

# Paint Away the Pandemic Blues

The current worldwide pandemic will have us restricted to our homes in no time. People are already cleaning house and keeping themselves busy indoors. Everything will become a Do-it-Yourself (DIY) project. One thing that you can prepare for right now is painting a room that needs refreshing. Change your space & lift your spirits; as long as you have paint, a good brush and painter's tape you are good to go!

**Keep it fun! Wear old clothing, get your favorite music playing and enjoy!**

## Before You Begin

Move the furniture into the middle of the room & cover with drop cloths. Remove the cover plates from phone jacks and electric switches and put them in a safe place with their respective screws. Take the time to apply painter's tape around all trim, windows and doors. Cover light fixtures and ceiling fans with bags or old sheets. If you can't spread drop cloths over the entire floor and secure them with painter's tape, you can just move them along with you as you paint.

**TIP: Paint in daylight or have strong lighting available. It's easy to miss spots if you can't see very clearly**

## Paint like a Pro!

1. Trim: Start with the trim if you're planning on painting it. You don't need to wait for it to dry before moving to the next step.

2. Ceiling: Screw a paint roller onto a broomstick and have fun working out those arms and shoulders while you paint the ceiling. The great part is that you can drag the roller all the way to the edge of the wall and, as long as your ceiling color is a light one, it doesn't matter if you smudge the top of the wall a bit. You can decide if a second coat is needed depending on the color, once it has dried.

**TIP: If you notice tiny splatters as you are rolling (usually on your face & hair) then you are not using enough paint.... Use more!**

Note: if you have textured walls, there are specific painting techniques – Google it before starting.

3. Break Time! After you've completed the ceiling painting and cleaned your brushes and roller, you have time to relax a bit while the ceiling is drying completely.

**TIP: Most paints are latex-based and can be cleaned by rinsing under water. If you are between 2 coats, wrap your brush or roller in cellophane or a plastic bag to keep them from drying out**

4. Walls: Begin by cutting around the trim and then by painting the corners. Paint as far as 6 inches on either side of the corner. This will leave you enough room to get close with the roller and still not close enough to smudge the other wall. And now, the easy part: paint the walls with a roller, overlapping all cutting but staying away from the corners and trim.

When you are sure it's all dry, have removed all tape and have found and removed any splatters, you might take your time to de-clutter as you put your things back in place and voila!

**Now, sit back and proudly enjoy your fresh new space!**



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