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Wood protection for outside areas made easy with Sari and Christian from Saris Garage see how it works

Christmas customs & Contest
Giving and receiving gifts





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#### Legal notice:

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# How does black work as a wall paint?

Strictly speaking, black is not a colour, but a perception of brightness. Often it is wrongly associated with evil. But brightness and light can only shine properly in contrast to darkness. This is also true for living and interior design: if black is skilfully staged with light decorative elements, it radiates a timeless elegance. Used in the right proportion, a black and a white wall promotes the balance of Yin and Yang and has a calming and inspiring effect on the room. As a result, black has been a shadowy element in wall design for far too long. With the right tips and tricks, it can be used as the trend colour 2020 to give rooms a noble and modern look and make them shine in a completely new light.

**ATTENTION:** do not overdo it! Black works great as an accent colour, but should not be sprayed on all walls, as it quickly becomes oppressive and dark. Even in very small rooms it is a good idea to paint only single, small accents in elegant black and the rest in light colours.





Black is a very dark wall colour and has very strongly pigmented. Therefore, you should always choose high-quality paint to achieve a brilliant result.

# Modern wall design in black – step by step to the perfect result

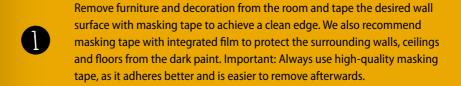
You have always been fascinated by the simple elegance associated with classic black, but haven't yet dared to use the dark tone as a wall paint? Together with the interior designer Eva Brenner, we will show you how a new coat of black paint can make your living room look stylish and modern without a hint of darkness.

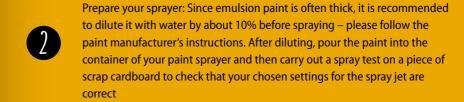




If you do not want to spray black all over the wall, it is a good idea to apply the tape around the desired area. In this way you can give the accent wall in the room another beautiful frame.

## Here's how it's done:





Spraying begins: Now start with the application of paint. The best way to do this is to use a crosscoat technique over the entire surface to ensure optimum coverage of the paint. To do this, spray the surface first vertically and then horizontally moving from left to right – the spray jet direction can be changed by adjusting the nozzle. By doing it this way you avoid any of the background colour of the wall showing through.

Remove the masking material: After you have finished spraying the wall black, please remove the masking material. It is best to do this before the paint is completely dry. This prevents you from partially peeling off the freshly applied black paint when you remove the masking tape.











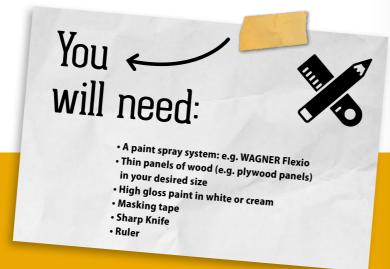
your wall will shine in a uniform black.











# The right decorations do the trick: Ideas for bright accents

Black walls live from the contrasts to their bright, colourful and cheerful counterparts. With our ideas for noble spray patterns on light-coloured wooden panels you set the right accents and bring your living room to a new level of style.

# And there you go:

Stick on patterns

Cut the strips flush with the edges of the wooden board using a sharp knife and a ruler.

2 Spraying attachment
Then fill the paint into the paint spray attachment of your sprayer and test the spray jet on a suitable test object.

Spray on the paint
Then apply the paint evenly with your paint sprayer.

Peel off masking tape
Finally, remove the masking tape and let the finished picture dry completely before hanging it up.

With our tips and ideas for creating elegant black walls in your home, you can beautify your living room, dining room or other rooms in just one day. Eva Brenner is also enthusiastic: "The new colour makes the living room hardly recognisable. In no time at all, you too can completely redesign a room in your home.



Finish ——— Autumn/Winter 2020 Kitchen renovation



"I used to like it" – who doesn't know this statement, no matter whether people talk about clothes, hairstyles or the furnishings. Dress style and hairstyle can easily be changed, but when it comes to built-in furniture, for example in kitchens, it can quickly become complex and expensive.

The DIY blogger Nine from Delari has also asked herself this question: How can I renovate my kitchen quickly and cost-effectively?

In the high-quality fitted kitchen, the cupboards and worktop still looked as good as new, but Nine was fed up with the vanilla tone of the fronts and was eager for a change. In rented apartments, you are often forced to take over the kitchen of the previous tenant – whether you like it or not. If you don't have the opportunity for a new, modern fitted kitchen, you have to come to terms with the taste of the previous tenant. Or do you? We have a simple solution: renovate your kitchen to your taste! You don't have to replace everything right away. Often a colour accent is enough to completely change the look. In addition to the wall colour, you can even apply new tiles with a little craftsmanship or give the kitchen fronts a new colour. But how does the new colour get onto the cabinets? Adhesive foils have been available for a long time. However, the more corners and edges the kitchen has, the more difficult it is to stick the films on cleanly. Together with Nine, we will show you a quick and easy way: Just spray it on!





