

NEW BRUNSWICK PAINTING

General Painting Questions

General painting questions, hiring advice, seasonal timing, trends, and painting guidance for NB homeowners

23 Expert Answers from Paint IQ

newbrunswickpainting.com/construction-brain

Table of Contents

1. Is it worth hiring a painter to do a colour consultation before starting a major repaint of my Riverview home?
2. Where can I drop off leftover paint for recycling in Moncton and Fredericton and are there any fees involved?
3. How do I handle a paint job dispute with a contractor under New Brunswick consumer protection rules?
4. Are there any NB government rebates or programs that help offset the cost of painting a heritage home in Fredericton?
5. How do I find a reliable painting contractor in the Greater Moncton area?
6. What questions should I ask a painting contractor before hiring them for my NB home?
7. Should I paint my home interior myself or hire a professional painter in New Brunswick?
8. How long does it take professional painters to paint a whole house interior in NB?
9. What are the unique challenges of painting homes in New Brunswick compared to other provinces?
10. How does NB humidity affect interior paint drying times and what can I do about it?
11. What is the difference between a painting contractor and a general handyman for painting in NB?
12. How do I prepare my home before the painters arrive for an interior painting job in Moncton?
13. What should I look for in a painting quote from a contractor in New Brunswick?
14. How has the cost of painting in New Brunswick changed from 2025 to 2026?
15. What painting mistakes do NB homeowners make most often when doing DIY painting?
16. Is it worth painting my home before selling it in the New Brunswick real estate market?
17. How do I get quotes from multiple painters in Fredericton and compare them fairly?
18. What warranty or guarantee should I expect from a professional painter in NB?
19. How much furniture do I need to move before painters start an interior job in my Moncton home?
20. Can I live in my house while the interior is being painted by professionals in NB?
21. What is the best way to ventilate my home during and after interior painting in New Brunswick?
22. How do I report a bad painting contractor or get recourse for a poor paint job in NB?

23. Should I buy my own paint or let the painting contractor supply it for my NB project?

Is it worth hiring a painter to do a colour consultation before starting a major repaint of my Riverview home?

Yes, a professional colour consultation is absolutely worth it for a major repaint, especially in Riverview where your home's exterior will be highly visible in the established neighbourhood setting. A good colour consultant can save you from expensive mistakes and help you choose colours that enhance your home's architecture while working with New Brunswick's unique lighting conditions.

Professional colour consultants bring expertise you can't get from paint chips alone. They understand how colours interact with Riverview's mature tree canopy, the softer Maritime light compared to western provinces, and how your home's orientation affects colour appearance throughout the day. A south-facing home in Riverview will show colours differently than a north-facing one, and consultants account for these variables. They also understand which colour combinations work with common Riverview housing styles — whether you have a 1960s split-level, 1980s colonial, or newer construction.

The investment typically pays for itself by preventing costly repainting. Colour consultation fees in the Moncton area range from \$200-500 for exterior consultation, \$150-400 for interior rooms. Compare this to the cost of repainting your entire exterior (\$6,000-12,000 for a typical Riverview two-storey) if you choose colours you end up hating. Many homeowners pick colours that look great on a chip but appear too bold, too dull, or clash with the roof and landscape once applied to the full house.

Consultants also help navigate Riverview's neighbourhood character. While there are no formal colour restrictions in Riverview, the established neighbourhoods have a certain aesthetic that affects resale value. A consultant can suggest colours that make your home stand out positively while respecting the neighbourhood's overall feel. They're also skilled at working with existing elements you can't change — your roof colour, stone or brick accents, and landscaping.

For interior consultation, they solve the common problem of colours looking different under artificial light versus natural Maritime daylight. New Brunswick homes often have smaller windows than western homes, and our frequent overcast days create different lighting conditions. A consultant will test colours in your actual rooms under your lighting conditions.

When to hire a professional: Major whole-house repaints, historic homes requiring period-appropriate colours, homes with complex architectural details, or when you're paralyzed by too many choices. Many painting contractors in the Riverview area can recommend colour consultants they work with regularly.

DIY alternative: If budget is tight, many Benjamin Moore and Sherwin-Williams dealers in the Moncton area offer basic colour advice, and you can purchase sample sizes to test large swatches on your actual walls before committing.

Need help finding a painting professional who works with colour consultants? New Brunswick Painting can match you with experienced contractors in the Riverview area who understand both colour selection and the local painting season.

Q2

Where can I drop off leftover paint for recycling in Moncton and Fredericton and are there any fees involved?

Paint recycling is free at designated drop-off locations in both Moncton and Fredericton through provincial and municipal hazardous waste programs. You cannot put leftover paint in regular household garbage as it's classified as hazardous waste.

Moncton Paint Recycling

Moncton Hazardous Waste Depot at the Moncton Coliseum Complex (377 Killam Drive) accepts latex and oil-based paint, stains, primers, and paint-related products at no charge. The depot operates year-round with specific hours — typically Saturdays from 9 AM to 3 PM, but call 506-853-3516 to confirm current hours before making the trip. They accept paint in original containers or clearly labeled containers, and you'll need to show proof of Moncton residency.

Home Depot and Canadian Tire locations in Moncton also participate in paint recycling programs. Home Depot accepts latex paint specifically, while Canadian Tire locations may accept various paint products — call ahead to confirm what each store accepts and their current participation status, as these programs can change.

Fredericton Paint Recycling

Fredericton Region Solid Waste Commission operates the **Eco-360 Environmental Depot** at 88 Alison Boulevard, which accepts all types of paint, stains, and paint-related products for free. The depot is open Tuesday through Saturday with extended hours — check their website or call 506-453-9686 for current hours. This is the main municipal option for Fredericton area residents.

Regional Recycling Centre on Vanier Industrial Boulevard also accepts paint products during their operating hours. Like Moncton, you'll need to show proof of residency in the Fredericton region.

What You Can Drop Off

All locations accept **latex paint, oil-based paint, primers, stains, varnishes, lacquers, and paint thinners**. Bring products in their original containers when possible, or transfer to clearly labeled containers. **Completely dried-out latex paint** can sometimes go in regular garbage, but liquid paint never can. **Spray paint cans** are also accepted at these hazardous waste depots.

Preparation Tips

Before dropping off paint, **consolidate partial cans of the same colour and type** to reduce the number of containers. Keep lids on securely during transport, and **never mix different types of paint** in the same container. If you have a large quantity from a major painting project, call ahead — some locations prefer advance notice for large drop-offs.

Spring and fall are the busiest times at these depots as homeowners clean out garages and finish painting projects before winter. Consider going during off-peak hours to avoid lines, especially in May and October when many NB residents are completing exterior painting projects.

Need help planning your next painting project to minimize leftover paint? New Brunswick Painting can match you with local professionals who accurately estimate paint quantities and often handle disposal of leftover materials as part of their service.

