

FIND IT  
PAINT IT  
LOVE IT





Searching for furniture at The Crooked Book, Boscombe.

# INTRO

When we think about decorating and adding colour to our homes, we tend to focus on the walls, leaving the interior trim and furniture as an after-thought. But when it comes to creating beautiful interiors, it pays to get creative with paint. By custom painting furniture pieces or introducing colour to your interior trim (such as skirting boards and base boards, chair or dado rails, banisters, doors and door frames), you can inject personality and interest to your décor.

Whether your style is bold and bright or soft and subtle, a freshly painted dresser, chair or table will revive your interiors and introduce a splash of your favourite hues to your home.

Our painted furniture recipe book contains painting recipes and techniques, including eight designer collaborations, to inspire you to add seasoning and spice to your home. Whether you want to reawaken your tired but much loved furniture, transform your second-hand furniture finds or revive your interior trim, our mixture of easy techniques and intricate designs will bring character and individuality to your home.

# PREPARATION

Spending time properly preparing your furniture or trim will ensure an enviable finish you can be proud of.

## STEP BY STEP

Remove any knobs, handles, drawers and doors (as required) from your item.

### PREPARING WOODEN SURFACES:

1. Lightly sand bare wood to improve paint adhesion. For previously painted items remove as much old, flaky paint as possible by scraping and sanding\*. Ensure a smooth finish by sanding and ‘feathering’ the edges of any non-removable paint. Carefully sand back any varnish or the top layer of a factory finish to remove the sheen. Save time by using an orbital sander for larger flat surfaces (wear safety glasses and a dust mask) and then sand any awkward areas by hand. Don’t be tempted to skip this step, as sanding helps to ensure a smooth, even finish.
2. After sanding, make sure all of the surfaces are thoroughly clean, dry and free from residual dust, dirt and grease that may prevent the paint and primer from sticking.
3. Depending on how rustic you want your furniture to look, fill any cracks, holes and open joints with the appropriate flexible filler, then when hardened gently sand to smooth the surface.

### PREPARING METAL SURFACES:

1. Ensure that the surface is sound, clean, dry and free from dirt, grease and any other contamination that may prevent paint from adhering.
2. For ferrous metal surfaces (i.e. metals that can rust), remove any rust or weak paint back to the bare metal. For non-ferrous metal, remove any weak paint and lightly sand the surface to improve paint adhesion\*.
3. If your item is made from galvanised metal (i.e. metal that is coated to prevent rusting) treat the surface with an Etch Primer or Mordant Solution (following the manufacturer’s instructions). Clean the surface with detergent to remove any excess product before you start painting.

\*Please take the correct precautions before scraping or sanding any furniture coated in pre-1960s paint, as they may release toxic lead dust which can be harmful. For more information about lead in paint please see the inside back cover of this booklet and read our Product Advice Sheets at [www.farrow-ball.com](http://www.farrow-ball.com).



# PRIMING

Now that the hard work of preparation is finished, you are ready to prime. Priming is vital as it helps to fill small defects to create an even finish and provides the perfect base for your topcoat to adhere to.

Farrow & Ball Primers & Undercoats offer durability and are available in four colour options (White & Light Tones, Mid Tones, Red & Warm Tones and Dark Tones) depending on your top coat colour. They are water based so easy to use and quick to clean up.

## PRIMING WOOD:

1. Check if the wood has any resinous knots in it, this tends to be an issue for newer wood rather than old furniture. If the knots are resinous, scrape off any excess resin and clean with methylated or white spirit. Allow the area to dry then patch prime the area using Farrow & Ball Wood Knot & Resin Blocking Primer.
2. For bare (unpainted) wood apply a diluted first coat of Farrow & Ball Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (20% water), followed by 1 full undiluted coat. For previously painted wood you only need to apply 1 full coat of Farrow & Ball Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat. Allow a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats and before applying your top coat.

## PRIMING METAL:

1. Apply 2 coats of Farrow & Ball Metal Primer & Undercoat (a rust inhibiting formula) to ferrous and non-ferrous metal surfaces, and just 1 coat of primer to galvanised metal. Allow a minimum of 4 hours drying time between coats and before applying your top coat.

# PRODUCTS & APPLICATION

All of our paints are water based, low odour, environmentally friendly and child friendly. Meaning our paint is safe to be used on children's furniture.

**Estate® Eggshell** – this extremely robust and durable eggshell finish (ironic considering its fragile namesake) is ideal for interior wood and metal work. It has a low sheen level (20%) and is easily wiped and washed clean.

