

Painting Tools Decoded: How To Pick And Use The Proper Products

(NAPSA)—To many, painting usually seems like a fun project. It's an easy way to take a room from drab to fab, and it usually does not cost a lot of money. Those who have painted before know that having the right tools is one thing, but understanding when and how to use them correctly can take a painting project from mediocre to outstanding. Some frequently asked questions are listed below to help you choose and use the right products for your job.

• What prep work should I do before painting?

Use a light detergent solution to wash surfaces that are dirty or frequently touched. Pen and crayon tend to be tough to get rid of, so remove as much of the mark as possible with detergent and then spot-prime to prevent “bleeding” through the finished coat.

• How much paint should I buy?

First, measure your walls and ceilings to determine how much paint you need. Then, reference the guide on the paint can to see how many square feet the manufacturer indicates the can covers. Don't forget to factor in extra paint for touch-ups and accents.

• How do I protect surfaces from paint splatters and drips?

Painting tapes are available to protect surfaces from unwanted paint; however, most of them are to be used only on specific surfaces, so make sure you are getting the right product for your job. For wood trims and baseboards, ceramic tile and carpet, a less aggressive painting tape, like Duck® brand Clean Release® painter's tape, is recommended.

• Should I use a masking tape or a painter's tape for my painting project?

In most cases, the term “masking tape” indicates the tape is a one-day tape, and is usually used



Using the right painting tools can dramatically enhance the look of a project when used correctly.

by professionals who can complete a job in 24 hours or less. “Painter's tape” is specifically designed to be used for longer periods by homeowners and DIYers. In general, painter's tapes are most giving, with the ability to be applied to a variety of surfaces and for an extended period of time.

• How do I apply and remove painter's tape?

Painter's tape should be applied flush to the surface you wish to protect. Make sure to press the edges firmly with your fingertips, but be careful not to stretch the tape. To remove painter's tape, peel the tape off slowly at a 90-degree angle immediately after painting or before your paint dries.

• How long can I leave painter's tape up?

Painter's tapes can be left on surfaces for various lengths of time. For instance, if a tape indicates it is a 14-day tape, it means you can adhere it to your work surface for as many as 14 days before you start to paint. The tape should be removed immediately after painting, no matter how many days are listed on the packaging.

Nothing transforms a room's décor like a fresh new coat of paint. To ensure the process will be easier, do the necessary prep work first, and use your products correctly. For more information, visit www.duckproducts.com.