

PAINTING Do's and Don't's

Do's

- DO** start with a Sample Pot first, just in case you're not happy with the colour. Paint a piece of card and move it around the area to see how it matches your decor and how the light affects the colour at different points around the room and at different times of the day.
- DO** work out how much paint you'll need. It's always best to get it mixed at one time.
- DO** purchase a sturdy paint tray and the correct rollers, roller frame, extension pole and good quality brushes. It is a good idea to have a small artists brush for touch-ups. The Roller choice depends on the type of paint and on the smoothness of the surface. Brushes with angled tips are best for painting on and around trim.
- DO** check whether you need a sealer or undercoat. This will depend on the surface being painted and on the paint being used. A good quality exterior paint such as Acryloc Weatherblock is self-priming on most surfaces but interior unpainted surfaces such as plasterboard, MDF and timber each need a different preparation coat. If a wall or ceiling is already painted, you may not need a preparation coat unless you are going from one extreme colour to another and some colours need a contrasting undercoat to help coverage.
- DO** take the time to de-clutter the area as much as you can. Move ornaments, pictures and the like out of harm's way. Move furniture to another room, if possible, or else into the centre of the room. Cover the floor and any furniture with a drop cloth and use a good quality masking tape to protect window & door frames, skirting and bench tops. Remove all of the hardware, switch covers, doorknobs, hooks etc and store them safely. This will make sure you only paint the bits that need it!
- DO** wear old clothing (or disposable overalls are not expensive) because you will get paint on you somewhere. Slip-on shoes are a good idea so you don't track paint out of the area.
- DO** take the time to prepare thoroughly. Patch any holes in walls or over nail heads with a suitable filler and sand smooth. If you are painting over a glossy surface, sand to completely dull the original paint. Wear a dust mask and make sure all dust is removed. Clean existing paintwork with Sugar Soap and wash with water.
- DO** put everything you need in one handy spot, either just outside or within the room/area. This should include the Roller Tray, masking tape, brushes, roller frames and rollers, extension pole, paint stirrer, paint can opener, rags, clean water +/- or paint thinner, scraper and other tools, ladder or platform and, of course, the paint.
- DO** make sure you mix the paint thoroughly and double-check the colour before you start.
- DO** place the lid back on the paint can after you fill the roller tray. Cover rollers and brushes with a damp cloth if you are not using them for a short period. These steps will stop the paint drying and forming a skin.
- DO** put aside small containers of paint for touch-ups after you have finished. Clean glass jars with tight fitting lids are ideal. Fill each container so there is not much air space at the top, cover the top with cling wrap, fit the lid and label it with colour & paint type.

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Don'ts

- DON'T** underestimate how long it'll take to do the job. You could be looking at your finished work for years to come so take the time to do it well, don't rush or get frustrated.
- DON'T** buy low quality paint, rollers or brushes. Good quality paint will need fewer coats, will finish better and will last much longer. Quality rollers and brushes make the painting job much easier.
- DON'T** paint out of order. Start at the top on the ceiling or roof, then work down to walls, doors, architraves and skirting and finally the floor, deck or path.
- DON'T** paint yourself in to the corner of the room, or the depths of the house!
- DON'T** close up a room while painting. Keep doors and windows open to give good ventilation.
- DON'T** paint straight over wallpaper. Remove it with a steamer or paper-removing solution. Clean the wall and apply a Primer coat.
- DON'T** let paint dribble down the outside of the can, especially not over the colour label. You may need this info if you have to get more paint.
- DON'T** put off cleaning your brushes and rollers if you want to use them again. Clean them at the end of each day and when you have finished. In warmer conditions, it is a good idea to clean brushes every couple of hours to prevent skinning.
- DON'T** be in a hurry to put everything back into the room. Allow at least 24 hours to dry. Allow two to three weeks to cure, before washing or wiping.
- DON'T** pour leftover paint or washings down the drain. Unwanted paint should be brushed out on newspaper, allowed to dry and then disposed of via domestic waste collection. Empty containers should be left open in a well ventilated area to dry out before disposal. Check with your local council for any special requirements.
- DON'T** damage the lid or rim of the can, you need to be able to re-seal it use a paint can opener and move around the rim with small strokes to open the can
- DON'T** reattach the lid without cleaning the rim of the can. Use a brush and/or paper towel to clean excess paint from the edge first. Place a paper towel or rag on top of the lid to prevent splattering. Then hammer around the edge trying not to deform the lid – either place a block of wood on the edge of the lid and hammer the wood or use a rubber mallet.

- 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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