

# Procedure for Painting Bare Wood

Getting a smooth, long-lasting paint job that sticks well means you've got to prep and paint bare wood the right way. Stick to these steps, and you'll avoid common headaches like peeling paint or those pesky knots bleeding through.

Refer to the flowchart on the following page for a simplified visual reference.

## Steps for Painting Bare Wood

### Step 1: Sand the Surface

1. Sand the entire surface of the bare wood to open the grain and remove glaze with 150-grit sandpaper.
2. Clean up the surface:
  - a. Vacuum all dust.
  - b. Wipe with a clean cloth to remove remaining debris.

### Step 2: Seal the Knots

1. Inspect the surface for any visible knots, especially in pine.
2. Choose a sealer:
  - a. Oil-based spray primer (low-odor, easier cleanup).
  - b. Shellac (fast-drying, excellent sealing).
3. Apply the primer directly over each knot.
  - a. Let it dry completely before proceeding.

### Step 3: Smooth the Surface with Primer

1. Use a primer specifically made for bare wood (not paint-and-primer-in-one).
2. Apply a full, even coat to the entire surface.
3. Let the coat dry completely, following product instructions.
4. Lightly sand the surface to smooth raised grain.

### Step 4: Consider Tinted Primer

1. If using a dark or bright topcoat, consider tinting your primer.
2. Ask a paint store associate to tint your primer (no more than 50% color strength).

## Step 5: Choose the Right Base for your Color

1. Consult with a paint expert to confirm the correct base for your chosen color.
2. Paint bases vary depending on color intensity and pigment.
3. Ensure the proper base is used before tinting.

Source: Adapted from industry best practices and general woodworking guidance.  
No third-party sources were directly quoted.

## Quick Reference: Painting Bare Wood Flowchart

