

Painting know how

Common types of paint

Undercoat

- A full-bodied paint with more pigment than topcoat and good covering power.
- Use on primed surfaces, before applying topcoat, or on dark surfaces which are to be painted a paler colour. If solvent based clean brushes using brush cleaner or white spirit.

Emulsion

- Water-based paint used for walls and ceilings.
- Dries quickly.
- Use a roller for fast application.
- Two or three coats may be needed.
- Clean tools with water and soap or detergent.

Kitchen and bathroom paint

- Can cope with lots of steam/moisture in the air so is ideal for use in bathrooms and kitchens.
- Will not cure condensation, only reduce its effect on the painted surface by preventing droplets forming on the surface.
- Often contains fungicide to deter mould.
- Apply paint and clean tools in the same way as emulsion.

Solvent-based gloss

- Used for woodwork and metalwork.
- Suitable indoors and out, though some are specially designed for exterior use.
- On wood, always use with an undercoat.
- One coat is normally required however two coats may be needed with strong colour.
- Clean brushes with white spirit.

Water-based gloss

- Used for woodwork and furniture.
- Dries much faster than oil-based gloss.
- Gives a hardwearing finish; glossy but not as shiny as the solvent-based equivalent.
- Clean brushes with water and detergent.

Masonry paint

- Use for render and pebbledash.
- Two main types – textured and smooth.
- Textured paint is good for concealing minor blemishes and hairline cracks.
- Smooth paint goes a lot further.

