

What is cutting-in?

Cutting-in is one of the most important painting basics and the way to create feature walls. It is surprisingly easy to do in a number of ways and there is kissing involved.

Cutting-in is the technical term for painting around the edges of the wall or ceiling and along the skirting board so the roller can do its job.

As you can imagine, a round roller cannot get into a corner perfectly. Cutting into the corner is the job for a brush or a pad. The corner where wall and skirting board or ceiling meet should be painted, out to about 5cm width. Then the paint is rolled on.

HOW TO CREATE PROFESSIONAL LOOKING FEATURE WALLS

Feature walls require very neat cutting-in, a clean, straight line where the dark colour of the feature meets its paler neighbouring wall. There are three techniques that can be used. The line can be made straight with painter's masking tape, an edger or freehand with the right brush. Here's the lowdown:



MASKING TAPE

Run a strip of masking tape right into the corner, then you can cut-in and be assured of having a perfectly crisp line and the result will look professional.



PAINT EDGER

This is new technology and makes the job of creating a sharp, crisp line very easy. The premium Paint Edger made by Rokset can be fitted to extension poles for high sections.



FREEHAND

A good cutting-in brush (see page 31) actually helps to create a good, clean line. Those with a good eye and a steady hand will find that the Opal Cutter will make the job quick and easy. Note how the brush should be held for comfort and efficiency.