

## The PAINT CORNER by Richard Crawley

Are you thinking about painting your cupboards? It's easy to do, especially if you don't mind putting in the effort. Here are a few tips to remember before you start. First find an area where you can work that won't be disturbed for a day or two. Once you find that space, keep in mind that you'll want to be able to raise the cupboard doors up off the surface so you can paint all the sides and either the front or back all at once. Pyramid pieces made for painting cupboards are available at local paint stores.

Next, address the floor, make sure to wet it down with a mop before you start to paint. This helps to keep hairs and dust on the floor and not in the air as you paint and move around. Also, as you remove the cupboard doors, make sure that you make note of where each one goes back.

The tools needed are: Screwdriver, degreaser, fine grit sandpaper, mini roller and sleeves, paint tray, liners and painter's tape.

In this column I'm going to discuss the doors and not the

frames that are still attached to the walls. It's the frames that you might want to use painter's tape.

OK, let's begin!

Step 1 is to always degrease and make sure that all the surfaces aren't contaminated. The cleaner the surface, the better the results. Step 2 is to lightly sand, very little sanding is needed on almost all surfaces. Step 3 is to apply the proper primer to the surface that you're coating. The right primer has many abilities such as filling in wood grain, great adhesion to oil, lacquers and polyurethanes. Check with your local favourite paint store for recommendations on primers they offer. With most primer applications only one coat is needed. But again, if you're trying to fill in wood grain, such as oak, a couple of coats will achieve a better look.

You're now ready to apply the topcoat paint. The best roller sleeves to apply the finish coat with are foam, mohair or 5mil fabric. All of these work well and usually it's only how someone applies pressure as they roll.

Always try to allow a mini-

## Painting Kitchen Cabinets

mum of 6-8 hours dry time before each coat and if you lightly sand between coats you'll achieve a much smoother surface. Two coats are always needed for scrub-ability. Try not to cheap out when it comes to painting cupboards, it shouldn't be a costly adventure, as the most cost of any job, is labour. So, if you're doing the labour yourself, try to purchase good quality products. I usually don't recommend the kits available to resurface cupboards because of the price. If an accident happens and you have to either touch up or redo a door it can



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be a very costly purchase. It's been my pleasure writing these articles about paint coatings and I wish everyone a wonderful safe summer. Try your best to shop local, support your neighbours, friends and community.

All the best,

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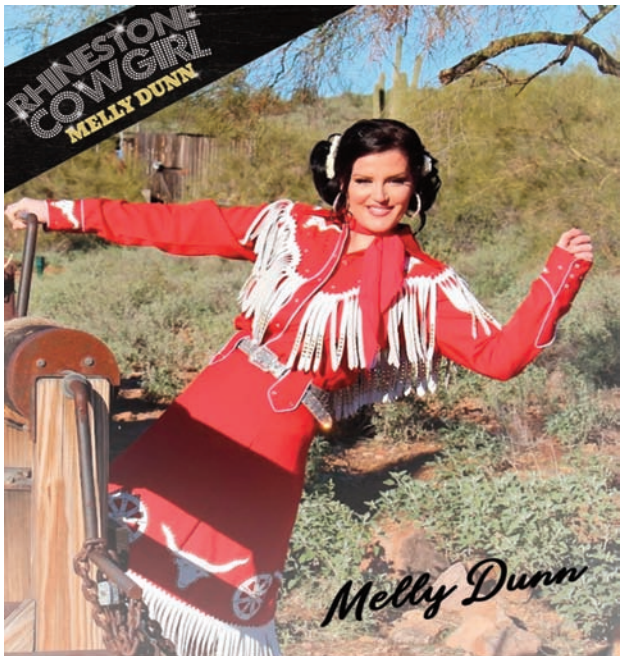
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