Q3

How do I handle a paint job dispute with a contractor under New Brunswick consumer protection rules?

Paint job disputes with contractors in New Brunswick fall under provincial consumer protection laws, but I can't provide legal advice on your specific situation. You'll need to understand your rights under NB's Consumer Protection Act and potentially seek legal counsel for serious disputes.

New Brunswick's Consumer Protection Act provides several protections for homeowners hiring painting contractors. Under the Act, you have the right to receive services that are performed with reasonable care and skill, and contractors must provide written estimates for work over \$50. If a contractor fails to complete work as agreed, performs substandard work, or violates the terms of your contract, you may have grounds for a complaint.

For painting-specific disputes, common issues include incomplete surface preparation, wrong paint colors, poor coverage, drips and brush marks, or failure to protect landscaping and furniture. Document everything with photos

showing the problems, keep all contracts and receipts, and maintain records of your communications with the contractor. Many painting disputes stem from unclear expectations about scope of work, so review your original contract carefully to understand what was actually promised versus what you expected.

Your first step should be direct communication with the contractor to explain the problems and request correction. Many reputable painters will return to fix legitimate issues at no charge, especially if the problems are clearly due to workmanship rather than normal wear or unrealistic expectations. Give the contractor a reasonable opportunity to make things right before escalating.

If direct negotiation fails, contact Service New Brunswick's Consumer Affairs division at 1-888-762-8600 or online at snb.ca. They can provide guidance on your rights and may facilitate mediation between you and the contractor. For disputes involving significant money or property damage, consult with a lawyer who specializes in construction or consumer law.

To avoid future disputes, always get detailed written contracts specifying paint brands, number of coats, surface preparation requirements, cleanup responsibilities, and timeline. Verify that your painter carries liability insurance and ideally WorkSafeNB coverage. Check references from recent customers and never pay the full amount upfront.

For finding properly insured painting contractors in the future, New Brunswick Painting can help match you with local professionals through the New Brunswick Construction Network.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Loves Painting Ltd.
- Worry No More Handyman Services
- Thirty Four Renovations
- moose luxury painting

[View all contractors ?](#)

Are there any NB government rebates or programs that help offset the cost of painting a heritage home in Fredericton?

New Brunswick does not currently offer specific government rebates for painting heritage homes, but there are some potential funding sources and tax considerations for heritage property owners in Fredericton.

The **Heritage Conservation Areas Program** in Fredericton provides guidance and approval processes for exterior changes to designated heritage properties, but it doesn't typically include direct financial assistance for routine maintenance like painting. However, if your heritage home painting project is part of a larger restoration effort, there may be options worth exploring.

Potential funding sources include:

The **New Brunswick Heritage Branch** occasionally offers grants through the **Heritage Preservation Fund**, but these are typically reserved for significant structural restoration projects rather than routine painting. However, if your painting work involves historically accurate colour restoration or specialty techniques to preserve original materials, it may qualify for consideration.

Federal programs like the **National Trust for Canada** and **Parks Canada** sometimes provide grants for designated National Historic Sites, but these apply to very few residential properties in New Brunswick.

Tax considerations for heritage properties can provide indirect savings. Some heritage-designated properties may qualify for property tax relief or deferrals through municipal programs, though this varies by municipality and doesn't directly offset painting costs.

Fredericton-specific considerations are important for heritage home painting. The city's Heritage Review Board requires approval for exterior colour changes on designated heritage properties in conservation areas like the downtown core and some residential districts. Before painting, you'll need to submit colour samples and receive approval, which can add time to your project but ensures historical accuracy.

Practical cost-saving approaches for heritage home painting in Fredericton include timing your project during the optimal May-October exterior painting season, getting multiple quotes from contractors experienced with heritage properties, and considering a phased approach if the full exterior is cost-prohibitive. Many heritage homes in Fredericton have beautiful cedar clapboard siding and intricate trim work that requires careful preparation and quality paint to preserve the historical character.

When to hire heritage-experienced professionals: Heritage home painting often involves lead paint removal (pre-1978 homes), specialty primers for old wood, and historically accurate colour matching. These factors make professional application particularly valuable for heritage properties.

While direct rebates aren't available, the long-term value preservation of proper heritage home painting often justifies the investment. Contact Fredericton's Heritage Review Board for guidance on approved colours and techniques, and consider connecting with local painting professionals through the New Brunswick Construction Network who have experience with heritage properties.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Gionetterenovations
- Thirty Four Renovations
- moose luxury painting
- Worry No More Handyman Services

[View all contractors ?](#)

Q5

How do I find a reliable painting contractor in the Greater Moncton area?

Finding a reliable painter in the Greater Moncton area comes down to three things: getting at least three quotes, verifying insurance and WorkSafeNB coverage, and checking real references from local clients.

Start by getting at least three quotes. Moncton's painting market is competitive, and prices for identical work can vary 25-40%. A whole-house interior repaint that one painter quotes at \$4,500 might be quoted at \$6,500 by another — and neither price automatically tells you who does better work.

Verify insurance and WorkSafeNB coverage before hiring anyone. Ask every painter for their Certificate of Liability Insurance (minimum \$2 million) and proof of WorkSafeNB coverage. A painter working without insurance who falls from a ladder on your property creates legal and financial problems for you.

Ask for local references — and actually call them. Ask each painter for 2-3 recent clients in the Moncton area (Riverview, Dieppe, Moncton proper, Shediac). Call those references and ask: Was work completed on schedule? Did the final cost match the quote? Were surfaces properly prepped? Would you hire them again?

Look for painters who do a proper site visit before quoting. A reliable contractor will come to your home, walk through the rooms, note any prep challenges, and give you a written, itemized quote. Painters who quote over the

phone often have surprises waiting.

Red flags to watch for: painters who demand a large deposit upfront (30% max is reasonable), quotes dramatically lower than others, no written contract, vague scope of work, and contractors who can start immediately — during peak season, good Moncton painters are typically booked 2-4 weeks out.

New Brunswick Painting can match you with local painting professionals through the New Brunswick Construction Network directory at no cost.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- M And M Painting
- Worry No More Handyman Services
- Thirty Four Renovations
- Loves Painting Ltd.

[View all contractors ?](#)

Q6

What questions should I ask a painting contractor before hiring them for my NB home?

Asking the right questions before you hire a painter protects you from unpleasant surprises and helps you identify contractors who will do the job properly. A confident, professional painter will welcome these questions — vague or evasive answers are a red flag worth taking seriously.

Insurance and compliance questions are first and non-negotiable. Ask directly: Do you carry general liability insurance? If so, what is the coverage limit? (A minimum of million is standard for NB residential work.) Are you covered under WorkSafeNB or do you carry your own workers's compensation coverage? These are not optional niceties — they protect you and the workers if anything goes wrong on your property. Ask to see the actual insurance certificate, not just a verbal confirmation.

