

Homeowner's Exterior Painting Questionnaire

Use this checklist during estimates to make sure you're hiring a qualified painter.

1. Labor & Workforce Questions

- Are your crews W-2 employees or subcontractors?
- Do you carry workers' compensation insurance for all workers?
- Are all workers on my property E-verified and background checked?
- Who supervises the crew during the project?

2. Prep & Materials Checklist

- What specific prep steps do you include for stucco exteriors?
- How do you handle failing OSB, stucco cracks, or water-damaged areas?
- Do you apply two true dry coats of paint, with proper dry time between coats?
- What primer products do you use for problem surfaces like OSB?

3. Payment & Warranty Questions

- Do you require any payment upfront, or do I only pay after the job is completed?
- What is the length of your warranty, and what does it cover?
- Do you have your warranty in writing?

4. Red Flags To Watch For

- Workers paid in cash or without insurance coverage.
- Subcontractors you've never met until the job begins.
- Single-pass spray jobs presented as "two coats."
- Large upfront payments required before any work begins.