

PAL[®]



FOR THE PERFECT FINISH

HOW TO SELECT & USE A **BRUSH**



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1 choosing the right brush

The two most important things for a great paint finish are: A good quality paint, and the right paint brush to match the paint type and surface.

People seem to overlook the importance of choosing the right applicators when planning a paint project. The fact is, even fancy 'one-coat' paints will never live up to their potential unless they're applied with the right applicators.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN CHOOSING YOUR PAINT BRUSH

A good quality brush is more economical in the long run than a cheap throw away type. With simple cleaning and care, a quality brush can last for years as well as being a joy to paint with. The first 3 things you need to think about are:

- 1) The type of paint you'll need to use
- 2) The type of surface you're painting
- 3) The quality of the finish you'd like to achieve

CHOOSE A QUALITY BRUSH

A good quality brush ensures a thicker, more consistent and smooth paint finish that improves the durability of your paint job.

- Good brushes have long 'tapered' bristles that are designed to avoid brush strokes being visible on your finished paint job.
- They have nailed-in, stainless steel 'ferrules' that will never rust and will prevent the shedding of bristles.
- It's been engineered to hold more paint so you dip into your pot less often.
- The handle is more ergonomic so its easier to hold and to use and is a lot more comfortable when painting for long periods.
- A quality brush is designed to last.

Tip:

Buy a pack of brushes for best value.

MATCH THE BRISTLES TO THE TYPE OF PAINT

- For Acrylics (water based paints) - use synthetic polyester bristle or SRT Orel Tynex polyester brushes like PAL® Contract Professional® Legend® or PAL® Legacy which will give you the best finish.
- For Alkyds (oil based paints) - use natural hog bristle brushes like PAL® Contract Professional® Contract Oval®, Enameler or high quality SRT Orel Tynex polyester bristle brushes like PAL® Contract Professional® Legend® or PAL® Legacy.

SELECT THE RIGHT SIZED BRUSH

Using the right sized brush will give you a neater paint finish and better results. The size of the brush you'll need depends on what you're painting. So check out the PAL® Brush System table in the choosing a brush section on the next page to help determine which brush you'll need.



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2 parts of a brush

THE DIFFERENT PARTS OF A BRUSH

This illustration shows what to look for when selecting a paint brush. Along with selecting the correct paint for your decorating job, a good brush will ensure you get the best finish.

The basic elements of a high-quality brush are materials and craftsmanship. The materials that make up a brush include: the bristle, whether natural hog bristle or synthetic; the reservoir; the heel; the ferrule; and the handle.

Quality bristle is essential. Natural hog bristles come from Chinese boars and fall into three categories: natural white, natural black and natural grey. China bristles work best in oil and alkyd paints, varnishes, stains, shellacs and lacquers.

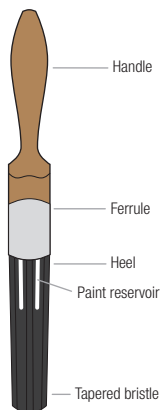
Synthetic bristle brushes also fall into three categories: Solid Round Tapered (SRT) Orel Tynex polyester, SRT polyester, and hollow polyester. The first is the most popular because of superior stiffness and retention.

SRT Orel Tynex polyester filament brushes work well in latex paints, oil and alkyd paints, and some stains and varnishes. Polyester filaments work in most paints including acrylics and alkyds.

The ferrule is the metal piece that joins the bristle with the handle and works best when it is composed of stainless steel. Inside the ferrule is the reservoir. The reservoir is composed of wood strips that separate the bristles into rows, creating a small reservoir and maximising the amount of paint held in the brush.

Wooden handles are preferred by most painters as they minimise the penetration of liquids and reduce swelling if the brush is left in water. Lighter ergonomically designed handles are preferable, since they give the brush balance and facilitate control. Lighter handles also reduce hand cramping and fatigue.

So, select the right brush, and you may find the next painting project you tackle is a lot easier than you could have imagined.