Project-specific questions tell you a lot about their competence. For exterior work, ask: How do you handle surface preparation — specifically, how do you deal with peeling paint, bare wood, and moisture-damaged areas?

The right answer involves scraping, sanding, priming bare spots, caulking gaps, and testing wood moisture content before painting. Anyone who says they will just paint over it is telling you the job will fail within a few years in NB's climate. For older homes built before 1978, ask specifically: Do you test for lead paint, and what lead-safe practices do you follow? This question immediately separates experienced professionals from those who may create a serious hazard on your property.

Ask about products and materials. What brand and grade of paint do you plan to use? Will you use a primer, and on what surfaces? These are legitimate questions, not picky ones. A professional will specify a premium 100% acrylic latex exterior product by brand, not just say "good quality paint." If they plan to use cheap paint to protect their margins, this is your opportunity to find out.

Scope and process questions prevent misunderstandings. What exactly is included in your quote — prep, primer coats, number of finish coats, cleanup, moving furniture? How many coats of finish paint are you pricing? (Two coats minimum is the standard.) What is your expected timeline start to finish, and what weather conditions will delay exterior work? How do you handle drips, missed spots, or colour inconsistencies after the job is done — what is your touch-up policy?

References and recent work. Ask for two or three references from projects completed in the past 12 months in your area of New Brunswick. Can you share photos of a similar project? Have you worked on homes like mine (older clapboard, new construction, heritage area)? A painter who has been working in Fredericton, Moncton, or Saint John for several years will have a portfolio of local work they can point to.

Finally, get everything in writing: scope of work, specific products to be used, number of coats, timeline, total price, payment schedule, and any warranty on their workmanship. A professional painter will have no hesitation putting these details in a written quote. New Brunswick Painting can help you connect with vetted local painters through the New Brunswick Construction Network — browse the directory to find painters working in your area.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Worry No More Handyman Services
- M And M Painting
- FRS Flooring Solutions
- moose luxury painting

[View all contractors ?](#)

Should I paint my home interior myself or hire a professional painter in New Brunswick?

It depends on your skills, the scope of the project, and how much your time is worth — but for most standard interior painting projects in a New Brunswick home, a capable DIYer can achieve excellent results with the right preparation and quality materials.

Good DIY candidates include single rooms, accent walls, bedrooms, and spaces where you can take your time. If you own a three-bedroom home in Fredericton and want to repaint all the bedrooms, a careful DIYer with a weekend and \$400-600 in quality paint and materials can achieve results that rival a professional.

The math on DIY vs hiring a pro: A whole-house interior repaint on a 3-bedroom NB home costs \$3,000-6,500 professionally. Your material costs DIYing might run \$600-1,200. So you save \$2,000-5,000 — but that represents roughly 30-60 hours of your own labour.

Hire a professional for kitchen cabinet painting — the gap between a DIY brush-and-roller job and a professionally spray-finished job is dramatic. Professional cabinet painting in NB runs \$2,500-6,000. Similarly, exterior painting on a two-storey home should go to a professional.

In older NB homes, lead paint is a real concern. If your home was built before 1978, do not DIY paint removal. Hire a painter experienced in lead-safe work practices.

For the middle ground, consider a hybrid approach: hire a professional for the complex work (high walls, cabinet refinishing, stipple ceiling removal) and DIY the simpler rooms yourself. Many Moncton and Fredericton homeowners do exactly this.

New Brunswick Painting can connect you with local painting professionals through the New Brunswick Construction Network.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- FRS Flooring Solutions
- Gionetterenovations
- Thirty Four Renovations
- Worry No More Handyman Services

Q8

How long does it take professional painters to paint a whole house interior in NB?

A professional crew of 2-3 painters typically completes a whole-house interior repaint on a standard 3-bedroom New Brunswick home in 3-5 days. A solo painter working the same job might take 6-10 days. The timeline depends heavily on the size of the home, the condition of the surfaces, and how much prep work is required before the first drop of paint goes on.

For a typical 3-bedroom, 1,200-1,500 sq ft bungalow in Moncton, Fredericton, or Saint John with walls in reasonable condition (no wallpaper removal, no significant patching), a crew of two experienced painters can move through efficiently: Day 1 is prep — moving furniture, patching nail holes and minor cracks, sanding, caulking gaps at trim, taping, and priming where needed. Days 2 and 3 are rolling walls and cutting in edges. Day 4 is trim, doors, and ceiling touch-ups, plus a second coat on any areas that need it. Many 3-bedroom homes are fully completed in 4 working days with a two-person crew.

Surface condition is the biggest variable in NB painting timelines. An older home in the North End of Saint John or in Fredericton's older neighbourhoods may have multiple layers of old paint, cracks and settlement damage in plaster or older drywall, water stain rings from past roof leaks, or extensive trim repairs needed. Adding a full day of skim-coating, patching, and priming is very common in NB's older housing stock. A home that had wallpaper removed — especially multiple layers, as is common in homes built in the 1960s and 1970s — may require extensive skim coating to repair the damaged drywall face paper underneath, which can add 2-3 days of work before painting even begins.

Larger homes take proportionally longer. A 4-bedroom, 2,000+ sq ft two-storey home with walls, ceilings, trim, doors, and a staircase might take a two-person crew 7-10 days if surfaces are in good condition. Add cabinets to that scope and you add another 3-5 days depending on the kitchen size, as cabinet prep, priming, and spray application each require dedicated drying time between stages.

NB winters can actually speed up interior painting. The dry, heated air in NB homes during winter (indoor humidity often drops to 20-30%) means latex paint dries faster between coats, allowing tighter recoat schedules. A professional crew can sometimes lay two coats in a day during winter conditions, whereas summer interior painting in an uncooled NB home with 60-70% humidity requires longer waits between coats.

From a practical standpoint, expect your home to be partially disrupted for the duration. Professional crews work steadily and efficiently, moving room by room. Most NB painters will give you a clear start-to-finish timeline in the written quote — hold them to it, and ask what happens if weather or other delays push the schedule. For a no-obligation estimate on your interior painting timeline and cost, New Brunswick Painting can connect you with local professionals through the New Brunswick Construction Network.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Loves Painting Ltd.
- FRS Flooring Solutions
- Worry No More Handyman Services
- Gionetterenovations

[View all contractors ?](#)

Q9

What are the unique challenges of painting homes in New Brunswick compared to other provinces?

New Brunswick presents a combination of climate, housing stock, and environmental conditions that make painting here genuinely more demanding than in most other Canadian provinces. Understanding these challenges is not about discouraging you from painting — it is about making choices that lead to a finish that lasts rather than one that fails prematurely.

