



Oklahoma Main Street Colors

When visiting many of the Main Street communities the most frequently asked question by building owners is "What color should I paint my building?" For those brick and stone buildings that have not been painted or have less than 50% painted, the answer is easy. **DO NOT PAINT!** Remove the paint that is there, then give your entire building a good washing. The results will surprise you when all the years of dirt and smog that have collected are removed. But, if your building is already painted and the paint will not come off without further deteriorating the brick, you now have paint color options for stone, brick, wood and metal trim.

Inside are the Oklahoma Main Street Colors that were compiled in communities throughout the different regions of the state. Some of the colors were copied from bricks and stones or original paints that are found on the historic downtown buildings while other colors were taken from native plants and rock outcroppings.

How to Use

When using the Oklahoma Main Street Colors to paint the façade of your building always remember to use a color that is appropriate. Use the colors inside to find a color that matches your brick by scraping off the paint to the original façade. If your brick color is unable to be seen through the layers of paint, look at the surrounding buildings. If the buildings are a dark or light red, brown, or yellow then use the same color tone or hue. Do not put a yellow brick building in the middle of the block if none of the buildings on your block or in your downtown are yellow. The color samples found inside are grouped in families across the card. Consider which vertical row(s) best compliment the original color of your masonry and/or work the best with the adjacent buildings.

The trim of the building is the material around the windows, doors, or cornice area. To paint these areas use a

color that accents the color of your building. At the bottom of each row is an accent color to use if you decide to paint your building any of the colors above it. Or you can use the colors stated for only trim use. The secret is to use a darker trim on a light building and lighter trim on a dark building. For buildings with metal trim, paint them a more neutral color or choose darker, bronze colored, anodized frames.

Painting Your Building

After you choose a color and paint for your building and/or trim there are a few things that need to be completed first. Most important is to prepare the surface by removing all loose paint. Preferably use a wire brush or a scraper. Next, see that all of the surfaces are in good condi-

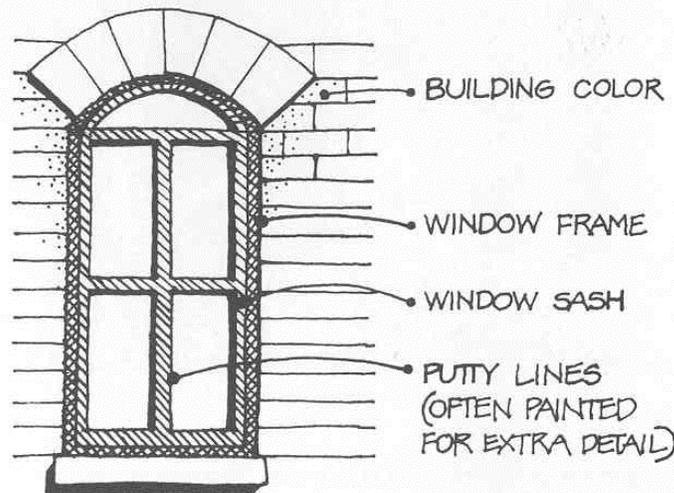
tion. Does the mortar need repointing? Is the wood rotten? Are the windows sealed? After completing these few things you are ready to begin with the primer. Since paint adheres to many materials differently it is important to choose the right type of paint for your project. For wood it is best to use an oil base paint for the primer and either oil or latex for the top coat. For brick buildings you can use an oil or latex based paint for the primer and the top coat. For the shine of the paint you should use a flat or matte

finish on a brick building and either gloss, semigloss, or flat for the trim depending on your preference.

Once you have selected your new colors, this card can be used for computer matching at any local paint supplier.

Cleaning Your Building

If your building has never been painted but the color looks drab or it has been painted but is falling off, maybe it is time for a face-lift. Cleaning your building is not only going to help with its appearance but also with slowing down any deterioration. If you clean your building the wrong way though, you can cause more deterioration.

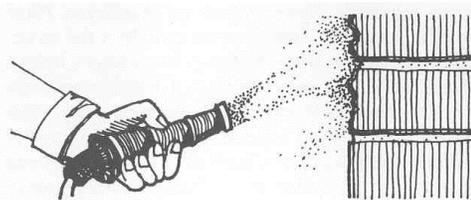




There are many different methods available to clean your building. Keep in mind

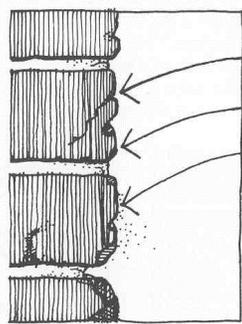
the amount and type of soil or paint to be removed and the type and condition of the masonry. If your building has loose paint or is slightly dirty it would be best to clean it with some water, a bristle brush (not metal) and detergent. Make sure your water and detergent do not leave a stain or further deteriorate your building. If your building has thick paint or is covered in a thick layer of dirt a chemical remover might be best. You can either do it by a chemical wash or by a chemical paper produced by Dumond

Chemicals and ProSoCo. Make sure that the chemical cleaners are appropriate for your building



material. Another common type of cleaning is abrasive blasting. Water blasting, sodablasting, and sandblasting are techniques that should never be used to clean masonry surfaces. This damages and erodes the brick and mortar joints.

