

PAINTING TOOLS

It really is worth spending a little bit of time and money to get the essential tools that will help you get the job done properly. Some advice on the key items is given below.

Paint Can opener

This is a simple tool but worthwhile for opening steel cans without damaging the lid or can.

Paint Mixer

It is really important that the paint is mixed thoroughly to make sure that the colour is accurate and consistent. A good mixer will lift and fold the paint to ensure a good result.

Scrapers, Knives, Brushes

Scrapers come in all shapes and sizes and the best choice will depend on the painting job.

- A 50mm or 75mm flat blade scraper is a good general purpose choice, useful for scraping off flaking paint or loose plaster as well as for filling holes in plasterboard and the like.
- A Putty Knife has a small blade that makes filling cracks and small holes easier.
- A Shave Hook is a triangular scraper blade with a handle, that's usually available in either straight or curved blades. Good for curved mouldings and energetic stripping.
- A brass wire brush is good for removing old paint, especially where the paint is not peeling. Brass is preferred to steel to avoid rust staining.
- A stiff bristle brush may also be used for paint removal and is ideal for cleanings masonry and textured surfaces.

Rags

A good supply of rags will help you clean up as you go.

Don't wait until you've spilt paint and then rush around trying to find something!

For water based paints keep a damp rag handy, for oil based paints make sure you moisten your rag with turps.

Drop Sheets

Light canvas or calico sheets are the easiest to work with and will also last the longest.

Light plastic sheets are inexpensive but should only be used for covering furniture and the like.

Plastic is slippery and doesn't absorb paint.

Ladders

A good step ladder or sturdy platform is an essential item.

Aluminium ladders are the lightest but they can also be expensive.

Steel and wooden ladders are fine; make sure that the ladder is stable and high enough for you to reach without stretching.

The most suitable ladders will have flat top or a clip-on tray for tools and paint cans, thus keeping your hands free.

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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