**Full Gloss** – a traditional high gloss finish with a 95% sheen level, is extremely versatile and robust and is suitable for both interior and exterior wood and metal surfaces.

## APPLICATION:

1. For best results use a quality fine-tipped synthetic bristled paint brush (e.g. Farrow & Ball 1, 1½ or 2 Paint Brush).
2. Load the brush well and apply a generous first coat. Brushing first in a vertical direction then in a horizontal direction until an even coating has been applied.
3. Finish by laying off the paint in one direction using light pressure, with the brush held at an angle of approx 30°. Try not to overwork the paint or attempt to brush it out in thin even coats as you would a traditional solvent based paint, as this may create excessive brush marks.
4. Allow to dry completely (for a minimum of 4 hours) before applying a second coat following the same technique as before. Ideally leave overnight to completely harden. Ensure the paint is completely hard before closing newly painted doors and drawers.





Wall: Chromatic Stripe ST 4201, Skirting: Breakfast Room Green® Estate® Eggshell, Cabinet: Cinder Rose™, Calamine™, Dimpse® & Rectory Red® Estate® Eggshell, Chair: Nancy's Blushes® Full Gloss & Stiffkey Blue® Estate® Eggshell.

# PATCHWORK KITCHEN CABINET

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Using multiple colours on drawers and doors is a simple, yet effective way of adding personality, depth and colour to a kitchen. Use bright colours to inject a sense of fun, or different shades of grey for a more grown up look.

## YOU WILL NEED:

1 x 1950's Style Cabinet

1 x 750ml Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (White & Light Tones)

1 x 750ml Tin of Estate® Eggshell in each of the following colours: Cinder Rose™ No.246, Calamine™ No.230, Dimpse® No.277, Rectory Red® No.217

1 x Farrow & Ball 2 Paint Brush

1 x Sheet of each 80 and 120 Grit Sandpaper

1. Carry out preparation to the cabinet (see page 2).
2. Apply Primer & Undercoat to the unit, doors, drawers and handles (see page 4).
3. Paint drawers: 1 Calamine, 1 Dimpse. Paint cupboard doors: 1 Cinder Rose, 1 Rectory Red. Paint the unit Dimpse. Paint the handles to match the drawers and cupboard doors. Leave to dry for a minimum of 4 hours.
4. Paint a second coat on the unit, drawers and doors. Leave to dry for a minimum of 4 hours (ideally leave overnight to completely harden). Ensure the paint is completely hard before closing newly painted doors and drawers.
5. Reattach handles and doors and replace drawers.
6. Stand back and admire.



Wall above dado: Drag DR 1252, Wall below dado: Tessella BP 3603, Skirting & dado: Green Smoke® Estate® Eggshell, Wardrobe: Breakfast Room Green®, Plummett® & Calke Green® Estate® Eggshell.

# STRIPED GREEN WARDROBE

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Use harmonious tones on a panelled wardrobe to add interest to an essential piece of furniture. If the wardrobe is often used, or placed in a guest room, wallpapering the inside will guarantee a smile and delight your guests.

## YOU WILL NEED:

1 x Wardrobe

1 x 750ml Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (Dark Tones)

1 x 750ml Tin of Estate® Eggshell in each of the following colours: Calke Green® No.34, Breakfast Room Green® No.81, Plummett® No.272

2 x Farrow & Ball Paint Brushes (1 x 1" and 1 x 2")

1 x Sheet of each 80 and 120 Grit Sandpaper

1 x Roll of good quality Masking Tape

1. Do not remove the wardrobe door for this design. Carry out preparation to the wardrobe (see page 2).
2. Apply Primer & Undercoat to the wardrobe (see page 4).
3. Mask a line all the way around the wardrobe, approx ¼ of the way down from the top. Paint 2 coats of Calke Green below the masked line, leaving to dry between coats for a minimum of 4 hours.
4. Paint 2 coats of Breakfast Room Green above the masked line, leaving to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats.
5. Remove the masking tape and carefully re-mask along the edges of the Calke Green and Breakfast Room Green (to leave the unpainted stripe uncovered).
6. Carefully paint 2 coats of Plummett (leaving to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats). Ensure the paint is completely hard before closing newly painted doors. Remove the final strip of masking tape, reattach the handles – et voilà!

# HERE AND THERE LAMP AND CHAIR

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Leaving chair legs and sections of furniture pieces in their original 'bare' state, and painting sections in a bright colour highlights the natural beauty of wood, whilst the contrasting textures of matt wood with gloss paint adds interest.