Once you have chosen the way you are going to clean your building there are some things still to do before you begin. It is highly recommended that you do a test patch to evaluate the effectiveness of the cleaning method and



to see how it affects the brick. If the brick face rubs off when you touch it or is any way damaged, the bricks or mortar might be too soft to clean. If soap and water did not clean paint off the bricks try another test patch of a chemical cleaner; if this does not work the building might need to be repainted instead. It is possible that your mortar needs to be repointed but first ask a professional whether

it is best to do this before or after you clean the masonry. Before cleaning the remainder of the building, make sure that windows and doors are protected against water and chemical seepage.

Oklahoma Main Street: Styles, Masonry, and Colors

Victorian or Territorial (c. 1889-1907)

Masonry type: brick, sandstone, Kansas limestone

Other: wood window and door framing, stamped metalwork in tin and zinc

Colors: brick- red orange tones
sandstone
pressed metal- natural colors, white

Classical Revival (c. 1910-1930)

Masonry type: brick, limestone, cast stone, terra cotta

Colors: brick- red, orange, yellows and golds, browns and beiges
limestone
cast stone
terra cotta

Plains Commercial (c. 1910-1940)

Masonry type: brick, cast stone

Other: glazed tile, wood window and door framing, copper framed display windows

Colors: brick-natural red brick
cast stone
tile- red, blue, green, yellow, black
copper

Mission Style or Spanish Revival (c. 1910-1940)

Masonry type: brick, concrete decoration, flat textured stucco

Other: glazed tile

Colors: brick-various tones and colors
stucco
tile- bright colors similar to Plains Commercial

Art Deco or Art Moderne (c. 1930-1950)

Masonry type: brick with cast stone details, stucco, terra cotta

Other: carrera glass, tile, aluminum door and window trims

Colors: brick- crème, buff, black
stucco
terra cotta
carrera glass & tile- bright colors
aluminum- silver

Early Skyscrapers (c. 1915-1930)

