

# How to Paint Bare Wood Procedure Document

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**Audience:** For painters trying to achieve that perfect hue.

**Subject:** How to paint bare wood.

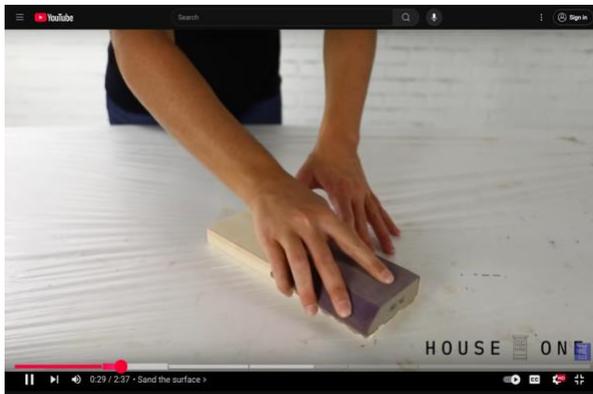
**Purpose:** The purpose of this document is to step-by-step explain the process of painting bare wood so the painter can achieve that perfect hue for their finish.

## Directions:

### 1. Process for Painting Bare Wood

Sanding is an important first step in the process. This is to help save time and money from applying too many coats only to just have the stains seep through the finish. A key thing to remember is that stock wood is usually coated in glaze to help protect it. Sanding removes that coat and helps the paint adhere. It also helps by opening up the grain of the wood which will help with the adhesion. [See Diagram A.]

- First, get a hand sander and sand the surface with multiple back and forth strokes.



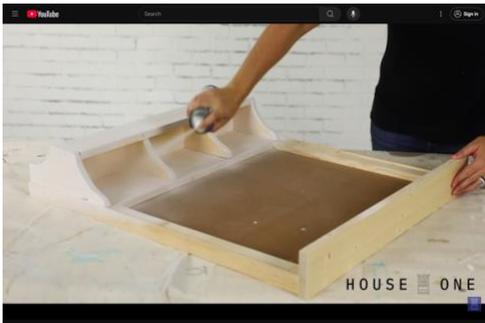
[Diagram A: Sanding the surface.]

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## 2. Seal the Knots

Next, stain from the knots can bleed through a fresh coat of paint. This will eventually ruin the finish even after many coats of paint. To avoid this, seal with a primer. The preference here should be an oil-based spray to not have any clean-up afterwards. [See Diagram B.]

- Second, apply the primer. Make sure to spray generously.



[Diagram B: Applying the primer.]

## 3. Smooth the Surface

Now, before getting a paint and primer in one. A dedicated primer is the better way to go because it has higher concentrated solids which will better fill the grain for a smoother topcoat. Bare wood soaks up paint, so the first two coats may look uneven. [See Diagram C.]

Once dry, lightly sand the surface between the coats to knock down the grain which raised from the moisture. [See Diagram D.]

- Third, apply the primer with a paint roller.
- Once it is dry, sand with multiple back and forth strokes again.



[Diagram C: Paint rolling primer.]



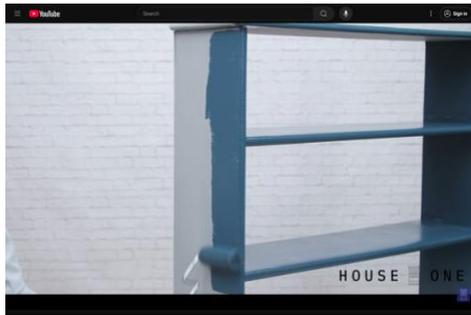
[Diagram D. Sanding after primer.]

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## 4. Consider Tinted Primer

The reason a tinted primer should be considered is because a brightly colored topcoat painted over primer vs. bare wood will achieve its final hue with fewer coats. Likewise, a dark color painted over a custom tinted primer will reach its darker tone with fewer coats as well.

- Fourth, apply the tinted primer with multiple strokes from the paint roller. [See Diagram E.]



[Diagram E: Applying tinted primer.]

## 5. Choose the Color Base

For the correct color base, a Paint expert should be able to recommend the paint color before tinting. This will give the color the foundation it needs to achieve its hue. The name of the color should be as a label on the bottom of the paint can.

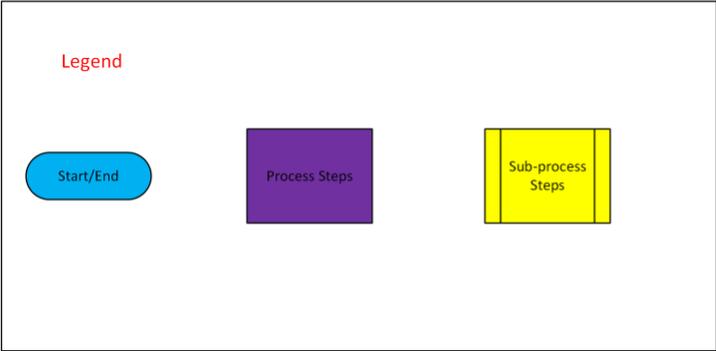
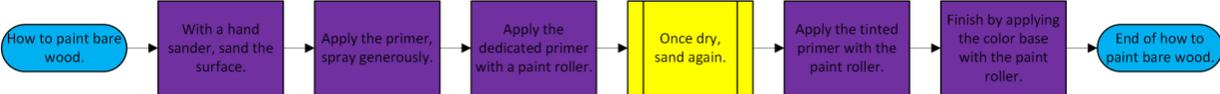
- Finally, finish up the color base with multiple strokes of the paint roller. [See Diagram F.]



[Diagram F: Applying color base.]

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## Process Flow



## Support:

More tutorials and woodworking projects visit house one channel on [thisoldhouse.com](https://www.thisoldhouse.com).

## Works Cited:

Largesse, Jenn. "How to Paint Bare Wood | House One." *YouTube*, uploaded by This Old House 14 November 2020, [www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkdzy9bWW3E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mkdzy9bWW3E).