

the Paint

Contractor

November 2010

Supplement to *The Paint Dealer*

Caulk Talk

Also Inside:
Safety Wear

If a Home is a "Hole in the Wall" Place



There are a lot of patching materials in this world, and a lot of holes & cracks that need them. The trick for you is to match the right material

with the right repair. You wouldn't caulk a pothole, and you wouldn't tuckpoint with drywall mud. Danielle Martin of Muralo gave us some tips as to what goes where.

Muralo is the manufacturer of Spackle® which is a registered trademark of the Muralo Company located in Bayonne, NJ. If it's not Muralo, it's not Spackle. It's spackling paste. Here's a few tips for putting the right thing in the right place.

- Spackle® is a surfacing compound to smooth out imperfections on painted surfaces. It is used for blemishes, small holes, peeled areas, and nicks on walls, ceiling and wood work.

- Spackle Lite is a non shrinking paste that can be used for deeper holes and cracks.

- Very deep holes should be filled with patching plaster and then finished with Spackle when it is dry.

- Joint compound should only be used on bare sheet rock (wallboard). Joint cement is gray in color and porous to match the texture and finish of raw wallboard. Spackle is white, smooth and nonporous to match the appearance of a painted surface. If you use joint cement on a painted surface, it will take numerous coats of primer and paint to hide the patch.

As soon as you open your can of Spackle, or spackling paste, it starts to dry out. This is a lot worse than leaving the lid up in the bathroom, it'll cost you money. Also, don't buy a five year supply. "Unopened Spackle should have a one to two year shelf life," says Danielle. "The product dries by evaporation.

The shelf life after it is open will vary based on the time the lid is off the can. It

also depends on how much is left in the can. We do not recommend trying to revive it once it has hardened. Note also that Spackle is water based and should be protected from freezing," she advises. "If the product has frozen, we recommend replacing it."

