

Painting in 10 Easy Steps

Materials: All of this is available from the RTSF warehouse.

- One or Two - 6 foot ladder(s)
- Step ladder (recommended)
- Painter's plastic for the cabinets
- drop cloths (for the floor)
- TSP & spray bottle (for diluted TSP)
- Rubber gloves
- Roller handles & roller covers (regular & pin rollers)
- Buckets & screens
- Masking tape & blue tape
- Rags & a razor scraper (for the windows)
- Putty knife (for patching and scraping)
- Spackle

1. Open every window and door possible to increase air circulation. Check with the homeowner to see if they have a fan you can use or ask a volunteer to bring one. This will speed the drying time for the scrub down and paint coats.

2. Cover non painted items* with Painters Plastic sheeting, which is designed to stretch out to different lengths.

- For cabinets, attach the sheeting on the top edge of cabinets so the sheet drapes over the wall cabinets, counters, and covers the front of the base cabinets too
- Use 2 inch masking tape to tape sheeting.

Note: Tape off hinges, door knobs, hardware, and light fixtures.

***For Bathrooms** – cabinets, sink, toilet, and tub

For Kitchens – cabinets, countertops, and shelving

For bedroom – all furniture and carpeting

3. Walls with glossy paint (such as kitchens or bathrooms)* need to be scrubbed down with no rinse TSP (dilute in spray bottle per directions) so the new paint will stick to the old paint.

- Mix TSP with hot water and change mixture frequently as it gets dirty. Dump the dirty water down the toilet.
- Pole sanders (with green scrubby pads) work great for walls & ceilings.
- Rags or sponges with scrubby backs and elbow grease work great as well. For really tough mildew or grease, use a spray bottle of ¼ cup bleach and super hot water & apply as necessary

***for bedrooms** – scrub down smoky or any really dirty spots – primer will generally stick to all flat paint

Note: Wear Rubber Dishwashing gloves when using TSP & wear safety goggles to prevent splashes. Also, always wear a dust mask when you spray any chemicals.

4. After scrubbing is completed, a 15 minute break to let the walls dry out will work wonders for everyone's shoulder muscles

5. Paint should be poured and ready to go by now.

- Generally, one - 5 gallon bucket & one - 2 gallon trim bucket for a 2-3 person team
- 2 buckets of each for more than 4 people
- Every team member should be equipped with a wet rag to wipe up drips immediately (wet paint is way easier to clean up than dried paint)

Note: If trim and wall color are different, make sure buckets are well marked (ie. Blue tape on bucket handles work really well)

6. Get plenty of paint on roller and wall so you get a nice thick consistent coat. Recoat your roller with paint every time it starts to snap when you roll it. Don't spend time trying to spread too little paint around.

- Roll in small 3'x3' boxes as this insures an even coat
- Use short nap roller covers for semi gloss

Note: One coat should be completed before lunch with enough dry time to recoat after lunch. Fans and airflow are a critical part of getting the paint dry enough to recoat.

7. For surfaces like cabinets, doors and trim use a small pin roller to cover surface with paint and then brush out roller marks and drips.

Note: This is much quicker than using only a brush and offers much better coverage.

8. One team member should be in charge of quality control. Check for:

- Drips
- Inconsistent coating
- Missed spots

9. As Volunteers Finish: Use spatula to remove all paint from a 5 gallon bucket.

- Fill it with warm water and put all the brushes in it to begin soaking
- Remove excess paint from the roller covers with the edge of a paint stick by scraping down the cover towards the container of paint. You'll be amazed how much paint will come out!
- Throw covers away and soak roller handles for a few minutes before cleaning.

10. By every laundry sink or designated clean up area, there should be a sign with specific brush and handle cleaning instructions. Roller handles and brushes can be reused again and again if properly cared for.

ADMIRE A JOB WELL DONE!