# Peelaway®

1981

# The Original Poultice Paint Removal System

The safer, more efficient way to remove almost any type of paint or varnish in one easy application from a variety of substrates.

## Architecturally Specified

Environmentally Safer\* F O R M U L A T I O N

\*Environmental claim compares to shot blasting, abrasion and heat guns where toxic paint particles can be released into the environment.



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Paint & Varnish Removal



from a variety of substrates, in one easy application.



The system will remove paint from many exterior and interior architectural surfaces.

#### **HOW DOES PEELAWAY® WORK?**

Peelaway® was first developed in 1981 to deal effectively with the problems associated with the removal of multiple layers of old lead-based paint where burning or sanding would allow lead particles to escape into the environment with the associated health risks caused by such practices. The stripping compound is formulated to turn the lead into lead hydroxide within the paste so that it can be safely disposed of without endangering the environment or user.

The system is designed to work with the special Peelaway<sup>®</sup> poultice cover supplied (patent protected) which allows the user to extend the time available so the stripping process can be as complete as possible. This is especially useful where crevices and profiles have allowed the build-up of several times the thickness of the paint compared to flat surfaces. The cover increases the penetration of the stripping paste and helps the collection of the waste paint and paste afterwards. This prevents the escape of unwanted chemicals into the environment. The outside of the cover is also printed with instructions and notices to workers and public that chemical paint removal is in progress.

#### WHY USE PEELAWAY®?

The system will remove paint from many exterior and interior architectural surfaces, including stone, cement, brickwork, plaster walls and ceilings, plain and ornate fibrous plaster cornices. plain and carved or turned woodwork. plain and cast metal work. Automobile and aircraft coatings are also efficiently stripped with the Peelaway<sup>®</sup> system. Because the chemicals are doing the stripping work with minimal sanding and scraping compared to other methods, the Peelaway<sup>®</sup> Poultice Paint Removal System can be very cost effective - substantially reducing the overall amount of labour required for the stripping project and the need for negative air and debris collection that is often very labour and equipment intensive.

#### WHY TRUST PEELAWAY®?

Peelaway<sup>®</sup> is architecturally specified; approved for projects by English Heritage, National Trust and many contractors working in the heritage industry.

Peelaway<sup>®</sup> Poultice Paint Removal System has been used for many high profile restoration projects including railings and interiors at **The British Museum**, ornate plaster ceilings at **Greenwich Palace**, ironwork on the **London Underground** and delicate panelling at the **Victoria and Albert Museum**.

The system is frequently specified by architects as the only appropriate solution for paint removal where damage to the surface or risk to the environment is an issue.

> Watch out for imitations! If it doesn't say Peelaway<sup>®</sup> on the label, it's not!













#### WHICH PRODUCT DO I NEED?

The chemicals used within the stripping pastes are carefully chosen to minimise fumes and odours and are biodegradable and environmentally friendly. There are two main types of Peelaway<sup>®</sup> stripping pastes that work within the poultice system.

A test patch should always be carried out first to assess the suitability of the finish.



Peelaway® 1 is formulated to remove up to 32 coats of old toxic lead paint from ornate plaster ceilings and cornices, bricks, masonry, steel, cast iron and woodwork. It is often used for restoration projects involving multi layers of oil based paints where the stripping compound is formulated to quickly react with the paint resins and convert any lead present into a compound that can be safely disposed of without endangering the environment.

Peelaway<sup>®</sup>1 is a high pH product, so it can penetrate and react with the oil/ lead content of multi layers of older coatings, this means that the stripped surface should be neutralised with a weak solution of acetic acid (supplied with the packs) and left to dry thoroughly before repainting. During very damp periods/conditions such as autumn through to spring, particularly on exterior substrates, moisture containing residues of Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 1 may bleed out of the substrate at a





later date thus raising the alkaline pH value once again. This could affect the repainted surface. As a precaution if Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 1 is used and the surface is to be repainted, we would always recommend using a good quality alkaline resistant acrylic sealer/primer prior to repainting. However if the surface is not to be repainted, the pH or moisture content of the surface is not so critical.

Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 1 should not be used on gesso (a form of putty) mouldings sometimes used on carved fireplace surrounds or to remove paint from veneers, plywoods, aluminium or unskimmed drywall and may discolour certain hardwoods. e.g Oak, Mahogany, Teak etc (for some of these, Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 7 may be suitable (not all e.g. gesso, old veneer).

Sizes include: 5Kg & 15Kg Contains: Neutraliser, blanets & spatula. Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 7 is a water-based formulation that will remove up to 20 coats of modern paints from woodwork, bricks, masonry, plaster, fibre glass and metal (includes automobile and aircraft paints).

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Excellent results have also been achieved with combinations of oil and water-based coatings.

Peelaway<sup>®</sup>7 does not require neutralising and can be repainted within a few hours.

Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 7 is recommended for use in removing paint from veneers, plywoods or aluminium but should not be used on certain plastics such as polycarbonates and perspex. (Test on unskimmed drywall).

**Sizes include:** 750g, 4Kg & 10Kg Contains: Blanets & spatula.

#### **KEY BENEFITS**

Peelaway

- Removes multiple layers of most modern industrial and domestic paint in one application.
- It is much safer and more user friendly having very little odour and naturally degradable. It is non caustic and does not burn skin in the event of accidental contact.
- Safer to use than traditional Methylene Chloride paint strippers.
- The unique paste formulation works effectively on the most intricate paint removal projects.

