

PAINTING WITH A BRUSH

Brushes are like any other tools, a good quality brush holds more paint, makes the paint application smoother and reduces paint spattering.

Avoid cheap brushes with short, sparse bristles.

Clean the brush before starting work. The easiest way is to flick the brush bristle back and forth to remove dust. Then tease the bristles with your fingers to remove any loose strands



- Wash the brush in lukewarm soapy water before commencing work, rinse and leave in clean water for 3 to 5 minutes.
This soaking will thoroughly moisten the filament and condition it to accept the paint. It will also make the brush easier to clean, particularly with water based paints. (If you are using oil based paints, soak the brush in Turps instead)
- Dip the brush no more than halfway into the paint.
Remove excess by tapping gently against the inside of the can.
Do not wipe the brush on the top of the can as this will remove much of the paint.
- Hold the brush like a pencil and use long, steady strokes.
- Paint the surface with the brush tip, not with the sides of the brush.
- Start at the top when painting walls.
- Brush paint on to a dry area and work towards and into the wet area to allow the overlap to blend.
- If you are painting a larger area by brush, apply the paint in vertical or diagonal strips until the brush runs out of paint. Then brush horizontally until the area is evenly covered. Finally finish off with very light vertical strokes using the tip of the brush, this is called 'laying off'.
- If you are using a brush and a roller, the idea is to use the brush around the edges of the area you are going to paint. This is known as 'cutting in'. You need to paint a strip about 5cm wide around the areas on which you can use the roller. Don't do too much of your cutting in at once. Try to roll the larger areas before the brushed out paint dries to minimise 'picture framing' or ridging around the edges.
- When painting woodwork, trims, architraves, skirting and the like, try to start at the top and work down, painting with light, even strokes and feathering the edge of the wet paint as the brush empties. Recharge the brush and work back into the wet edge.
- Don't try to paint over an area that has partially dried, as the brush will leave unattractive marks on the surface.
- For skirting boards, always use a shield such as a brick bolster or stiff cardboard. Hold the shield at the base of the skirting and paint down to it, moving it along as you go. Even if there is no flooring to protect, the shield will stop the brush picking up dust and grit from the floor.

USING A PAINT ROLLER

Rolling paint onto walls and ceilings is a great way to achieve fast, smooth results.

Make sure you have selected the right roller sleeve for the job and do use an extension pole for painting ceilings and floors.

- Fit the roller sleeve to the frame and slightly dampen it with water (for water based acrylic paint only) to prime the sleeve and to remove any lint or dust.
- Half fill the well of the Roller Tray with paint. Dip the roller in so it is a little less than half submerged.
- Lift the roller and roll it down the sloped grating two or three times to spread the paint on the roller.
- Dip the roller into the paint once more and roll it on the grating again until it has been evenly saturated.
- Don't overload the roller or it can slide and give an uneven coat.
- The first stroke with a newly loaded roller should always be away from you.
- To paint a ceiling, begin about 1 metre from the corner and roll towards the corner.
- Without lifting the roller from surface, continue to make a 'W' or zig-zag pattern about 1 metre square. To minimise spattering, move the roller with slow, smooth strokes.
- To paint a wall, push the roller upwards on the first stroke, away from you, and complete an 'M' or zig-zag pattern, again about a metre square.
- These initial strokes spread most of the paint load evenly over the section. Now fill in the parts in between without removing the roller from the surface. Use criss-crossing strokes, each of about 450mm to 600mm with even pressure until the entire section is evenly covered.
- Finish up with uniform strokes in one direction. Move along to the next section, load the roller and repeat the sequence.
- Never leave a paint-covered roller exposed to the air for any length of time. Cover the roller with a damp cloth or wrap in cling film if you are not using it for a short period.



DON'T hesitate to ask. We are always happy to provide advice and assistance

For more information or assistance call 1300 661 745 or (08) 8368 0222.
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