

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PAINTING BRICK

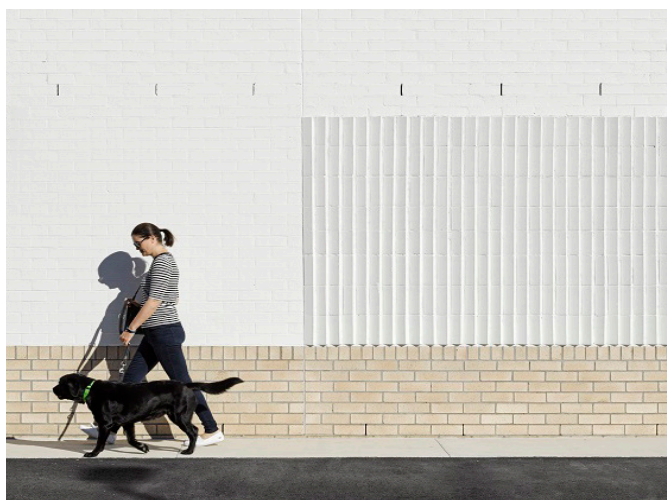
Painted brick can be a great look, but before you pick up the paintbrush make sure you do your research. Here's our tips for painting like a pro.

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Thanks to Australia's leading renovation shows and personalities, painting aged or dated brick is quickly becoming a favourite trick for lifting interior and exterior spaces. It can be a quick and simple transformation, but as a long-term commitment, it's important to do your research.

Before opening the paint tin, consider these tips for painting bricks:

- Is this a look you'll love in the long term? Removing paint from bricks is a difficult process that usually requires the use of chemicals. This type of restoration work is generally expensive and reserved for high-end heritage masonry buildings.
- Before painting, assess the condition of your brickwork. Bricks that are damaged, in poor condition, or in a home that has issues with moisture are generally not suitable for painting.
- Bricks should be cleaned and repointed where necessary, and cracks should be sealed before painting.



- Seek advice from a paint specialist in regards to product, as the brick wall will need the same attention as plasterboard, including undercoats and a breathable interior paint. The durability of paint can be compromised depending on the natural chemical properties of the bricks.
- Remember that bricks need to breathe. They are manufactured with pores that expel moisture from the wall and painting them may interfere with this process. You'll need to pay close attention to signs of deterioration over time.
- Like render, painted bricks are likely to require re-painting every three to five years to keep walls looking fresh and tidy.
- If your heart is set on the painted look for a new brick wall, consider purchasing lower cost bricks in the shape and size you want to achieve a smooth finish without the expense of a premium brick.