The climate is the primary challenge. NB sits at the intersection of Maritime weather and continental temperature extremes. In summer, coastal humidity from the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of St. Lawrence pushes relative humidity to 70-85% on many days, slowing exterior paint drying times significantly. That same moisture-laden air accelerates mildew growth on north-facing exterior walls, soffits, and under porches. In contrast, NB winters are brutal — temperatures regularly drop to -20°C or colder, and the province experiences over 100 freeze-thaw cycles per year in many areas. This constant freezing and thawing is the main reason exterior paint fails in NB: water infiltrates any crack or gap in the paint film, freezes, expands, and lifts the paint off the surface. Other provinces with milder winters or drier summers simply do not put exterior paint through this kind of stress.

The exterior painting season is compressed to roughly five months — mid-May through mid-October at best — compared to eight or nine months in Ontario or BC. This creates real scheduling pressure. Miss the window in spring and you are waiting until fall. NB contractors and serious DIYers know that exterior painting must be planned well in advance and executed within tight seasonal windows.

NB's older housing stock is another distinguishing factor. A significant portion of homes in Saint John, Fredericton, Moncton, Bathurst, and Miramichi were built before 1978, which means lead paint on trim, window frames, doors, and exterior siding is extremely common. Lead paint requires safe handling protocols that go well beyond what most homeowners think about when they pick up a scraper. This is not a unique-to-NB issue, but the high proportion of pre-1978 housing compared to newer cities in Alberta or BC makes it a more prevalent consideration here.

Salt air in coastal communities adds another dimension. Saint John, Shediac, and the many Bay of Fundy communities face salt-laden air that corrodes metal surfaces faster, degrades paint films more aggressively, and demands marine-grade or salt-resistant exterior coatings. A standard interior-market exterior paint that performs well in inland Ontario may degrade visibly within two years in Saint John's coastal microclimate.

Spring moisture in wood siding is the most commonly ignored challenge. NB winters leave wood siding saturated from months of snow contact and freeze-thaw cycles. Eager homeowners who start painting in April or early May are often painting over wood that reads 20-25% moisture content on a meter — well above the 15% maximum safe level. Painting over damp wood is the single most common cause of early paint failure in NB, and it is almost entirely preventable by waiting for the wood to dry out properly before painting.

Finally, NB painters and homeowners work with a narrower product ecosystem than larger provinces. Benjamin Moore, Sherwin-Williams, Dulux, and Behr are all available in the major centres, but specialty products may require ordering. Knowing what is available locally and what your professional painter typically uses matters for ongoing touch-up and maintenance between full repaints.

The good news is that NB painters who have worked through these conditions know exactly how to address them — proper prep, the right products, and the right timing produce exterior finishes that genuinely stand up to NB's demanding climate. New Brunswick Painting connects you with local painters who understand the Maritime environment inside and out.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- M And M Painting

- Loves Painting Ltd.
- moose luxury painting
- Thirty Four Renovations

[View all contractors ?](#)

How does NB humidity affect interior paint drying times and what can I do about it?

New Brunswick's humidity is one of the biggest variables in how quickly interior paint dries — and in summer, it can double or even triple your expected drying time. Understanding this before you pick up a brush will save you a lot of frustration and prevent costly mistakes like recoating too early.

Paint dries through two processes: surface drying (the paint film solidifies on top) and full cure (the film cross-links and hardens all the way through). Humidity slows both. Water-based latex paint releases moisture as it dries, and when the surrounding air is already saturated with humidity, that moisture has nowhere to go. A wall paint that the label says dries in one hour at 50% relative humidity might still be tacky after three or four hours when your Moncton home is sitting at 75% humidity on a July afternoon.

The practical consequence is that if you apply a second coat before the first is truly dry, you risk lifting, streaking, bubbling, or creating a soft finish that never fully hardens. In NB summers without central air conditioning — and a lot of older homes in Fredericton, Saint John, and Moncton lack it — interior humidity regularly climbs to 60-75% from June through August. This is not a reason to avoid painting, but it does demand patience and a few simple measures.

Managing humidity for interior painting in NB:

Run a dehumidifier in the room you are painting. Set it to keep relative humidity below 55%, which is well within the comfortable drying range for most latex paints. A portable dehumidifier costs 00-400 and pays for itself quickly if you do regular painting projects. If you do not own one, they are widely available to rent in Moncton, Fredericton, and Saint John.

Run your bathroom exhaust fan or a box fan blowing out a window to actively move air through the space. Air movement accelerates surface drying even when humidity is moderate. Avoid pointing a fan directly at a freshly painted wall — that can cause the surface to skin over before the paint beneath has dried, trapping moisture underneath.

In winter, NB homes with forced-air heating become quite dry — sometimes below 30% relative humidity. This is actually ideal for interior painting. Drying times are fast, levelling is excellent, and you can confidently recoat within the minimum window on the paint label. If you have a choice of seasons for an interior project, late fall and winter are genuinely the best times in New Brunswick.

When to call a professional: If humidity control is consistently difficult in your home — a basement prone to moisture, a bathroom with no exhaust fan, or a heritage home without a vapour barrier — a professional painter will

have the equipment and experience to manage conditions and time the coats correctly. Rushing this step is how you end up with a finish that peels within a year.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Thirty Four Renovations
- Gionetterenovations
- Worry No More Handyman Services
- FRS Flooring Solutions

[View all contractors ?](#)

Q11

What is the difference between a painting contractor and a general handyman for painting in NB?

A dedicated painting contractor and a general handyman both hold a brush, but the difference in results, accountability, and safety coverage can be significant — and in New Brunswick, it matters more than many homeowners realize.

A professional painting contractor focuses exclusively or primarily on painting work. They understand surface preparation at a deeper level, carry proper equipment (airless sprayers, quality rollers, scaffolding or pump jacks for tall work), and typically employ crew who paint day in and day out. They carry commercial general liability insurance sized for painting projects — usually million minimum — and ideally carry WorkSafeNB coverage for their workers. For larger interior projects (whole-house repaints, cabinet painting) or any exterior work on a two-storey home, a dedicated painting contractor is almost always the better choice.

A general handyman, on the other hand, handles a wide range of small repairs and home maintenance tasks, with painting being one of many services. For small, uncomplicated jobs — touching up a bedroom, painting a single room that is already in good condition — a reliable handyman can do fine work at a lower cost, typically 0-45 per hour versus 0-55 per hour for a painting contractor. The gap in quality tends to show up on detailed work: cutting in clean lines, achieving smooth finishes on trim, back-rolling spray-applied paint for proper adhesion.

What to check before hiring either one in NB:

Ask for proof of liability insurance — this protects you if anything is damaged in your home. Ask about WorkSafeNB coverage, particularly for exterior work at height. If someone falls on your property without WorkSafeNB coverage, you could face complications with your own homeowner's insurance. Also ask for references from recent painting projects similar in scope to yours, and ask to see photos of completed work.

For specialty painting — kitchen cabinets, lead paint situations in older Moncton or Saint John homes, or large exterior projects — a dedicated painting contractor is strongly recommended. For a simple bedroom repaint or touching up trim, an experienced handyman with good references may serve you perfectly well and save you money.