#### SAMPLE TEST POTS & PRODUCT LIMITATIONS

Sample pots are available for both Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 1 & 7. A test patch should always be carried out first to assess the suitability of the finish.

One limitation that applies to both products is that they will work slower under 5°c and will stop working under 0°c. Additionally, neither Peelaway® 1 or 7 will remove certain two pack epoxy coatings, urethanes, chlorinated rubber, baked enamels or masonry cement based paints. **Both products are available as a test kit.** For further information please contact us.



#### ACHIEVING THE BEST RESULTS!

Peelaway<sup>®</sup> stripping pastes are designed to be applied with the spatula supplied. Alternatively a hawk and trowel, brushes or a roller can be used. The pastes can also be sprayed with the use of the correct equipment: details are available from the company's technical department. The method of application will depend on how thick the paste needs to be applied, for instance, a spatula or trowel will apply the paste thicker than a brush.

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#### **QUICK GUIDE & CHECK LIST**

#### ALWAYS CARRY OUT A TEST PATCH FIRST.

- Never presume that Peelaway<sup>®</sup> will work because there are two types for different paints.
- The 2 types are, Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 1 (P1) and Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 7 (P7).
- P1 is mainly for lead and oil based paints and must be neutralised after stripping (pH between 5-9, fluid supplied). Moisture containing residues of Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 1 may bleed out of the substrate at a later date thus raising the alkaline pH value once again. This could affect the appearance of the repainted surface. As a precaution if Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 1 is used and the surface is to be repainted, we would always recommend using a good guality alkaline resistant acrylic sealer/ primer prior to repainting. Repaint only when the surface has dried out (below 15% moisture) and has been rubbed down. Rubber gloves must be worn.
- P1 may discolour some hard woods including oak; P7 should not cause this effect as it's made differently but check first with a test patch.
- P1 encapsulates the lead in paints to safely contain it for disposal, avoiding the generation of lead-contaminated dusts. P7 is mainly for water based and modern oil paints indoors and out.

- The Peelaway<sup>®</sup> system does not work as effectively without the covering of the plastic blankets. These should be cut to size and overlaid as appropriate. Green for P7 and red for P1.
- Peelaway<sup>®</sup> will work slower under 5°C and will stop working under 0°C. You can apply Peelaway<sup>®</sup> with a spatula, trowel or brush; you can also spray it for bigger surface areas.
- As a guide coverage is approximately 1m<sup>2</sup> per kilo at 1mm thick for P7. For P1 the coverage is reduced by approximately 20%
- Always ensure that a sample patch is completed using the twin sample pots available. Starting from 1mm and building up the depth to 4-6mm on an area of 75mm x 75mm. If the initial tests are successful bigger test patches are advised before embarking on the whole project.

This will identify the following:

- which type of Peelaway<sup>®</sup> to use;
- how much to put on;
- how long to leave it on;
- it will warn you of possible damage;
- it will save you time and money;
- and how successfully Peelaway<sup>®</sup> will strip the particular surface.

#### THE POULTICE METHOD

The application of the Peelaway® blanket over the paste protects it from drying out and the active time of the product is subsequently extended.



#### **TEST PATCHES**

#### We can not state enough how important it is to carry out a test patch before general use.

The size of the test patches will depend on the subject matter, but as a guide they should be from 75 x 75mm up to 300 x 300mm. Apply Peelaway® paste graded from 1mm to 6mm thick according to the age and thickness of the coating (e.g 1mm when removing a thin layer of varnish but possibly up to 6mm where there are multiple layers of thick paint). Place the Peelaway® blanket (print side out) on to the paste. Rub gently to remove air, pierce bubbles where necessary. Allow to stand from 2 to 48 hours, again this will be determined by the paint/coating type and thickness/number of layers.

When using Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 1 to remove heavy paint build up over plaster mouldings you may need to leave even longer (up to 72 hours, but this must be confirmed in advance by carrying out a small Test Patch) and this can often aid the drying out process which encourages the old paint and blanket to lift away from the substrate being treated to complete the stripping process. Do not allow the applied Peelaway<sup>®</sup> 1 to cure completely. This can lead to the combined Paint and Peelaway® paste turning solid which can be difficult to remove and could potentially damage the substrate.



For areas involving different elevations several test patches should be applied to accommodate the possibility of different coatings and the effects of weather on exterior surfaces. To remove, the spatula should be inserted into the paste and a section gently lifted away. If the original surface is apparent, the test patch can be removed and the surface wiped with a damp sponge. If paint can still be seen, the test patch should be replaced and re-examined after a few hours.

Once the correct paste and timing for the project has been established together with the thickness required, the designated paste should be applied, the Peelaway<sup>®</sup> blanket laid over the paste and left for the time indicated by the test patch. Full instructions are on the containers.

Each project can potentially give different results and this is why it is imperative to carry out Test Patches. Leaving on for not long enough could mean the process has not completed. Leaving on too long could damage the substrate or you may find the Peelaway<sup>®</sup> blanket and paste becomes too hard and difficult to clean up.

## Available from:

Authority: The Peelaway<sup>®</sup> system is patented or subject to patents applied for worldwide.



The Peelaway<sup>®</sup> application video is available on our website or via Youtube.



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