## YOU WILL NEED:

- 1 x Ercol Chair and bespoke lamp
- 2 x 750ml Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (1 x Mid Tones, 1 x Dark Tones)
- 1 x 750ml St Giles Blue® No.280 Full Gloss
- 1 x 750ml Teresa's Green™ No.236 Estate® Eggshell
- 1 x Farrow & Ball 2 Paint Brush
- 1 x Sheet of each 80 and 120 Grit Sandpaper
- 1 x Roll of good quality Masking Tape and an Old Newspaper

## FOR THE CHAIR:

1. Complete preparation to the chair (see page 2).
2. Use newspaper and masking tape to protect the legs. Prime the uncovered areas of chair with Primer & Undercoat (Mid Tones) (see page 4).
3. Paint 2 coats of St Giles Blue on the uncovered section, leave to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats (ideally overnight to completely harden).
4. Remove the masking tape and newspaper, then take a seat and enjoy a cup of tea.

## FOR THE LAMP:

1. Complete preparation to the lamp (see page 2).
2. Carefully take apart lamp and prime the sections you intend to paint with Primer & Undercoat (Dark Tones) (see page 4).
3. Paint 2 coats of Teresa's Green over the primed sections, leaving to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats and overnight to completely harden. Reassemble the lamp and enjoy.



Wall: Parquet BP 4101, Lamp: Teresa's Green™ Estate® Eggshell.



Lamp: Teresa's Green™ Estate® Eggshell.



Chair: St Giles Blue® Full Gloss.

# GRADUATION DAY DRAWERS

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This is a simple, yet effective technique to create a customised, stylish chest of drawers. It works particularly well with tall chests and with any colour family.

## YOU WILL NEED:

1 x Tall Chest of Drawers

2 x 750ml Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (1 x White & Light Tones,  
1 x Mid Tones)

1 x 750ml Tin of Estate® Eggshell in each of the following colours: Wevet® No.273, Ammonite® No.274, Purbeck Stone™ No.275, Mole's Breath® No.276 and Cornforth White® No.228

1 x Farrow & Ball 2 Paint Brush

1 x Sheet of each 80 and 120 Grit Sandpaper

1. Carry out preparation to the chest and drawer fronts (see page 2).
2. Apply Primer & Undercoat (White & Light Tones) to the chest and 4 of the drawer fronts (Mid Tones) to the remaining drawer fronts.
3. Paint 2 coats of Wevet on the chest.
4. Paint 2 coats of each colour to 2 drawer fronts: Cornforth White, Ammonite, Purbeck Stone and Mole's Breath. Leave to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats (ideally leave overnight to completely harden). Ensure the paint is completely hard before closing newly painted drawers.
5. Replace your drawers, placing the darkest colour drawers at the bottom and working up to the lighter drawers at the top. Organise your drawer contents, not necessarily in order of tone (unless you really want to).



Wall: Parquet BP 4101, Drawers: Wevet®, Ammonite®, Purbeck Stone™, Mole's Breath® & Cornforth White® Estate® Eggshell.

# CRIMSON CONSOLE TABLE

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Simply painting a console table in a statement colour is all it takes to brighten up a hallway. We loved the worn and weathered look of the drawer handles and left them unpainted to give the furniture character.

## YOU WILL NEED:

1 x Console Table

1 x 750ml Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (Red & Warm Tones)

1 x 750ml Incarnadine™ No.248 Estate® Eggshell

1 x Farrow & Ball 2 Paint Brush

1 x Sheet of each 80 and 120 Grit Sandpaper

1. Complete preparation to the console table and drawer front (see page 2).
2. Apply Primer & Undercoat to the drawer front and console (see page 4).
3. Paint 2 coats of Incarnadine on the console and drawer front and leave to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats (ideally leave overnight to completely harden).
4. Reaffix the drawer handles and replace the drawers, ensuring the paint is completely hard before closing them.
5. Position in the hall and dress.



Wall: Drag DR 1215, Table: Incarnadine™ Estate® Eggshell.

# LIBRARY DOOR

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When is a door not a door? There's much more to consider than just transforming the colour of the furniture, you can also transform its use...

## YOU WILL NEED:

1 x Old Four-Panelled Door

Approx 3 lengths of 25mm thick timber

1 x 750ml Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (White & Light Tones)

1 x 750ml Wevet® No.273 Estate® Eggshell

1 x Farrow & Ball 2 Paint Brush

1 x Sheet of each 80 and 120 Grit Sandpaper

A love of carpentry, if not a friend who is good at it.

