

## Painting MDF: Always prime first

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MDF board, or medium-density fibreboard, is made from hardwood and softwood fibres that are mixed with various resins. The board is denser, heavier, and less expensive than plywood or other hardwood so it's perfect for making furniture.

Although MDF is easy to work with, it can be difficult to paint because it has a porous exterior. But, with a bit of primer and the steps below, you can paint MDF with ease.

First, sand the surface with rough-grit sandpaper. Always wear a protective mask and goggles to ensure you don't inhale the wood dust or get any in your eyes. Wipe the surface with a clean cloth and then finish it by using fine-grit sandpaper. With a damp cloth, wipe the MDF to make sure you remove all dust particles and let the board dry.

Although priming isn't always necessary before painting wood, MDF must be primed because the surface of this board type is highly absorbent.

Choose an acrylic-based primer for water-based paint. Apply one coat of primer with a paintbrush or paint roller.

After the primer is dry, sand the board with 220-grit sandpaper. Then apply a second coat of primer and let it dry.

Apply a thin coat of your chosen paint to the MDF with a paintbrush. Allow the board to dry and then sand it lightly. Apply a second coat of paint and allow to dry before touching or using the MDF for another project.