New Brunswick Painting can help connect you with painting professionals who focus specifically on painting — whether you need a full exterior, an interior refresh, or something in between. Browse contractors through the New Brunswick Construction Network directory at newbrunswickconstructionnetwork.com/directory?trade=painting.

Q12

How do I prepare my home before the painters arrive for an interior painting job in Moncton?

A bit of preparation before your painters arrive makes the job go smoother, protects your belongings, and often results in a better finished product. Painters charge by the job — time spent moving your furniture is time they could be painting, and some contractors charge extra if the space is not ready.

Furniture and contents:

Move small furniture, lamps, picture frames, curtains, and any fragile items completely out of the room if possible. Larger furniture that cannot leave the room should be grouped in the centre of the space, away from the walls, and covered with a drop cloth. Remove anything hanging on the walls — pictures, mirrors, curtain rods, and wall-mounted shelves. It helps to fill the nail holes yourself in advance if you know where you want them, or leave them for the painter to fill as part of the prep. Take down switch plates and outlet covers — most painters remove these as a matter of course, but having them off already saves time.

Access and protection:

Clear a path to the room and ensure painters have easy access to water (for rinsing brushes and tools) and a space to set down their materials. Move any items from closets if closet interiors are being painted. If you have

pets, arrange for them to be in another part of the house or elsewhere for the day — paint fumes, open doors, and ladders create real hazards for animals, and a dog underfoot on a ladder is not ideal for anyone.

Communication about the work:

Walk through the scope with your painter before they start. Point out any specific concerns — a water stain you want covered, trim that needs extra care, a patch where you tried to touch up paint yourself and it looks wrong. This is also the moment to confirm the sheen on each surface: eggshell or satin for walls, flat for ceilings, semi-gloss or satin for trim and doors. Confirm the colour, especially if you mixed it at a different store than the painter's usual supplier — colour matching between brands is generally reliable but small variations can occur.

In Moncton specifically: Older homes in the city, particularly in the Elmwood, Lewisville, and downtown areas, often have multiple layers of paint on trim and door frames going back decades. If your painter notices bridging or lifted paint edges, a bit of extra prep (sanding and priming) will make a huge difference to the final result. It is worth having that conversation upfront rather than being surprised by additional prep charges midway through the job.

Most painters in Moncton will protect floors with drop cloths and tape off trim, but confirming expectations ahead of time avoids any misunderstanding. A well-prepared space means your painters can focus entirely on the quality of the work.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Loves Painting Ltd.
- Worry No More Handyman Services
- Thirty Four Renovations
- Gionetterenovations

[View all contractors ?](#)

What should I look for in a painting quote from a contractor in New Brunswick?

A solid painting quote from a New Brunswick contractor should be written, detailed, and specific enough that you could hand it to a different painter and they would know exactly what work is included.

Scope of work must be itemized. The quote should list every room or surface being painted, the specific surfaces (walls only, or walls plus ceiling, trim, baseboards, doors?), the number of coats, and the paint brand, product line, sheen, and colour for each. A quote that says "paint living room — \$650" tells you almost nothing. A proper quote says: "Living room — walls (eggshell, 2 coats, Benjamin Moore Regal Select), ceiling (flat, 1 coat), baseboard and trim (semi-gloss, 2 coats, Benjamin Moore Advance) — \$650."

Surface preparation should be spelled out. In NB's older housing stock, prep is where paint jobs succeed or fail. The quote should state whether patching and skim-coating is included, whether peeling areas will be sanded and primed, whether kitchen walls will be degreased, and whether caulking is included.

Paint quality and who supplies it. Be wary of quotes that just say "quality paint" without naming a brand. Premium interior paint runs \$55-75/gallon; mid-range runs \$40-55/gallon. The difference matters.

Payment schedule and terms. A reasonable deposit is 25-30% to book the job. Avoid paying more than 50% before work starts.

Timeline and crew size. The quote should give you start and estimated completion dates.

Warranty. Many NB painting contractors offer a 1-2 year workmanship warranty. This should be in writing.

Exclusions. A good quote explicitly states what is NOT included — furniture moving, drywall repair beyond minor patching, moving appliances.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Gionetterenovations
- moose luxury painting
- Thirty Four Renovations
- Worry No More Handyman Services

[View all contractors ?](#)

How has the cost of painting in New Brunswick changed from 2025 to 2026?

Painting costs in New Brunswick have risen modestly from 2025 to 2026, with labour rates and premium paint prices both up approximately 5-10%, though NB remains roughly 10-15% below the national Canadian average.

Labour rates have nudged upward. Professional painting labour in NB now runs \$35-55/hour for experienced painters, compared to \$30-50/hour that was more common in 2023-2024. In Moncton and Fredericton, lead times for well-regarded painters have stretched to 2-4 weeks during summer 2025.

Paint material costs stabilized after significant increases. Premium interior paint now runs \$55-75/gallon for top-tier products. Mid-range paint sits at \$40-55/gallon. Exterior 100% acrylic latex runs \$55-80/gallon.

What this means for project budgets in 2026. A single room interior repaint now runs \$300-600. A whole-house interior on a 3-bedroom NB home is priced at \$3,000-6,500. A full exterior repaint on a two-storey NB home is \$6,000-12,000 for premium work.

The quote variability in NB remains high. Homeowners in Moncton, Fredericton, and Saint John can still find quotes that vary 25-40% for identical scope. The answer to managing cost is: get at least three detailed written quotes.

Where costs remain good value. NB's painting market still offers meaningful savings compared to Ontario and BC. A whole-house exterior repaint that costs \$8,000-15,000 in Toronto or Vancouver runs \$4,000-12,000 in New Brunswick.

Use current quotes from local NB painters rather than year-old estimates — the market has shifted enough that older numbers may no longer reflect actual pricing.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Thirty Four Renovations
- Loves Painting Ltd.
- Worry No More Handyman Services
- moose luxury painting

[View all contractors ?](#)

What painting mistakes do NB homeowners make most often when doing DIY painting?

The most common DIY painting mistakes in New Brunswick homes almost always come down to skipping preparation, misunderstanding the role of humidity and temperature, or choosing the wrong product for the surface. These are not beginner mistakes exclusively — experienced DIYers make them too, and they show up within months as peeling, streaking, or uneven finish.

Skipping or rushing prep work is the single most costly mistake. A fresh coat of paint applied over dirty walls, glossy old paint, or a surface with minor peeling will fail faster than the original paint. In NB homes — particularly older clapboard houses and older-stock interiors in Moncton, Fredericton, and Saint John — surfaces have often had multiple coats applied over the decades. Glossy surfaces need sanding or a bonding primer before new paint. Walls need to be washed with a TSP substitute or quality degreaser to remove cooking grease, soap film, or nicotine residue before painting. Filling nail holes, caulking gaps around trim, and spot-priming bare spots are not optional steps.

