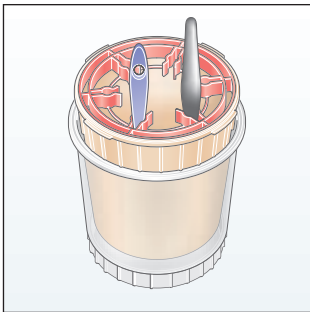
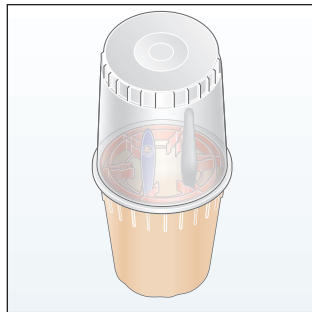


Cleaning and storing paintbrushes

Brushes used with water-based paints are simply washed with water. Work a little soap into the bristles, rinse clean and leave them to dry. Clean, dry brushes, rollers and pads can be stored wrapped in lint-free cloth, plastic bags, foil or brown paper. Brushes steeped in oil- or solvent-based paint can be stored immersed in an appropriate cleaner or solvent.



1 A paintbrush cleaning tub is ideal for storing as well as cleaning brushes that have been used with oil- and solvent-based paints. Snap the brushes into position and add enough cleaning fluid to cover just the bristles.



2 Fasten the lid and rock the container backwards and forwards several times to clean the brush. Dispose of the fluid as instructed, and replace with fresh fluid up to the mark. Keep the lid on while the brush is in storage.

SAFETY FIRST

Oil- and solvent-based paints give off fumes that are harmful to your health. Make sure there is very good ventilation while applying them, and while they dry. Avoid using them on large areas like walls and ceilings.

YOU CAN DO IT

Protective clothing

Wear something like cotton overalls when you are painting – don't wear wool because fibres will stick to the paint. A mask will protect you from the paint fumes. Wear a cap or hat to stop your hair getting speckled when painting a ceiling.

Ideal for the job

Protecting

A **window guard** can be used to keep paint off windows when you are painting the frames, or for creating a clean edge at skirting-boards and cornices.



Dusting

A **tack cloth** will remove all traces of dust before you apply a final coat of paint.



Mixing and storing

Professionals always decant paint into small containers known as **kettles**. These are available in metal or plastic.



Radiators

A mini roller with an extra long handle allows you to paint the difficult-to-reach bits behind the radiator.



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Every effort has been made to ensure that the instructions given in this leaflet are accurate and will enable you to do the job safely and successfully. Please follow instructions carefully and seek expert advice in the event of difficulty.

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All information correct at time of going to print.

HOWT0062



how to... paint interiors

tools

- dust sheets
- protective gloves
- safety goggles
- paint kettle
- 100mm–125mm paintbrush
- roller
- paint tray
- paintbrush cleaning tub (optional)

materials

- filler, if necessary
- primer/sealer, if necessary
- sugar soap
- paint
- cleaning fluid, if using oil-based paint

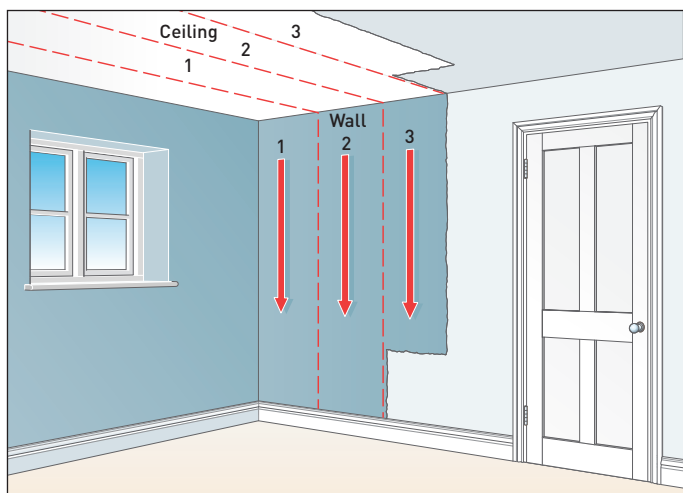
Painting is one of the most pleasurable parts of decorating, but don't rush into it. Walls usually need some surface preparation before you can apply the first brushstroke of paint.

