THE ABOUT PODCAST | EPISODE 61

Painting Do's and Don'ts

What Every Homeowner Should Know Before Hiring a Painter

A quality paint job does more than change the color of a room or improve curb appeal. It helps protect your home from moisture, deterioration, and avoidable repairs while preserving one of your largest financial assets.

EPISODE SUMMARY

In this episode, Roy Hucke and Jeremy Scott are joined by Jeff Tori of 21st Century Painting for a practical conversation about residential painting. Drawing on 30 years in business, Jeff explains what homeowners should ask before hiring a painter, why preparation and materials matter, and how to recognize warning signs that could lead to a disappointing or short-lived result.

From deposits, subcontractors, insurance, estimates, and warranties to color selection, cabinet refinishing, paint finishes, and seasonal scheduling, this conversation offers approachable guidance for first-time homeowners, people managing a home on their own, and anyone planning an interior or exterior painting project.

KEY TOPICS & TAKEAWAYS

- Why a large upfront deposit can be a warning sign on a typical residential painting project.
- What to ask about employees, subcontractors, supervision, and insurance coverage.
- Why cleaning, repairs, caulking, priming, and other preparation determine how long a paint job lasts.
- How to recognize early signs that an exterior may need to be repainted.
- What paint and workmanship warranties may actually cover.
- How to compare estimates based on materials and scope rather than price alone.
- Why references, local experience, and personalized service matter when choosing a contractor.
- How samples, surrounding materials, paint finishes, and HOA requirements affect color decisions.
- When cabinet refinishing may offer an affordable alternative to replacement.

- How seasonal scheduling may improve availability and help homeowners find better pricing.

TIMESTAMPS

0:00 Introducing Jeff Tori and why paint helps protect your home
4:24 Large deposits and early warning signs when hiring a painter
7:25 Employees, subcontractors, and knowing who will complete the work
10:25 Why thorough preparation and proper insurance coverage matter
12:34 Finding and addressing damaged siding, trim, gutters, and other repairs
16:04 How to tell when it is time to repaint your home's exterior
20:11 Paint warranties versus workmanship warranties
22:10 Comparing estimates, paint quality, caulking, and primers
25:57 References, local reputation, and finding a reliable contractor
30:32 Color consultation and choosing shades that work with the home
33:33 How to test paint samples without being misled by surrounding colors
36:01 Cabinet refinishing, ceilings, and choosing the right paint finish
40:06 Common painting mistakes and checking HOA color requirements
42:52 Painting as an investment in the value and enjoyment of your home
45:32 Planning exterior projects early and asking about winter interior discounts

RESOURCES & LINKS

- **Jeff Tori**
  Owner, 21st Century Painting (30 years experience)
- **21st Century Painting**
  Professional painting contractor featured in this episode
- **Listen to the full episode (Audio)**
- **Watch on YouTube**

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