Ignoring humidity conditions is a distinctly NB problem. Many homeowners paint on warm summer days when they finally have time, without realizing the humidity inside their home is 70%. Paint applied in high humidity takes far longer to dry than the label suggests, and applying a second coat before the first is truly cured causes lifting, streaking, and a finish that never fully hardens. Use a dehumidifier or run fans to manage interior humidity during summer painting, and always add extra drying time between coats on humid days.

Choosing the wrong sheen is extremely common. Flat paint in a kitchen or bathroom looks great for about three months until the first time you try to wipe it down — then it scrubs away. Semi-gloss is the standard for bathrooms, kitchens, and trim for exactly this reason. On the other side, using semi-gloss on walls in a living room highlights every drywall imperfection and feels institutional. Match the sheen to the space: flat for ceilings, eggshell or satin for living areas and bedrooms, semi-gloss for wet areas and trim.

Using cheap rollers and brushes consistently produces poor results. A roller cover leaves fibres in the paint, creates uneven texture, and cannot hold enough paint to produce a consistent coat. A quality Purdy or Wooster brush with synthetic bristles (for latex paint) costs 5-25 and makes cutting in around trim dramatically easier and cleaner. Your tools are just as important as your paint.

Painting in too-thick coats in an effort to get doone faster. Heavy coats drip, sag, and take far longer to dry than two thin, even coats. Thin, even coats — two of them — are always the right approach.

For any project involving a pre-1978 home with suspected lead paint on trim or doors, DIY is not appropriate — consult a professional with lead-safe work practices.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- moose luxury painting
- Loves Painting Ltd.
- FRS Flooring Solutions
- Thirty Four Renovations

[View all contractors ?](#)

Is it worth painting my home before selling it in the New Brunswick real estate market?

Yes — a fresh coat of paint before listing your NB home is one of the highest-return investments you can make. Industry research shows interior and exterior painting returns \$2-3 for every \$1 spent in perceived value.

Interior painting before selling is almost always worth it. A whole-house interior repaint on a 3-bedroom NB home costs \$3,000-6,500 professionally, or \$600-1,200 DIY. Against a home selling at \$250,000-\$400,000 (common in NB in 2026), that is a small investment. **Neutral colours are essential** — light warm greys, warm whites, and soft greiges appeal broadly.

Exterior painting has an even stronger impact because it forms the first impression. A full exterior repaint on a two-storey NB home costs \$6,000-12,000. Even if a full repaint isn't in budget, **targeted exterior work** delivers strong results: repainting the front door (\$150-350), refreshing trim and fascia (\$1,500-4,000), and power washing problem areas.

NB's housing stock creates specific opportunities. Many homes have original wood trim, older paint, and exterior clapboard that shows age. A buyer seeing freshly painted exterior clapboard reads that as a well-maintained home, which strengthens their offer.

Where to focus limited budget, in priority order: (1) all main-floor living areas including kitchen, (2) the primary bedroom, (3) front door and exterior trim, (4) bathrooms.

Timing matters in NB. If selling in spring or summer, exterior painting can be done May through September. If listing in winter, focus on interior painting — NB winters are actually ideal for interior work.

One caution: do not paint to conceal problems. Painting over water stains without fixing the leak creates disclosure issues.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Loves Painting Ltd.
- Gionetterenovations
- moose luxury painting
- Thirty Four Renovations

Q17

How do I get quotes from multiple painters in Fredericton and compare them fairly?

The key to comparing painting quotes fairly in Fredericton is ensuring every painter quotes on exactly the same scope — the same rooms, same surfaces, same number of coats, same paint quality — because when quotes differ, it is usually the scope that is different, not the painter's price.

Create a written scope document before you contact painters. List each room by name, specify walls only or walls plus ceiling, state whether trim and baseboards are included, note any doors being painted, and identify problem areas. When you send this same document to three painters, you get comparable quotes.

Contact at least three painters in Fredericton. Call or email each with your scope document and ask for a site visit before they quote. **Do not accept phone or email quotes without a site visit** — a painter who quotes without seeing your surfaces cannot give an accurate number.

What to compare once quotes arrive. (1) Is the scope identical? (2) What paint brand and product? \$55-75/gallon premium paint vs. \$35/gallon contractor-grade paint is a real quality difference. (3) How many coats? (4) Does the quote include surface prep — patching, priming, caulking, washing walls? (5) Payment schedule? (6) Workmanship warranty?

Watch for red flags. The lowest quote is not automatically the best value — it is often lowest because something is missing. Painters who refuse to itemize are a concern.

Labour rates in Fredericton run \$35-55/hour. A full interior repaint on a 3-bedroom home quotes at \$3,000-6,500; a whole-house exterior runs \$4,000-12,000.

Ask each painter the same three questions: Who specifically will be doing the work? What is the expected timeline? Can you provide 2-3 Fredericton references from the last 12 months?

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- FRS Flooring Solutions

- Worry No More Handyman Services
- moose luxury painting
- Gionetterenovations

[View all contractors ?](#)

Q18

What warranty or guarantee should I expect from a professional painter in NB?

A reputable professional painter in New Brunswick should offer a written workmanship warranty of one to two years, covering defects in application such as peeling, bubbling, or significant fading that result from errors in prep or technique — but it is important to understand what a warranty does and does not cover.

The industry standard for painting workmanship in Canada is generally a one-year warranty on labour, though quality-focused contractors often extend this to two years as a sign of confidence in their work. This warranty covers problems that stem from how the paint was applied: poor adhesion because a surface was not properly primed, peeling because paint was applied over moisture or a glossy surface that was not deglossed, runs or sags that were not addressed before the job was signed off. These are failures of technique and preparation, and they are the painter's responsibility.

What a workmanship warranty does NOT cover:

Paint failure caused by problems outside the painter's control — moisture infiltration from a roof leak, structural movement that causes cracks to reopen, or normal wear and tear — is not a workmanship defect. If your exterior paint peels two years after application because ice dams are forcing water behind your siding, that is a moisture problem, not a painting failure. This distinction matters in NB, where our climate creates many sources of moisture that can impact paint longevity independent of application quality.

Paint manufacturer warranties (typically 10-15 years on premium products like Benjamin Moore Regal or Sherwin-Williams Duration) cover defects in the paint product itself, not application. These warranties also typically require proof of proper surface preparation and application within specified temperature and humidity ranges — which is another reason why hiring a professional who follows correct procedures matters.

What to look for in a warranty:

The warranty should be in writing, included in your contract. It should specify the duration, what it covers, and the process for claiming — usually a phone call to the contractor to assess the defect, and repair at no cost if it falls

within the warranty scope. Be wary of verbal-only warranties. Also confirm that the contractor will still be in business to honour the warranty — ask how long they have been operating in NB and whether they have a business address.

