display signs of mold or rot. Discard any that have begun to sprout premature shoots. Bulbs that are over exposed to light or warmth due to poor storage procedures can begin to show signs of leaf growth. Their immature root systems may result in weak, floppy stems. *Not* what you want.

Planting Bulbs

Most bulbs prefer neutral to mildly acidic soil (pH 6.5). Water the soil prior to planting but don't soak it. Bulbs are susceptible to fungus and mildew, both of which will spread in excessively wet conditions.

The proper planting depth depends on the type of bulb. The rule of thumb is to gauge the diameter of the bulb at its widest point, triple that dimension and dig down that amount.

Soil and climate conditions should also determine bulb depth. Plant more shallowly in clay soils but more deeply in sandy soil or windy locations.

To protect against cold, mulch with bark chips or fallen leaves.

To plant a small number of bulbs, dig individual holes with a trowel or bulb-digger. Make the holes wide enough so that the base of each bulb sits firmly in the soil.

To plant a bed (10 or more bulbs in the same location), dig a trench to the proper depth, work in a mixture of compost with super phosphate and bone meal, place the bulbs in the trench and back-fill carefully. Protect the bed with a cover of mulch.

Plant your bulbs now and enjoy your flowers next spring!♦

