ACHIEVING COMPLETE HIDING OF THE SURFACE WHEN PAINTING INTERIOR WALLS, DOORS AND TRIM

A. Be Sure All Surfaces Are Properly Prepared So That Paints Will Apply in a Heavy Coat and Will Not Tend to "Crawl"

1. Remove all dirt, hand prints, etc.; rinse off all residual cleaning agent.
2. Sand any glossy surfaces using very fine grit garnet paper. Follow safety guidelines if lead paint is suspected. Remove residual sanding dust.

B. Apply an Appropriate Primer

1. For latex paints, use PVA latex drywall primer for walls, or a latex stain-blocking primer for walls, trim and doors; alkyd primers for oil-based paints.
2. Apply primer at a sufficiently low spread rate, as recommended by manufacturer; generally will not exceed 450 sq. ft./gallon.
3. Tinting the primer toward the color of the paint will be helpful. Do not exceed primer manufacturer's recommended level of tinting colorant. For dark, red- or brown-based paint colors (e.g., cranberry and burgundy), a gray primer will enhance hiding.
4. If changing colors, particularly from dark to light, and especially with brighter, organic colors, two coats of paint are recommended if a primer is not used, and may be necessary even if a primer is applied, depending on the nature of the paint.

C. Consider the Nature of the Paint and Its Color:

1. Broadly speaking, all else being equal, flat paints will tend to hide better than will paints of higher sheen or gloss.
2. Top quality paints will hide better than economy products because they tend to go on thicker, shrink less upon drying, flow out better without thin spots in brush marks, and have higher-hiding pigments.
3. Very deep colors made with bright pigments may not hide well unless a suitable primer is applied.

D. Utilize Quality Application Tools:

1. Quality brushes and roller covers put paint down in a heavier, smoother coat that hides better, than do economy applicators.
2. When brushing latex paints, apply a heavy coat with only 2 or 3 strokes (do not keep working the area), refill the brush, and move on.
3. When rolling latex paints, keep the roller full, use vertical strokes, and do not overspread the paint.