Practical note for NB homes: Given the age of housing stock in many NB cities and the climate's impact on exterior surfaces, be realistic about exterior paint longevity. Even a perfect exterior paint job in NB will typically last 8-12 years on a well-prepared surface, shorter in harsh coastal exposures near Saint John or the Bay of Fundy. A warranty of one to two years is appropriate coverage for a professionally applied exterior paint job — anyone promising a ten-year labour warranty on exterior work should be questioned carefully about what that actually means in practice.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Worry No More Handyman Services
- M And M Painting
- Gionetterenovations
- FRS Flooring Solutions

[View all contractors ?](#)

How much furniture do I need to move before painters start an interior job in my Moncton home?

For a standard interior painting job, most professional painters in Moncton expect you to clear out smaller items, decorations, and valuables, while they handle moving larger furniture to the centre of the room and covering it with drop cloths.

What homeowners are typically expected to do before painters arrive. Remove everything from walls — art, mirrors, shelving, light switch plates, outlet covers, curtains, and curtain rods. Clear all small items off surfaces: lamps, books, plants, electronics, collectibles. Empty closets if shelves are being painted. Remove items from the floor along the room perimeter.

What painters typically handle. Professional Moncton painters generally move large furniture (sofas, beds, dressers, dining tables) to the centre of the room and cover them. They will protect flooring with drop cloths and mask baseboards, window frames, and trim with painters tape.

What to confirm in your quote and contract. Whether they include furniture moving, whether they protect floors throughout (not just the perimeter), and whether they'll reinstall outlet covers and switch plates when done.

For large or high-value furniture, use your own judgment. A piano, antique cabinet, or custom built-in does not get moved by painters. In most cases, painters can work around these by cutting to a tight edge.

Special considerations for older Moncton homes. Confirm painters are using proper floor protection (canvas drop cloths, not light plastic sheeting which can slip) and taking care around older hardwood and original trim.

Practical tip: Take photos of each room before painters start. Remove or lock away anything truly irreplaceable. Have all rooms cleared of small items the evening before the crew's start time.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Thirty Four Renovations
- moose luxury painting
- Loves Painting Ltd.
- FRS Flooring Solutions

[View all contractors ?](#)

Can I live in my house while the interior is being painted by professionals in NB?

Yes, you can absolutely live in your home while professional painters are working — most NB homeowners do exactly that. With some reasonable planning and communication with your painting crew, the process is manageable and far less disruptive than many people expect.

Professional interior painting projects are typically organized room by room or zone by zone, which means painters are working in one part of the house while the rest remains fully usable. A good painting contractor will walk through the project with you before starting and explain the sequence. For a whole-house interior repaint in a typical Fredericton or Moncton home, crews often move through bedrooms first, then common areas, completing the project over 3-7 days depending on the scope. You keep access to your kitchen, bathrooms, and most of your living space throughout.

The main considerations are **ventilation, dust, and paint odour**. Even with low-VOC and zero-VOC latex paints — which are now standard for interior work in NB — there is a noticeable paint smell during application and for several hours after. Modern latex paints dry quickly (usually touch-dry within 1-2 hours) and the odour diminishes significantly by the next day. Keep windows cracked in unpainted rooms and run exhaust fans where possible. NB winters make this trickier since you do not want to freeze the house, but even a few centimetres of window opening in an adjacent room helps move air. In summer, open windows and a box fan in a window exhausting outward works very well.

Practical tips for living through a paint project in NB:

Agree on a schedule before the crew arrives — know which rooms are being painted each day and plan accordingly. Clear and cover furniture yourself the night before to speed up the process and protect your belongings. Keep pets in a separate, unpainted room or out of the house during painting — pets are more sensitive to paint fumes than adults, and curious pets can step through wet paint and track it everywhere. If anyone in the household has respiratory sensitivities, asthma, or is pregnant, spend the day out of the house on painting days and return once the space has aired out for a few hours.

For young children and infants, it is worth spending painting days outside or at a relative's place, especially when a full room is being done. This is less about toxicity with modern paints and more about keeping small hands out of wet trim and baseboards.

When staying elsewhere makes sense: If your entire home is being painted at once, if older oil-based trim paints are being used (higher VOC content), or if lead paint is being disturbed on pre-1978 surfaces, you should arrange

to stay somewhere else for the duration of the work. Lead paint disturbance especially requires the house to be vacated and properly contained — no exceptions.

For a typical 3-bedroom NB home getting a modern latex interior repaint, staying in the house is perfectly reasonable. Just communicate with your painter, plan your days around the work schedule, and let the fresh colour transform your space.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Loves Painting Ltd.
- Thirty Four Renovations
- Gionetterenovations
- Worry No More Handyman Services

[View all contractors ?](#)

Q21

What is the best way to ventilate my home during and after interior painting in New Brunswick?

Good ventilation during interior painting means cross-ventilation with fresh air moving through the space, not just opening a single window. The goal is to continuously replace the air in the room being painted so that solvent vapours and VOCs are diluted and exhausted outside.

The most effective approach is the **push-pull method**: place a box fan in one window blowing outward (pulling air out of the room), and open a window on the opposite side of the room or in an adjacent space to allow fresh air in. This creates directional airflow through the space rather than just recirculating fumes. For a typical 12x12 bedroom, this setup exchanges the air in the room every few minutes, which is what you want during painting and for the first hour after the final coat.

NB's seasons create very different ventilation challenges. In summer — especially in Moncton, Saint John, and the Fundy coast areas where humidity can sit at 70-80% — you want airflow without introducing excessive humidity, which slows drying. Paint on a day when outdoor humidity is below 65% if possible, and run a dehumidifier in the

room alongside ventilation if conditions are sticky. In winter, NB homes with forced-air heating are extremely dry (sometimes below 25% relative humidity), which is actually ideal for interior painting — paint dries fast, fumes disperse quickly, and you can ventilate briefly by cracking a window without dropping the room temperature dangerously. Even in January, a window open 5-10 cm for 20-30 minutes at a time, combined with running your furnace fan, will exchange enough air.

Practical ventilation tips for NB homes:

Use a HEPA air purifier with an activated carbon filter in the room being painted if you have one — carbon filters are specifically designed to adsorb VOC molecules, not just particulates. They make a noticeable difference in odour reduction. Run it during painting and for several hours after.

For the **after-painting period**, ventilate actively for the first 24-48 hours, especially for oil-based paints, alkyds, and lacquers used on trim and cabinets. Latex wall paints become low-odour quickly, but trim paints and primers linger longer. Acrylic-alkyd hybrid trim paints (like Benjamin Moore Advance or Sherwin-Williams ProClassic, popular choices with NB painters) have more odour than straight latex and benefit from extended ventilation.

Bathrooms and small rooms with no windows — common in older NB homes built in the 1950s and 60s — need special attention. Run the bathroom exhaust fan continuously during painting and for at least 2 hours after. If there is no window or fan in the space, prop the door open and create airflow from adjacent rooms.

