Problem-Solving Decisions: Estimated or Exact Answer?

Use the questions to help you solve.

1. Norma wants to paint her basement. Her friend gives her half a gallon of paint. Norma knows that 1 gallon of paint covers about 400 square feet. Her basement walls are about 562 square feet in area. Should Norma buy an additional half a gallon of paint, 1 gallon, or 2 gallons?

   What decision does Norma need to make?
   _________________________________

   Will you estimate or find an exact answer? Why?
   _________________________________

   How many square feet can Norma cover with the paint she already has?
   _________________________________

   About how much paint will she need to cover the remaining area?
   _________________________________

   Do you think Norma should overestimate or underestimate the amount of paint she will need? Why?
   _________________________________

Solve.

2. Norma wants to spend no more than $10 on supplies. She buys a paint roller for $4.89, a foam brush for $1.19, and a drop cloth for $2.75. Does she have enough left to buy one more foam brush? Explain your answer.