

New Paint Rollers Make Job Easy Cools Seek Better Can Openers

New York—One of the simplest means of rousing the spirits and cheering the senses is a fresh paint job. It cleans, brightens, renews and even the air conveys the promise of good things to appear. A little paint-it-yourself magic can color a home happily with considerably less labor than might be expected.

Like waving a wand, an afternoon of waving a paint roller in the children's bedroom can actually do much to sharpen the youngsters' self-respect as well as the room's outlook. And the same treatment in the playroom can return that fun-torn area (for a time anyhow) to its original gay look.

In working up the proper frame of mind to get started, it may help to learn, if one suffers uncertainty on ladders, that the need for that painter's prop has been eliminated by the in-

vention of an extension pole threaded to the handle of a paint roller. Now the paint-it-yourself can stand on the floor and paint the ceiling.

Improved paint rollers, such as those of Dynel Modacrylic fiber, are made to order for the amateur; they are easier to handle, take on more paint than a brush, cover more than twice the area per stroke, and do not drip on mom's coffee.

With the roller as the basic tool and the paint to be spread, there is little else required. Newspapers will serve as drop-cloths for the floor and the furniture can be covered, too, with papers and remain in the room during the operation. Unless the walls are badly soiled or glossy surfaced, a thorough dusting of the sections to be painted is usually adequate. In the case of extra grime a chem-

ical remover is the easiest to work with. A solution of trisodium phosphate, or a commercial remover, will effortlessly clean away dirt and grease and dull the surface.

A word for the beginner on selecting the right paint — it should not be regarded as merely a matter of color determination. Haphazard choice of paint may provide unwelcome education for the amateur who will find out the hard way about bad sag properties and improper leveling qualities.

These two features of paint, while referred to as leveling and retention of roller or brush marks after application, are dictated in inferior products. And as with other home products whose virtues are not visible before purchase, one should rely on reputable brand names, recommendations of a trustworthy retailer or the testimony of friends.

Having satisfied one or more of these criteria in obtaining a good quality paint, and with the room in order, equipment at hand, surfaces prepared, the actual painting can begin. Pay heed to the old painter's maxim, "Begin at the top and work down." The order goes—first the ceiling, then the walls, then wood trim and floors. Use slow smooth strokes on overhead work. It will go swiftly by roller.

Use a special edging tool now available. If the ceiling is painted in two or three-foot strips across the shortest dimension, it will enable consecutive strips to be painted before the last edge is dry—an important advantage because joining on a dry edge sometimes leaves a lap mark that will appear later as uneven coloration. Also, light strokes help to prevent lapping.

Ceiling done, the paint-it-yourself can "cut in" the edges by painting a narrow strip around doors, windows and along baseboards, using a brush and a short roller for smoothing out. If a paint-pol in the form of a husband or a good neighbor cooperating in an exchange painters program is available, he can take on the job, then one can fill in the large wall sections with the broad seven-inch roller at the same time as the other deals with the



PROFESSIONAL TOUCH ... For a finish look to the job, the home painter should "cut in" around door jambs and windows with a brush and "smooth out" the area with a short roller.

trim-work. The undertaking is speeded up in this way, and too, those moments yielded to stepping back and admiring the effect are best shared with another.

Do as the pros do and finish an entire unit, one complete wall, before proceeding to the next. In paint-rollering the walls, generally the same counsel applies as did for the ceiling work—paint in slow, smooth strokes, working first in one direction then another. Move the roller from top to bottom, taking care to resist pressures which may cause bubbles or spatters.

Lumps and drips can mar the even distribution of pigment only if the roller is carelessly "dipped." Remember how precisely the old-fashioned brush painter dips and drains his

brush—with similar attention a roller of Dynel should take up paint from the deep end or "reservoir" of the tray, then be rolled back and forth up the tray's drier sloping surface until paint is nicely worked in.

A grand feature of roller painting is its continuous gratification. The gliding rhythm of application seems to soothe the disposition while it smooths on the paint, and the second half of the room is just as much fun doing as the first half.

Furthermore, cleaning up is not an ordeal. With the use of popular quick-drying, water-based paints, the roller of Dynel can be washed with water in the kitchen sink. Best of all, there are no lingering odors to prevent that fresh-as-paint nursery from being occupied the same night.

The modern "can opener cook" is unshamedly—and continually—scrubbing for faster working can openers.

Mrs. Marjorie Gibbs, District Marketing Agent, Cooperative Extension Service, Michigan State University, says that 25 million women who work outside the home from 8 to 5, and become efficient homemakers after 5:15, have no lack of money for foods. They have high standards of quality, and little precious time for preparation of family meals.

These busy women don't want to spend their time at home working in a kitchen. Three out of five career women are married. It is no wonder then, that the typical week day dinner features many a convenience foods.

Taking the hand-labor-chore of food preparation out of the kitchen and putting them into food processing factories, is a relatively recent occurrence. Nicholas Appert invented the food canning method for Napoleon, in answer to the need for movable military foods. Only recently—actually 150 years ago—the tin can was invented.

Convenience foods really began to come into their own when processors gave Mrs. Homemaker an opportunity to serve fruits and vegetables when the fresh products were not in season. This created the opportunity for someone else to do some of the home cooking chores.

Less working hours are required to earn money for food purchases in America than in any other nation in the world.

The puppy piddled and Mama didn't even get peeved.



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