

# 10 pointers for painters

## Paint Like A Pro

(NAPSA)—Many homeowners find home decorating and remodeling projects more cost-effective when done on their own. These tips from professionals may get your painting projects up and running:

Choose your brush. The right brush makes all the difference. Natural bristles, often made of hog hair, are appropriate for oil-based paints. Synthetic brushes of polyester, nylon or both are good for latex, acrylic and water-based paints. Paintbrushes come in various sizes and shapes depending on the type of surface that you are painting. Rollers are ideal for large surface areas such as walls and ceilings.

Prime up to paint. Primer is the base coat necessary for paint to adhere to the surface. Next, determine whether to use oil-based or latex paint. Oil-based paints are well-suited for high traffic areas such as kitchens and bathrooms because they can hold up after frequent cleaning. Latex paints are good for decorative painting. Check with your paint supplier to ensure that you choose the right paint for your project.

Techniques. When painting around corners, it's tough to tape off areas to protect floors, baseboards or glass. Duck® brand Quick Corners (800-321-0253) are pre-shaped corners for windows and delicate surfaces that make it easier and faster to mask off 90-degree angles. After the edge is taped off with a painter's tape, the painting can begin. Start with the ceiling, then work your way down the



walls. Finish by painting the trim. Large surfaces can pose the problem of uneven paint application. When rolling paint along a wall or ceiling, roll in the shape of a 'W' and then go back and forth over the 'W' to spread the paint evenly.

Dispose properly. When you're finished, dispose of the extra paint according to type. Latex paint should be dried out and then thrown in the garbage. Oil-based paint should never be placed in the trash. Instead, call the environmental protection office for advice on where to properly dispose of it. If there is a substantial amount of leftover paint, you may want to donate it to a school or charity.

Initially, painting a room can be intimidating, but with some planning ahead, timesaving tips and the proper tools, professional results are just a few steps away. You'll be amazed how a new paint job can change the look and mood of an entire room.

For additional painting tips, visit [www.duckproducts.com](http://www.duckproducts.com) or a home center or paint store.