



*LEFT, BELOW and BOTTOM: You don't have to opt for painting an entire kitchen to achieve a fresh look in your kitchen. In the pictured kitchen our homeowner selected a few pieces and painted them in a light blue colour for impact and a completely new feel for a dated kitchen.*

# fresh new face for a dated look

Before you attempt any painting, make sure that you follow the preparation steps below. If you don't you could end up with a surface that scratches easily or does not adhere as it should to the surface.



Take some time to visualise what you want your kitchen to look like before you decide.

## 1. Clean the cabinets

Preparation is of prime importance for the successful painting your cabinets, and it is very important to make sure that all of the surfaces you are going to paint are completely free of all grease, grime, food residue and whatever else may be stuck to them. Set up a place where you can work, as you will find the entire process is much easier if you remove all the cabinet doors. If you don't have the space for all the doors, work one section at a time until all the doors have been done. Use a household cleaner that is specifically for heavy degreasing, a soft scourer, and make sure that you don't forget to rinse them clean and allow to dry thoroughly - preferably overnight.

## 2. Sand the cabinets

Once all the doors are completely dry, use 180-grit sandpaper to go over the entire surface of each door. This will remove any absorbed oils, greases or sealers that may have been previously applied. By lightly sanding you are creating a 'key' surface that will allow the primer to hold onto the cabinet surface and ensure proper adhesion for the following paint coats. Whilst labour intensive, this step will greatly increase longevity of the paint job. Don't underestimate the importance of this step!



## 3. Apply primer

Once the sanding is out of the way, the rest is fairly easy. The first step is to apply primer to the doors. This will prevent any stain seeping through your final coats and spoiling the finish.



Use the brush to apply paint to any profiles or mouldings on the doors. Allow the primer to dry completely. If you can see any brush strokes or streaks on the doors, use a very fine sandpaper (240-grit) to lightly sand the surface smooth in preparation for painting.

## 4. Apply paint

For the paint you can use a water-based gloss (Prominent Paints Ultra Gloss), a standard enamel paint, or an acrylic paint to which you would apply at least two coats of a water-based varnish to finish. Allow the cabinets to dry overnight before putting everything back together and re-attaching the hardware.



*TOP: Two shades of green have been used on wall and floor cabinets. BOTTOM: A pale tangerine creates a colourful and welcoming kitchen.*

