



## How to...

**WOW!**  
The world's largest indoor mural is located in India and measures 9,731 square feet.



# Paint a wall mural

Use your creativity and personalize your space with this fun activity.

If you'd like to update your space without buying new furniture or decorations, here's a creative idea: Paint one or two walls of your bedroom with a mural or a design. "An accent wall is a great way to personalize your room and make it your own," says Jo Gick, an interior designer based in Arizona. Here's how to get started.

### Consider your options

There are many ways to make a mural or accent wall in a room. You could create one large picture of something, such as a rainbow or a mountain. You could make a geometric design with stripes and shapes. You could add words or inspiring phrases to your wall. To help you decide what suits you, look through magazines and have an adult help you search online. After doing research, you might think of something to create that you hadn't thought of before.

### Make a plan

Once you have a concept in mind, think it through and sketch it out on paper first. You may want to do a few sketches to compare them. This planning will help make your wall a success. It's easier to make changes to your design now than after you start painting. Once you know the colors you want to use, head to a paint store with an adult to look at swatches and buy paint samples. At home, apply the paint samples to a small area of your wall to see if you really like the colors you've chosen.

### Gather supplies

Besides cans of paint, your supply list should include paint brushes, paint primer, and blue painter's tape.

Primer is the first coat of paint you put on a wall. It helps protect the wall and makes it easier for paint to be applied. Blue painter's tape lets you protect areas you don't want to spill paint onto, and it's easily removed when you're done. If you want to put shapes on your wall, such as a pattern of triangles, you'll need to buy large sponges. You'll cut the sponges into whatever shape you choose and dip them into the paint.

### Prepare the wall

Wipe down your wall with a sponge and warm water to make it as clean as possible. Next, use the painter's tape to mark off areas you don't want to get paint on, such as trim and light switches. Once your wall is dry from cleaning it, paint the wall with primer and let dry.

### Enjoy painting

Now it's time to bring your idea to life. Use a pencil to lightly sketch your image, design, or words on the wall. Apply paint slowly and carefully. Make sure you choose a day to paint when you won't be rushed. Feel free to adjust your plan as you go, and ask a parent for advice if a design isn't working. Remember, you can always paint over something if you don't like how it's turning out. Have fun and enjoy being creative.



## More painting projects

Not ready to tackle a whole wall? No problem. Try one of these smaller projects.

### A cubby that pops

Take everything off the shelves and paint the back wall of a cubby or bookcase. On a bookcase, you can use the same color for every row or use different paint colors to create a rainbow or a pattern. When you return your items to the shelves, the background will pop with color.



### A place for pencils

Transform an old glass jar into a pencil holder. Paint the inside with a color of your choice. It's better to paint the inside so the outside still looks glassy.



### A letter display

Set your initials, your name, or a school or team name on a shelf. You can buy wooden letters from a craft store, or cut them out from large cardboard boxes. Paint them in fun colors or patterns.

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