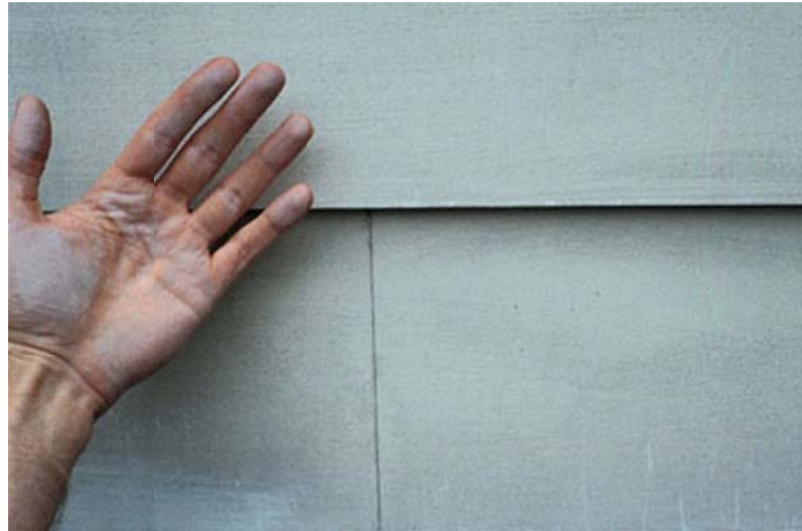




**RUST BULLET, LLC**

[www.RustBullet.com](http://www.RustBullet.com)



## CHALKING

**Chalking is the formation of fine powder on the surface of the paint film due to weathering. Chalking can cause color fading. All paints chalk to some degree, it is a normal, desirable way for the paint film to wear away and provide a good surface for future repainting. Medium and heavy chalking will cause tinted paint to lose its color and become lighter. Severe chalking makes repainting a problem because the extreme porosity of the surface powder will adversely affect adhesion and does not provide the paint a sound surface to bond to. This is particularly true with water based paints which tend not to penetrate and therefore will bond only to the surface powder. Quality paints may chalk mildly, but still maintain a sound surface that will not crack and retains good moisture and weather resistance for many years.**

**The primary cause is exposure to sunlight.** Ultra violet light breaks down the binders in the paint and releases the pigments. Another cause is a reaction between the binders and oxygen, this is paint oxidation. Both of these processes occur simultaneously and have an effect on all types of finishes. Additional possibilities may be extended exposure to the combined effects of moisture and the ultraviolet rays of the sun and overthinning the paint, overspreading the paint as well as not priming and sealing a porous surface.

While all of this chemistry is happening, the paint sheen will become progressively duller and the paint film thinner. The paint film thins from the effects of rain as it washes away the chalking paint residue. Although all paints will chalk over time, some types have a tendency to chalk sooner.

This powdery residue must be removed and possibly primed before applying any finish paint. The rules are very simple.

- To remove the residue use a pressure washer and mild, environmentally friendly, soap. Most pressure washers have the ability to dispense cleaners while washing. Use proper pressure washing techniques. Allow the soap to sit on the surface for 10-15 minutes then rinse completely. Repeat the rinsing until all soap residue is gone.
- Allow the surface to dry completely, usually 24 hours prior to the reapplication of Rust Bullet.

**Don't be overly concerned if a little residue is still on the surface.** Chances are some will remain, but should not affect the proper application and curing of additional coats of Rust Bullet.

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