Masonry type: brick, cast stone, limestone, terra cotta

Colors: brick
cast stone
limestone
terra cotta



Roman Column SW 7562



Renwick Beige SW 2805



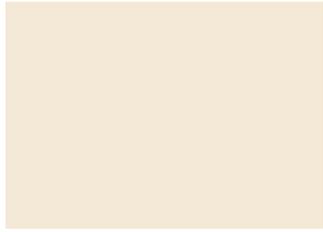
White Duck SW 7010



Pure White SW 7005



Marshmallow SW 7001



Summer White SW 7557



New Colonial Yellow SW 2853



Sycamore Tan SW 2855



Queen Anne Lilac SW 0021



Safari SW 7697



Interface Tan SW 6059



Hinoki SW 7686



Lanyard SW 7680



Burnished Brandy SW 7523



Rose Tan SW 0069



Totally Tan SW 6115



Roccroft Rose SW 0034



Humble Gold SW 6380



Rookwood Amber SW 2817



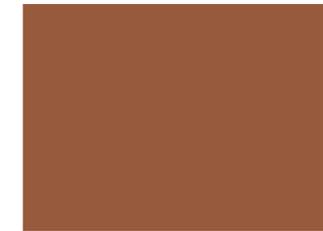
Mossy Gold SW 6139



Rookwood Clay SW 2823



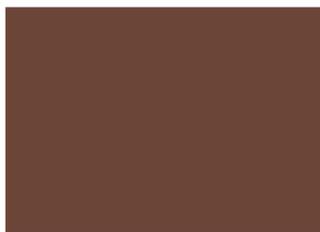
Oak Creek SW 7718



Rookwood Terra Cotta SW 2803



Golden Rule SW 6383



Aurora Brown SW 2837



Secret Garden SW 6181



Spicy Hue SW 6342



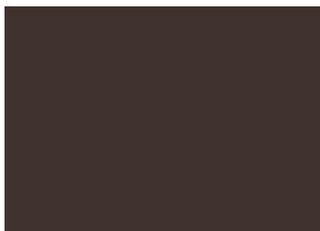
Greenfield SW 6439



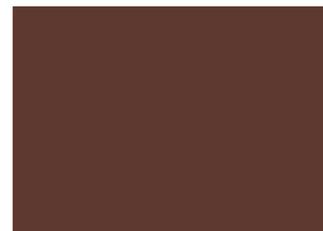
Vogue Green SW 0065



Gingery SW 6363



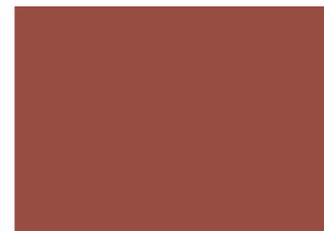
Black Bean SW 6006



Fiery Brown SW 6055



Inverness SW 6433



Brick Paver SW 7599



Red Barn SW 7591



Courtyard SW 6440

OKLAHOMA

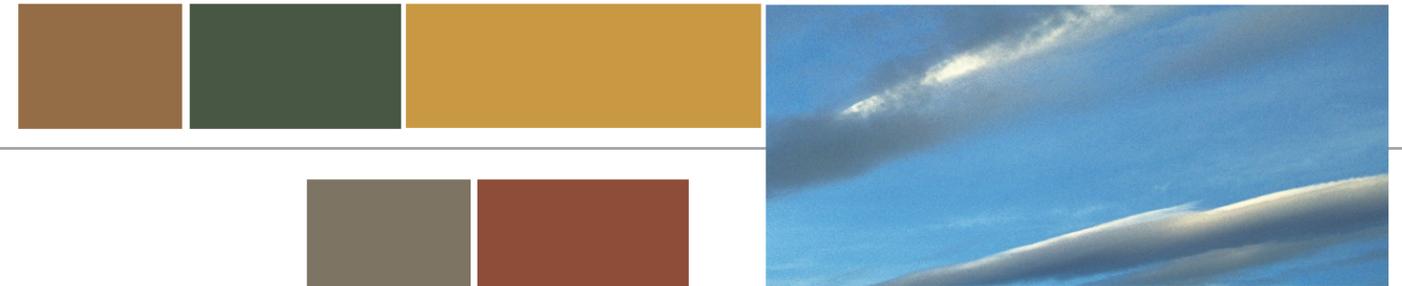


MAIN STREET

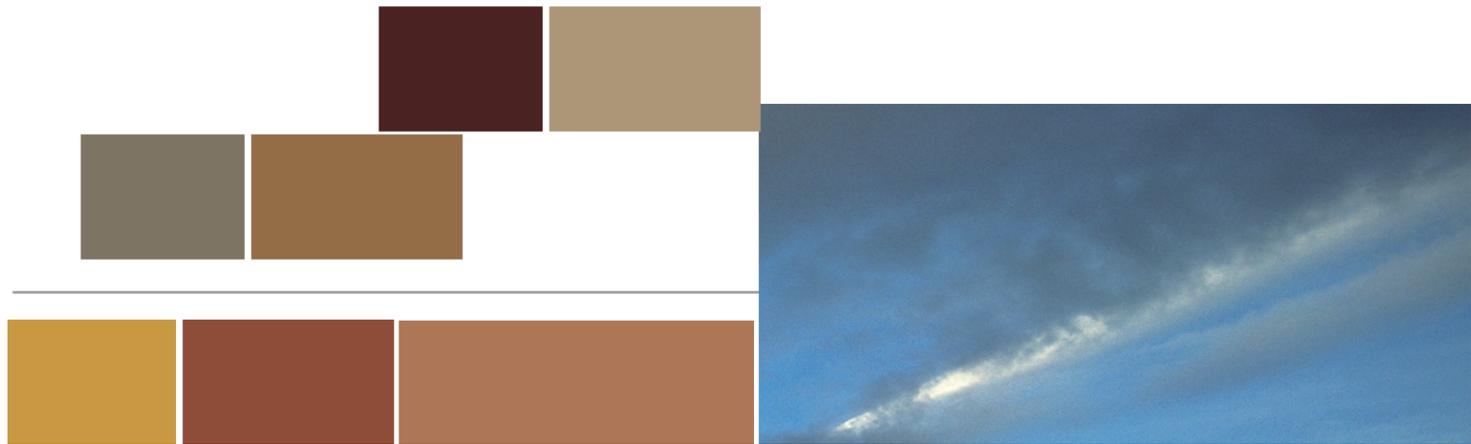
Oklahoma Main Street Colors



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Color Palette



Produced in cooperation with the Oklahoma Main Street Center

THESE SAMPLES APPROXIMATE AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THE ACTUAL PAINT COLORS.

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