

# Painting

Purchase all the paint required for the job at the same time to enable boxing (mixing all the same colour together) the paints to achieve a consistent colour.

## Which Paint to Use Where

Surface coating options are enamels, acrylics, acrylic enamels and different sheen levels:

- Gloss, Semi-Gloss, Satin, Silk, Eggshell and Matt.

The correct product to use depends on where you intend to paint and whether it will be subjected to steam, moisture or hard wear etc. The higher the gloss level, the more you will notice any defects in the surface, but the more washable the coating. Acrylic enamels or enamels are recommended for wet or steamy areas. For more information on selecting which paint to use, see our Know How brochure 'Choosing the Right Paint'.

## Painting Order

Mask up any areas for a finer finish and place plastic/fabric drop sheets on the floor for protection. Start by cutting in the ceiling first and then paint the ceiling, making sure to keep a wet edge enabling the blending in of the surface coating. Follow the same procedure when painting walls, cutting in an area first before rolling the large area. Start in high corners working away from light sources such as windows. Work across the wall and down keeping a wet edge as you work.

The final areas to paint are windows, doors, frames, skirting boards etc. These areas can be painted with either traditional oil-based enamels or the new technology acrylic enamels. Acrylic enamels are easier to use because of their quick drying, low odour, easy clean-up and hard wearing properties. You can also apply 2 coats in one day.



## Sequence

- 1. Ceiling**  
Paint leading away from light sources such as windows using a roller.
- 2. Walls**  
Cut in to the ceiling with a clean line. Then start in high corner, and work across and down in 1.2 metre square sections (half the wall height).
- 3. Windows**  
Mask glass if preferred. Paint window sash before frame.
- 4. Doors and architraves**  
First paint the frames using a brush, use a roller to paint the door.
- 5. Skirtings**  
Use a small brush and piece of cardboard or a wallpapering straight edge to keep paint off the carpet.
- 6. Cabinets and shelves**  
In this order: back wall, side walls, shelf tops and edges, shelf bottoms, inside doors, outside doors, outside cabinet and drawer fronts.  
(See Illustration 1).

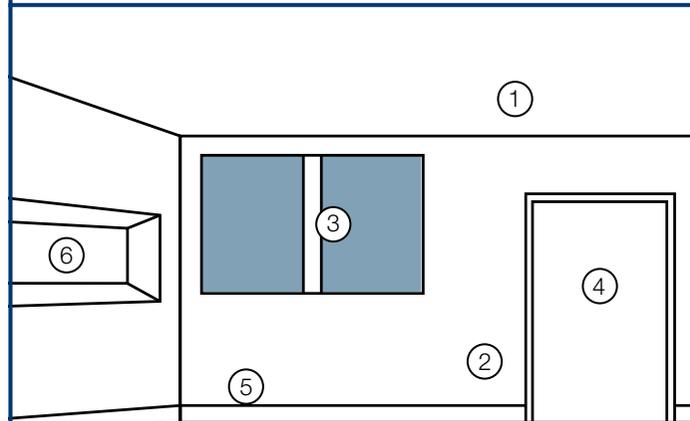


Illustration 1: Painting Order

## Cleaning

Once painting has finished, remove any masking tape carefully so you don't damage new painted surfaces. This should be done as soon as possible. If it is left too long, the tape may be difficult to remove cleanly.

Once the painting job has been finished, allow a week (longer in cold conditions), for all paints to cure fully before they are subjected to heavy use or cleaning.

Cleaning of acrylic surfaces should be done gently so you don't remove any coating. Spray the surface with a gentle household cleaner, leave for a couple of minutes. Then gently wipe over with a damp cloth which should remove lightly soiled marks. Do not scrub the surface as this will polish the surface and cause shiny patches.

# INTERIOR PAINTING

YOUR COMPLETE KNOW HOW GUIDE



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# GETTING STARTED

Painting inside can liven and brighten up your rooms, add a touch of elegance and transform the whole look of a room, from dull and boring to colourful and cheerful. Correct preparation, choice of surface coating and patience are the keys to a job that will last.

## Let's Make a Plan

There are two types of interior rooms. Wet areas which are subjected to steam, heat and moisture. And living, dining and bedrooms, which are subjected to high wear on the walls.

New technology has allowed acrylics to be used where (traditionally) enamels were used, i.e. wet areas and laundries/kitchens. These new acrylic enamels are quick drying, low odour, hard wearing, anti-blocking (two surfaces will not stick together), easy clean-up and non-yellowing, with smooth finishing properties.

Acrylics for broadwall and ceiling areas have been used for a number of years now. These products have improved wipe ability, especially in the lower sheens such as eggshell and silk finishes.

When using quality paints, it is advisable to purchase quality equipment, particularly brushes and rollers, to ensure a superior finish. Refer to our other Know How brochures *Selecting the Right Roller* and *Selecting the Right Brush* to help you get the right tool for the job.

## Handy Tips

- Foaming and cratering occurs during the formation of bubbles and shows in the form of concave depressions when the bubbles break. This is commonly caused by the use of low quality paints or shaking a partially filled paint can.
- When thinking about colour note that light colours make a room appear brighter and bigger, whereas dark colours tend to make a room look smaller.
- To keep your brush or roller in great workable condition just put it into a plastic bag and put into the freezer overnight, no need to clean brush or roller at all. Remove from plastic bag next day and it is ready and raring to be used in prime condition with the paint on it to continue the job at hand.
- Place a couple of shallow dishes filled with full strength (undiluted) white vinegar in a freshly painted room to quickly get rid of the strong paint smell.

## Tools

The tools required will largely depend upon the condition and type of the surface being painted.

✓	Sandpaper	✓	Roller, tray and appropriate sleeves
✓	Scraper		
✓	Hot air gun	✓	Paint pads and tray
✓	Bucket	✓	Drop sheets
✓	Rubber gloves	✓	Masking tape
✓	Flat filling and stripping scrapers	✓	Step ladder
✓	Brushes -75mm is as large as you need inside	✓	Trestles and planks

## Preparation

### Washing Interior Surfaces

Preparation is the key to any paint job. Prior to sanding and preparing the surface for painting, all the walls and painted trims should be cleaned with a sugar soap solution and a mould killer to remove any contaminants and mould that could be present. These surfaces should then be cleaned down with fresh water to remove any residue left by the cleaners, which can affect the adhesion of the new paint. For more information on painting preparations refer to our Know How brochure *Preparing to Paint*.

### Sanding and Filling

Sand the surface smooth and if it is a high gloss enamel surface, the gloss should be sanded well and preferably undercoated with oil-based, all-purpose undercoat to achieve good adhesion. (To test for acrylic or enamel paints, use methylated spirits on a rag – rub the surface well. If the surface starts to wear away, it is more likely to be acrylic.)

Fill all defects with the appropriate filler and sand smooth. Once dry, you will need to seal these areas as you can get sinkage of the new coat of paint into newly filled areas.

Have a look along the length of the wall. If there are a lot of defects or warping in the wall, it should be coated with lower sheen paint such as eggshell or silk. These products can hide imperfections so they are less noticeable.

Bare GIB® should be sealed prior to applying a top coat. If it is a brand new surface you can use an acrylic sealer undercoat. If the surface is sunburnt (the face of the board has been exposed to sunlight for 2-3 weeks and has gone yellow) or old (older than 12 weeks) it must be sealed with an oil based pigmented sealer. This also applies to all other GIB plasterboards.



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#### Please Note:

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