VALUABLE PAINTING TIPS

- When painting any room, the golden rule is always start from the top and work down. Therefore, paint the ceiling first, then scotias, walls, followed by doors and finally skirting boards and floors.
- When selecting a quality paint brush, look for long tapered bristles that will not fray, nor flick paint.
- Always rinse your brush for a few minutes before use. Rinse in water if you are using water based paints and turpentine if using oil based paints.
- Tip a smaller quantity of paint from your 4ltr or 10ltr bucket into a paint pot - it's more portable when working around a room and easier to manage.

3 brush brands

BRUSH BRANDS & BRISTLE TYPE

Professional Quality Paint Brushes		
Range	Brand	Bristle
PAL® Contract Professional®	Legend®	100% SRT OreI Tynex Polyester
PAL® Contract Professional®	Contract Oval®	100% 1st Grade Pure Hog Bristle
PAL® Contract Professional®	Legacy	100% SRT DuPont Tynex Filament Blend

Premium Quality Paint Brushes		
Range	Brand	Bristle
PAL®	Classic	SRT Polyester
PAL® Speciality	Angle	SRT Polyester
PAL® Urban®	Urban®	SRT Polyester
Accent	Project	SRT Polyester

- Always brush into the wet areas. Paint should be applied to a dry area and then worked into a wet area, this permits any overlap to blend.
- Paint with the brush tips, never the sides. Hold the brush at about 45° angle to the surface and work mostly with your wrists rather than your arms and shoulders.
- When using strong smelling solvent paints, make sure there is plenty of ventilation.
- Always use a drop cloth to protect your floors and furnishings when painting.
- Take care to protect the surface coat when sanding. A light scuff between coats should be all you need.
- Always clean your brushes thoroughly after use.
- Quality paint brushes have ergonomically designed handles that offer all day comfort when painting for extended periods.
- Use a variety of brush sizes. The larger the project, the more likely more than one size of brush will be needed. Using the right size brush will give you far better results as well as save you time and effort.



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4 quick selection guide

CHOOSING A PAINT BRUSH

SURFACE / SUBSTRATE	BRUSH SIZE (mm)	RECOMMENDED BRUSH
Tight Spots Windows, architraves, door trims, skirtings, scotia & cabinets	25	Contract Professional® Contact Oval® or Legacy®
		PAL® Classic
		PAL® Specialty Angle Trimmer
		Urban®
		Accent Project
Detailed Trim Work Chairs, cots, fret work, letter boxes & craft work	38	Contract Professional® Legend®, Legacy® or Contract Oval®
		PAL® Classic
		PAL® Specialty Angle Trimmer
		Urban®
		Accent Project
Trim Work Doors, skirtings, architraves, handrails, trellis, balustrades & rough work	50	Contract Professional® Legend®, Legacy® or Contract Oval®
		PAL® Classic
		PAL® Specialty Angle Trimmer
		Urban®
		Accent Project
Medium Work Doors, skirtings, architraves, handrails & balustrades	63	Contract Professional® Legend®, Legacy® or Contract Oval®
		PAL® Classic
		Urban®
		Accent Project
Large Unbroken Surfaces Weatherboards, walls, ceilings, roofs, floors, decks & block work	75	Contract Professional® Legend®, Legacy® or Contract Oval®
		PAL® Classic
		Accent Project
Very Large Unbroken Surfaces Weatherboards, walls, roofs, battened ceilings, fences & floors	88/ 100	Contract Professional® Legend®, Legacy® or Contract Oval®
		PAL® Classic
		Accent Project

5 getting started

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Recommended PAL® paint brush
- Paint pot
- Drop cloth
- PAL® cutting in paint brush for corners and trims
- Sandpaper & sanding block
- Masking tape
- Paint mixer/paddle
- Clean cloth for wiping away small drips and runs

Other tools & accessories

- Contract Professional® filler or putty
- Filling knife
- Pole or hand sander
- Wood or window scraper
- Tack rag
- Turpentine
- Cap
- Dust masks
- Step ladder

SURFACE PREPARATION

The key to achieving the best paint finish is to make sure the substrate has been prepared properly.