VOC considerations: Modern interior latex paints sold in NB are low-VOC or zero-VOC by Canadian national standards. This does not mean zero odour — even zero-VOC paints have a noticeable smell from the tinting process — but the health risk from a well-ventilated interior latex repaint is minimal for healthy adults. Shellac-based stain-blocking primers (like Zinsser BIN), however, are alcohol-based and have significant fumes. If your painter is using shellac primer on water stains or nicotine-stained walls, that room should be vacated and heavily ventilated for several hours.

For anyone with asthma, chemical sensitivities, or respiratory conditions, request low-VOC products specifically and plan to spend paint days outside. The smell dissipates quickly — most NB homeowners find rooms are comfortable to sleep in the night after painting if ventilated properly.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- FRS Flooring Solutions
- M And M Painting

- moose luxury painting
- Gionetterenovations

[View all contractors ?](#)

How do I report a bad painting contractor or get recourse for a poor paint job in NB?

If you have had a poor experience with a painting contractor in New Brunswick, your first step is always direct communication with the contractor in writing — document the issues, give them a reasonable opportunity to correct the work, and put everything in a paper trail. Most disputes with painting contractors are resolved this way without escalating further.

Start by writing a clear email or letter to the contractor detailing the specific problems — what is peeling, where the coverage is uneven, which areas were missed, or what was left in worse condition than agreed. Include photos with dates. Give them a defined timeframe to respond and correct the deficiency — 7 to 14 days is reasonable. Keep copies of everything: your original quote, any contracts or written agreements, before-and-after photos, and all correspondence. If the contractor is professional and business-minded, they will want to resolve the complaint and protect their reputation rather than have a dispute escalate.

If direct resolution fails, New Brunswick has several options:

Service New Brunswick / Consumer Affairs Branch: NB's Consumer Product Safety and Fraud Prevention division handles disputes between consumers and service providers. You can file a complaint if you believe you have been misled, overcharged, or received clearly substandard service. Visit the Government of New Brunswick website or call Service NB for guidance. This route is more effective when there is evidence of fraud or misrepresentation than for pure quality disputes.

Small Claims Court: For disputes under 0,000, NB Small Claims Court is an accessible option. You file your claim, present your evidence (photos, written quotes, communications), and a judge makes a binding decision. Filing fees are modest. This is the most powerful tool for a legitimate dispute where the contractor refuses to make things right. You do not need a lawyer for Small Claims Court in NB.

WorkSafeNB: If a contractor worked on your property without proper WorkSafeNB coverage and an injury occurred, or if they represented themselves as having coverage when they did not, WorkSafeNB wants to know about it.

Practical steps before hiring your next painter — and why this matters:

Prevention is far more effective than recourse. Before hiring any painter in NB, always get a written quote that specifies the scope of work in detail: which surfaces, number of coats, specific products to be used, and the timeline. A verbal agreement is nearly impossible to enforce. Ask for references from recent NB projects and actually call them. Verify that the painter carries liability insurance — ask for a certificate of insurance, not just a

verbal assurance. A reputable painter will provide this without hesitation.

For significant projects (full exterior repaints, whole-house interiors, cabinet refinishing), consider a payment schedule tied to project milestones rather than paying the full amount upfront. A 25-30% deposit to start, another payment at the midpoint, and the final payment upon your satisfactory inspection is a fair and common structure for NB painting work.

We cannot give legal or insurance advice, and every dispute has its own facts and nuances. But documentation, direct communication first, and using NB's consumer protection tools when needed gives you a reasonable path to resolution.

If you need help finding a reputable painting contractor for your next project, New Brunswick Painting can match you with painting professionals through the New Brunswick Construction Network directory at newbrunswickconstructionnetwork.com/directory?trade=painting.

Q23

Should I buy my own paint or let the painting contractor supply it for my NB project?

In most cases, letting your painting contractor supply the paint is the smarter choice — they have trade accounts, know exactly what quantities are needed, and are accountable for the product they put on your walls. That said, there are specific situations where buying your own paint makes sense, and it is worth understanding both sides.

When a professional painter supplies the paint, they are taking on responsibility for the product selection, mixing, and colour matching. If the paint fails, peels, or does not cover properly, they cannot point to a different product as the cause — they own the entire result. This matters more than most homeowners realize. Painters also have **trade pricing** at Benjamin Moore, Sherwin-Williams, Dulux, and Cloverdale stores in Moncton, Fredericton, and Saint John — typically 15-30% below retail. A good contractor will pass some of this saving on through competitive pricing, or simply factor it into their quote. Either way, they are sourcing paint efficiently.

Professional painters also know exactly which products work best for specific conditions. An experienced NB painter knows that a 100-year-old clapboard house in Saint John near the Bay of Fundy needs a different exterior product than a newer vinyl-sided bungalow in Riverview, and they will spec accordingly. They understand which primers are necessary over which surfaces, how many litres a particular product requires per 100 square metres, and how to account for waste and second coats. Estimating paint quantities incorrectly is one of the most common

homeowner DIY mistakes — running out mid-wall and needing a new tinted batch that does not quite match the first is a frustrating and costly error.

When buying your own paint makes sense:

If you have already invested significant time selecting a very specific colour — perhaps you have been matching a custom colour from a fabric swatch or re-ordering the exact same tint from a previous project — buying it yourself and supplying it to the contractor is perfectly reasonable. Make sure to get enough. The general rule is one litre per 10 square metres (roughly 4 litres per average room) for two coats on smooth walls, but ask your painter to confirm the quantity before you buy.

If you have a paint loyalty, store credit, or a sale you want to take advantage of at a specific store, go ahead — most painters will work with homeowner-supplied paint. Just understand that if the coverage or outcome is not what you hoped, the painter's responsibility is limited to the quality of their application, not the product itself. Get this understanding in writing.

What to discuss with your contractor either way:

Ask them which product they plan to use and why. A professional should be able to tell you the specific product name and sheen — not just 'a good exterior latex' but 'Sherwin-Williams Duration Exterior, satin finish.' If they cannot or will not answer, that is a yellow flag. Ask whether their quote includes primer, and if so, what primer. Ask if two finish coats are included. These details, regardless of who supplies the paint, determine the quality and longevity of the result.

For most NB homeowners doing a bedroom, living room, exterior repaint, or full interior — let the painter handle the paint. You are hiring expertise, not just labour. For a specific accent colour you have agonized over, or a leftover gallon you want used up on a utility room, supplying it yourself is fine. Just communicate clearly upfront so there are no surprises on either side.

Looking for experienced contractors? The New Brunswick Construction Network connects homeowners with qualified professionals:

- Expressions Painting
- Worry No More Handyman Services
- Loves Painting Ltd.
- Thirty Four Renovations
- Gionetterenovations

[View all contractors ?](#)

Disclaimer: This guide is provided for informational purposes only by New Brunswick Painting. It does not constitute professional advice. Always consult qualified, licensed contractors and your local building authority before starting any painting project. Information is current as of May 3, 2026 and may change. Visit newbrunswickpainting.com for the latest answers.