1. Create a detailed drawing of how you want to customise your door, get cracking, or supply it to your carpenter friend (possibly with a slice of homemade cake) and leave them to it!
2. A few days later your new doorshelves will be delivered, so carry out the preparation (see page 2).
3. Apply Primer & Undercoat to the door (see page 4).
4. Paint 2 coats of Wevet to your doorshelves, leaving to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats (ideally leave overnight to completely harden).
5. Fix in place and dress with books, photos and trinkets.



Wall: Parquet BP 4101, Door: Wever® Estate® Eggshell.

# SWINGING 60's SIDEBOARD

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Less is more... Not every inch of a fabulous furniture find needs to be painted – just painting the drawer handles or door panels can have a dramatic effect.

## YOU WILL NEED:

1 x Sideboard

2 x 750ml Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (1 x Mid Tones,  
1 x Red & Warm Tones)

1 x 750ml Arsenic® No.214 Estate® Eggshell

1 x 750ml Charlotte's Locks® No.268 Estate® Eggshell

1 x Farrow & Ball 2 Paint Brush

1 x Small Brush

1 x Sheet of each 80 and 120 Grit Sandpaper

1 x Roll of good quality Masking Tape

1. Remove cabinet doors and carry out preparation to them (see page 2).
2. Remove drawers and carry out preparation to the handle areas only (see page 2).
3. Mask around the drawer handles, mask off the handles on the doors. Apply Primer & Undercoat (Mid Tones) to the cabinet doors, and (Red & Warm Tones) to the drawer handles (see page 4).
4. Paint 2 coats of Arsenic on the door panels, leaving to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats (ideally leave overnight to completely harden). Ensure the paint is completely hard before closing newly painted cupboard doors.
5. Paint 2 coats of Charlotte's Locks on the door handles, leaving to dry for a minimum of 4 hours (ideally leave overnight to completely harden).
6. Reassemble your sideboard and pop back in the dining room.



Wall: Drag DR 1215, Sideboard: Arsenic® & Charlotte's Locks® Estate® Eggshell.



Wall: Polka Square BP 1053, Skirting: Manor House Gray® Estate® Eggshell, Laundry Bin: Brassica® & Blackened® Estate® Eggshell, Chair: Dayroom Yellow™ Estate® Eggshell.

# OMBRE LAUNDRY BIN

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An ombre effect can inject a sense of style to functional furniture... This technique works best with high contrast colours as it is easier to cover over a lighter base coat with a darker top coat.

## YOU WILL NEED:

- 1 x Laundry Bin
- 1 x 750ml Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (White & Light Tones)
- 1 x 750ml Brassica® No.271 Estate® Eggshell
- 1 x 750ml Blackened® No.2011 Estate® Eggshell
- 1 x Farrow & Ball 2 Paint Brush
- 1 x Domestic Paint Spray Gun
- 1 x Sheet of each 80 and 120 Grit Sandpaper

1. Carry out preparation to the laundry bin (see page 2).
2. Apply Primer & Undercoat to the laundry bin (see page 4).
3. Paint 2 coats of Blackened to the laundry bin, leaving to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats (ideally leave overnight to completely harden).
4. Follow the instructions on your spray gun, slowly spray Brassica starting from the bottom of the laundry bin, fading out towards the halfway point.
5. Leave to dry for a minimum of 4 hours (ideally leave overnight to completely harden).
6. Fill with laundry!

# ROUGHING IT WARDROBE

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The beauty of this furniture painting technique is that it doesn't require an artistic lilt or perfectionist skill to create a charming feature.

## YOU WILL NEED:

1 x Wardrobe

1 x 750ml Interior Wood Primer & Undercoat (White & Light Tones)

1 x 750ml Ammonite® No.274 Estate® Eggshell

1 x 750ml Purbeck Stone™ No.275 Estate® Eggshell

1 x Farrow & Ball 2 Paint Brush

1 x Sheet of each 80 and 120 Grit Sandpaper

1. Carry out preparation to the wardrobe (see page 2).
2. Apply Primer & Undercoat to the wardrobe (see page 4).
3. Paint 2 coats of Purbeck Stone on to the wardrobe, leaving to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats (ideally leave overnight to completely harden).
4. Draw a very faint line where you want the second colour to meet the first, then tenderly paint a rough line (not too straight) over this in Ammonite, dragging little edges of paint down to give it a soft edge rustic feel. Next paint everything up to and above the line in 2 coats of Ammonite (leaving to dry for a minimum of 4 hours between coats). Ensure the paint is completely hard before closing newly painted cupboard doors.



Wall: Ammonite® Modern Emulsion, Sheep: Purbeck Stone™, Wevet® & Mole's Breath® Modern Emulsion, Wardrobe: Ammonite® & Purbeck Stone™ Estate® Eggshell.