New walls & ceilings: The stopping of plaster board must be extremely smooth and even. Don't sand the paper area of gib-board as it raises the grain of paper, just sand the plaster. A final light sanding with 100-200 grit sandpaper is recommended.

Previously painted walls & ceilings: The surface must be well prepared by sanding smooth and filling any imperfections. If the surface is properly prepared, a light sanding is all that is needed.

Exterior Walls: Give the exterior walls a thorough wash with a high pressure hose. If the exterior walls are greasy, it may be necessary to wash with sugar soap.

GENERAL GUIDELINES PRIOR TO PAINTING

- Loosen switch plates and fittings so that you can clean, sand and paint underneath the outline of the fitting.
- Cover and mask all edges with masking tape where possible, especially where fittings cannot be removed.



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6 painting step by step

USING YOUR BRUSH

- Before using your new brush, flick the bristles to remove dust and any loose bristles. Rinse it in water or turpentine (depending on the paint being used) and shake out excess moisture.
- Keep a separate brush for varnish work only.

The correct order for painting a room is ceiling, walls and finally woodwork. Aim to complete an entire section in one go, a half finished wall or ceiling will leave a drying mark which will be visible through the finished surface.

If there is more than one window start at the largest. On the other walls start from the right if you are right handed. If left handed start from the left.

Step 1: Loading the brush

Dip the brush 1 to 2 inches into the paint. Gently tap the brush on the side of the can, first one side and then the other. This will cause the excess paint to stay in the can and leave you with a fully loaded brush to carry the paint to the substrate to be painted.

Step 2: Painting

Do not press too heavily, let the bristles do the work. Where possible paint in one direction, Finish off lightly with the tips of the bristle.

Tip:

Whilst loose bristle is a nuisance to all painters, even top quality hog bristle will loose some bristles when they are new. When a loose bristle is left on the just painted surface, simply flick off the bristle with a scooping action using the tip of the brush.

BRUSH CLEANING TIPS

Water and Turps Based Paints: Dependent on paint type, wash brush in either water or turps until clean. Then wash in warm soapy water. Shake out excess moisture then hang to dry.

- Don't let a brush stand on its painting tip.
- Never "hammer" a brush to remove hard-to-get-at paint residue.
- Don't soak brushes in hot solvents or commercial liquid cleaners.
- Always clean brushes thoroughly after use.
- Store brushes according to directions.
- If soaking in water suspend the brush above the base of the tin and above the ferrule line.

**For more painting tips & information
visit our website: www.paintaids.co.nz**

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decorating checklist

PREPARATION

- Stripping Knife
- Wire Brush
- Putty Knife
- Filling Knife
- Sanding Blocks
- Sand Paper
- Tack Cloth
- Painting Gloves
- Dust Mask
- Paint Stripper
- Sugar Soap
- Paint Pot/Bucket
- Drop Cloth
- Gap Filler
- Filler/Putty
- Pole & Hand Sander
- Caulking Gun
- Masking Tape
- Ladder
- Moss & Mould Killer

PAINT APPLICATORS

- Brushes
- Angle Trim Brushes
- Roller Sleeve
- Roller Handle
- Roller Paint Tray
- Extension Pole
- Specialty Roller
- Paint Stirrer
- Speedbrush

WALLPAPER APPLICATORS

- Wallpaper Smoother
- Wallpaper Trough
- Straight Edge
- Pasting Brush
- Wallpaper Paste
- Plumb Bob
- Trim Guide
- Decorators Sponge
- Scissors
- Snap Blade Knife
- Wallpaper Size
- Wallpaper Stripper

CLEAN UP

- Brush Care Clip
- Roller Spinner
- Turpentine
- Window Scraper
- Brush Comb
- Brush Cleaner
- Rags



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