

The following guidelines are provided for customers who are considering painted brick masonry walls for their new home.

**General Shale disclaims any and all responsibility for coating failures, or other problems associated with painted brick masonry.**

### **Selecting Materials**

- Use only 100% acrylic paints. Alkyd coatings should not be used.
- Use only first quality or grade “A” brick units. Even though the brick will be painted it is essential that quality brick units be used to ensure long term durability.
- Do not use heavily texture brick, lime coated brick, or sand coated brick for painting.
- Do not use brick with manganese or other metallic based additives in the body.
- The following is a partial list of General Shale brick products that are suitable for painting:  
(A list of additional products suitable for painting can be obtained from your General Shale sales representative.)

#### **M/S Modular Brick:**

Red Range Wire Cut (36-10-103)  
Royal Buff Smooth (39-10-021)  
Buff Velour (39-10-022)  
Buff Bark (39-10-023)  
Dover White Velour (39-10-029)  
Olde Oakmont (39-10-032)  
Red Range Wire Cut (34-10-103)  
Stratford Flashed Range (37-10-554)  
Laurel Rose (33-10-353)

#### **E/M Engineer Modular**

F/R Charleston (28-09-116)  
Hampton Blend (36-09-558)  
Farmington (37-09-756)

#### **O/S Over Size & Tudors**

Colonnade (22-09-162)  
Monticello (24-09-125)  
Phoenix (24-09-143)

#### **O/S Queen Size:**

Apple Blossom (15-17-191)  
Plantation (30-17-471)

### **Construction**

- Proper construction details are essential to the long term performance of a painted brick wall.
- Use recommended joint and tooling details. Avoid “raked” type joints.
- Drainage wall details including a clean airspace, flashing, and weep holes, should also be used. For additional information please refer to “Recommended Details Essential to Durable Brick Home Construction”. This is printed information on the package card attached to every cube of brick delivered to the site.

### **Proper Preparation for Painting**

Allow a minimum of 30 days for the wall to dry and mortar to fully cure before beginning to apply paint. Use only recommended cleaning methods and cleaning solutions. Certain brick products contain metallic additives which can cause stains to bleed through the painted surface if the brick are improperly cleaned with acids.

### **Paint Application**

Follow the paint manufacturer’s recommendations for cleaning, preparation, and paint application. Porter Paints has provided the following attachment with these recommendations and information to help with product selection.



March 20, 2002

Subject: Painting Brick

New mortar must age 30 days.  
It must be clean and dry.  
100% Acrylic paints are best. Alkyds should not be used.

Please use the following as a guideline for painting brick:

**New Brick (any Brick that is unpainted)**

1. Make sure the surface is clean. Pressure washing should be enough to clean it. However, if the brick is unusually dirty, use PorterPrep 571 Heavy Duty Cleaner. It is a concentrated industrial cleaner that can be diluted with 5 parts water to 1 part 571 for a strong solution, 10 to 1 for a regular solution, and 20 to 1 for a mild solution.
2. We are assuming incidental surface mortar has been removed from the face of the brick. However, if efflorescence (a white powdery crystal formation) is present, contact the brick supplier. Efflorescence may be an indication of a construction problem such as missing or leaky flashings, poor caulking, or unfilled mortar joints, that should be addressed before painting.
3. Allow to dry thoroughly.
4. Apply Porter 898 Pigmented primer Sealer (this is not an alkyd) or in VOC compliant areas, use Porter 6015 Interlock Clear WB Masonry Sealer, or Porter 6010 Interlock White Masonry Surface Sealer.
5. Allow to dry thoroughly.
6. Apply two finish coats of Porter 519 Acri-Shield Exterior Flat.

**Previously Painted Brick**

- 1) Make sure the surface is clean. Pressure washing of PorterPrep 571 can be used as mentioned above.
- 2) Allow to dry thoroughly.
- 3) Depending on your situation you can do the following:
  - a) If the surface is still mildly chalky after pressure washing or if the surface has areas that go down to bare brick, apply Porter 898 Pigmented Primer Sealer. Or in VOC compliant areas use Porter 6015 Interlock Clear WB Masonry Sealer, or Porter 6010 Interlock White WB Masonry Sealer unthinned.
  - b) Apply two finish coats of Porter 519 Acri-Shield Exterior Flat.
  - c) If the surface is not chalky, or if there are no bare areas, after cleaning and drying, apply two finish coats of Porter 519 Acri-Shield Exterior Flat.

An annual light washing and rinsing of the painted brick is recommended to remove surface contamination. This will not only improve the aesthetics, it will lengthen the life of the paint system.

You can call us at 1-800-332-6270 or (502) 588-9200 for assistance if you need additional information.