# BRITISH DESIGNER INSPIRATION

There really is no limit to creativity... take a look at these furniture pieces painstakingly created using our paints, by British design talent. To find out more about each design, the designer and advice on how to re-create it for yourself simply visit our website [www.farrow-ball.com/find-it-paint-it-love-it](http://www.farrow-ball.com/find-it-paint-it-love-it).



Harris' DPM Sideboard



Shamus' Stencilled Shadow Cabinet



Susy and Margo's Newtful Chair



Daniel's Deco Chair





Custhom's 'Bauhaus' Dresser



Bluebellgray's Grandfather Chest



Michael's Chinoiserie Drawers



Charlotte's Beehive Drawers





Background: Stiffkey Blue® Estate® Eggshell, Swatches, clockwise: Dix Blue™ & Dimpse® Estate® Emulsion.

# CUSTOMISE FIXTURES AND FITTINGS

If you've spent time customising your furniture, don't forget about the door handles and drawers knobs. They add the finishing touch and give your furniture balance.

You can quickly and easily update or customise hardware, paint drawer knobs in complimentary or contrasting colours, depending on your personal style, or invest in vintage handles to give a focal point and character to your furniture. An ornate drawer knob could be the inspiration for customising your furniture.



Door frame: Dix Blue™ Estate® Eggshell.

# CONSIDER THE TRIM

If you like your furniture just the way it is, or can't bring yourself to paint an heirloom teak dresser, you can transform a room simply by changing the way you paint your woodwork or its colour.

There are many ways of decorating and how you use colour is entirely down to personal preference and your desired feel for the room. There are no strict rules but here are some examples of the most popular ways of decorating.

## COLOURED WALLS & WHITE WOODWORK

A traditional style is to apply one colour to the walls and a white gloss on the woodwork, often the same white as that on the ceiling. This is a very clean, but sometimes hard look. To soften the contrast, select a white which is more sympathetic to the colour on the walls; this will make the contrast more gradual and you become less aware of where things stop and start, so the confines of the room disappear and it will feel bigger.



Wall: Mouse's Back® Estate® Emulsion, Woodwork: White Tie® Estate® Eggshell.



Wall: Hardwick White® Estate® Emulsion, Woodwork: Pointing® Estate® Eggshell, Floor: Cornforth White® Floor Paint.

## LIGHTER WALLS & DARKER WOODWORK

A good way to create light and space is to use the lightest colour on the largest surface area, such as the walls and a darker tone on woodwork. This works particularly well if you are using a neutral scheme and gives a more 'decorated' feel. The use of a dark colour on skirting boards not only makes the walls appear lighter in contrast, it also creates a strong contemporary look making everything above it feel lighter in contrast, and therefore the overall feel of the room is lighter too.



Walls: Blackened® Estate® Emulsion, Woodwork: Down Pipe® Estate® Eggshell.

## ONE COLOUR USED ON WALLS & WOODWORK

Using one colour on both the walls and woodwork is very popular in contemporary settings as it creates a very strong, clean look. Yet this look can also feel extremely calm and make a room feel much bigger, as there are no contrasts to draw the eye.



Walls and ceiling: All White™ Estate® Emulsion, Woodwork: All White™ Estate® Eggshell.

# INSPIRED TO PAINT?

If you're now feeling inspired to upcycle a vintage furniture piece in your attic, or explore your local flea market we can help. Visit [www.farrow-ball.com/find-it-paint-it-love-it](http://www.farrow-ball.com/find-it-paint-it-love-it) for 'how to' advice, painting tips and ideas.

Farrow & Ball products are available around the world through our showrooms and stockists and you can also order from us direct or through our website.

Most paint colours and finishes are available from our showrooms and stockists but anything not in stock can be ordered and delivered within 3 working days\*. Our wallpaper is delivered within 7 working days\*.

To purchase one of our products or for advice on colours, paint finishes or wallpaper please contact us on +44 (0) 1202 876141 or visit one of our showrooms or stockists. To find your nearest retailer please visit our website at [www.farrow-ball.com](http://www.farrow-ball.com)

\*Please note delivery to some UK postcodes and countries outside the UK will take longer and you will be advised at the time of ordering.

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** James Merrell, Robin Kitchin, Jan Baldwin and Matthew Burgess.

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**ADVICE ON SANDING:** Special precautions should be taken during surface preparation of pre-1960s paint surfaces as they may contain harmful lead. For further advice contact HSE on 0300 003 1747, email [advice@hse.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:advice@hse.gsi.gov.uk) or visit [www.hse.gov.uk/lead](http://www.hse.gov.uk/lead)

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