Before you start

- Clear the room as much as possible. Move anything that has to stay into the centre of the room and cover it with dust sheets. Use dust sheets to protect the floor too.
- Fill holes and cracks, then wash down walls, ceilings and woodwork with a sugar soap solution. Wear protective gloves and goggles as sugar soap can irritate the skin. Rinse with clean water and leave to dry.
- Depending on the wall, you may need to seal or prime it (for more detail, see the **you can do it** book).

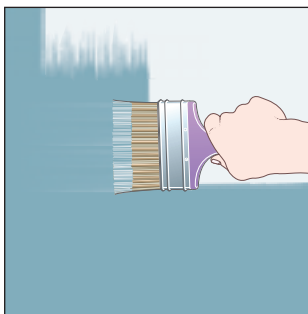
Paint in sequence

Do you need to paint the ceiling? If so, paint it first, since you are bound to get some on the walls. Then paint the walls, and finally the woodwork. Start painting by the window or light source, and paint in bands away from and in parallel to it.



Applying liquid emulsion with a brush

Stir the paint and pour it into a paint kettle so that it is about a third full. Dip a 100mm–125mm brush into the paint to cover about one-third of the bristle depth. Press the brush against the rim to get rid of the excess; don't scrape it on the edge – you'll take off too much paint and create build up on the inside of the kettle.

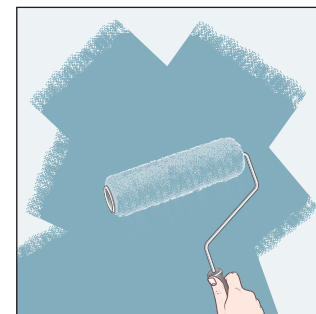
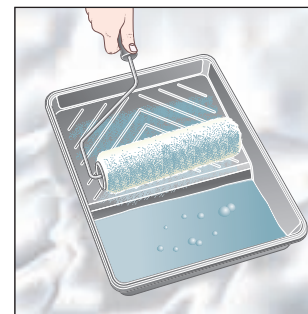


1 Start at the top of the wall and apply the paint with short, overlapping horizontal and vertical strokes. Work in panels about 1 sq m at a time, allowing each area to merge into the next one while the edge is still wet.

2 Work systematically across the wall. Try and finish a complete wall before you take a break or there may be a visible change of tone where you stopped. For painting edges, see the **you can do it** book.

Using a roller

Applying emulsion with a roller is the quickest way of covering a large surface area, though you may need more coats than when painting with a brush because the paint goes on quite thinly. Solid non-drip emulsion, which comes in a tray, is also applied with a roller – as you apply the roller, the paint liquifies.



3 Pour the emulsion paint into the paint tray reservoir – it should be about a third full. Dip the roller sleeve into the paint and roll it firmly up and down the tray's ribbed incline to spread the paint evenly.

4 Move the roller over the wall surface, using random strokes applied with a light, even pressure. Try not to work too fast or you will create a fine mist of paint spray. Each time the roller is dipped in the paint, move it to an adjacent unpainted area and work your way back to the painted area in overlapping strokes to blend in the wet edges.

PAINTS FOR INTERIOR WALLS AND CEILINGS

	Emulsion	One-coat emulsion	New-plaster emulsion	Acrylic paint	Multi-surface acrylic	Textured paint	Cement paint
Drying time (hours)							
Touch-dry	1–2	3–4	1–2	1–2	1–2	24	1–2
Recoatable	4		4	4	4		24
Number of coats							
Normal conditions	2	1	1–2	1–2	1–2	1	2
Coverage (approximate)							
Sq metres per litre	9–15	8	11	10–14	10–12	2–3	
Sq metres per kg							1–6