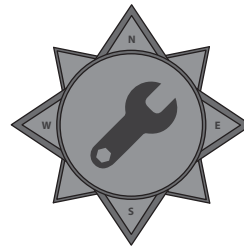


PAINTING

This task is all about painting. But I'm not talking about water colors and pretty pictures. We're talking about the kind of painting necessary for home improvement.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

Complete your painting project to the satisfaction of your parents and clean up thoroughly.

LEVEL H

PERIOD 4

TASK 1

First place to start is to ask your parents if they'll do a quick walk through the house to see if there is a wall or some trim that needs a new coat of paint. If there isn't, come to my house, we have plenty.

Here are some simple steps that will get you started. You'll likely need additional research and direction, and, of course, the oversight of your parents.

- Prep the walls. Check for any holes, dents, or imperfections that need to be taken care of. In the case of drywall, you'll want to spackle. In the case of wood, you'll fix with a wood filler.
- Mask the room. You only want paint where you want it. So running masking tape around the very edge where you want the paint to stop is the trick. The firmer the seal, the sharper the edge will be.
- Spread old blankets or painter's sheets on the floor. There will be drips and splashes, be prepared. Rule number one is always to contain the paint. Expect spills. Even expect the can to get knocked over and have it in an additional tray.
- Another thing that people often don't think of, check your feet. You can tread paint all around your house. I use an old pair of shoes that I remove as soon as I step off of the sheet.
- Use a brush, perhaps for wider areas use a roller. Whatever the case, use long sweeping strokes and watch for drips. Don't apply too much paint.
- Expect to do two coats of paint.
- Clean up. The job is not complete until everything is put away and all paint is thoroughly washed from every brush and roller. To fail to do that will destroy the brushes and they are not cheap.