# Here's how it's done: Wall design with colour gradient

#### The preparation

First of all, your kitchen must be prepared for the upcoming remove the wall units from the wall. This is necessary for painting later anyway. Drill holes that are no longer needed or cracks

#### Colour selection and masking

Choose your new favourite wall colour. Nine has opted for classic white and sets great accents with the trend colour hydrangea. Then all you need to do is get the paint spraying system (e.g. the W 690 FLEXiO from WAGNER) ready and off you go. Cover everything well that is not to be coated.

#### Prepare paint and sprayer

Fill the paint into the paint container. We supply a practical funnel paint with water when using viscous paints. Also for this you get an ingenious gadget from us – our yellow stirring stick. Not only can you stir with it, as the name suggests, but it also helps you to should stir everything again. This is best done in a bucket with a cordless drill and a stirrer or in a container with a stirring rod. Now screw on the paint container to the spray attachment and then connect to your device.



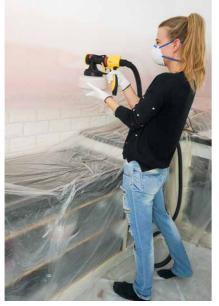
#### The spraying

Before you really get started, it is always a good idea you can easily test the correct settings on the device. Then it's time to hit the wall! When spraying, it is to the wall.

#### The Ombré effect

For the ombré effect, start at the bottom of the wall and first spray a solid colour as usual. Then let the spray jet run out gently towards the top by increasing









Kitchen renovation

# Paint kitchen cabinets

Nine only wanted a small change in colour – the vanilla fronts were to become pure white. But there are no limits to your taste and imagination!

#### Preparation

Remove all wall units and fronts of the fixed cupboards in the kitchen. Also remove the doors on the wall units so that you can easily reach all the places later and hinges do not have to be taped off. Now find a suitable spraying place where you can also dry the already painted parts.

## Sanding and dust removal

Roughen all surfaces with sandpaper. It is even easier with a sander. The paint will adhere better later. Now remove dust and dirt from all kitchen cabinets and fronts.

#### Spraying

The preparation works in the same way as spraying wall paint

– with the only difference that they use the spray attachment for
wood and metal paints. You can recognize it by the fence symbol.

Hang or lift the cabinets to ensure all the surfaces are easily accessible. Adjust your paint sprayer so you are only spraying a small amount of material at a time and spraying a thin layers. This will give you a perfectly even result. Let everything dry properly afterwards.

Now the worktop, kitchen fronts and handles fit together perfectly and look modern and harmonious.

You can also find more tips and ideas on the subject of living and kitchen, for example how to coat tiles, on our social media channels Pinterest, Instagram and Facebook.















# How do I paint correctly?

Whether wood, metals or other surfaces: paints are versatile and great for sealing surfaces. The easiest way is to spray the paint directly on. Find out here how best to spray paint, what you should consider, why it is worth spraying paint and what equipment is suitable for this. finish.wagner-group.com/spraying-varnishes



Even details such as the handles can be sprayed – simply use the detail spray setting





VERY BIG

- Building a children's kitchen yourself -







What fascinates our little ones the most? Pretending to be adults. Cooking in the kitchen is especially exciting, because here things are mixed together, there is steam and sizzles, switches and knobs are turned, dishes and pots clatter. So it's no wonder that toy shops offer kitchens for children in all kinds of variations. But if you live by the principle "home-made and preferably recycled is better than something which is bought new", we have put together a step-by-step guide here to help you. In it, the German DIY expert and TV presenter Eva Brenner shows how you can turn a discarded bedside cabinet into a play kitchen yourself. Sustainable, beautiful and with a love for detail she creates what should become your child's new favourite toy.









# How can I build a children's kitchen myself? What materials do I need for a play kitchen?

The Upcycling idea with Eva Brenner – making the children's kitchen out of wood from an old bedside table – provides the answers. In this construction manual, the individual steps are explained in detail and it is also listed which material and tools are required for the creation of the self-built children's kitchen.

FOREWORD: for the construction of the children's kitchen a lot of material and tools are used. But please do not be put off by the extensive list, because everything is possible. I promise.



## Preparation of the bedside table

First remove all handles and fittings from the old night cabinet. To do this, use the rechargeable battery drill or, if it is "too tight", the screwdriver. Flat nose pliers are especially helpful for rusty and flat screw connections when the strength of the hands is no longer sufficient. To ensure that the children's kitchen has even surfaces at the end, Eva fills cracks, holes and uneven areas with a little putty and a scraper. Now let the putty dry.

## Sawing

Before she starts sawing, Eva first draws the saw edges. Firstly, a recess for the later "sink", i.e. the round metal bowl, must be marked both on the top of the bedside table and on the back of the drawer. In this way the drawer can be opened later even after the metal bowl has been inserted. And also the board for the back wall of the play kitchen is shaped a little bit – the corners are flattened - and the cut edges are marked.

Now it's time to get down to business: with the jigsaw Eva now works her way along her marks. Pay special attention to your safety and your fingers ;-)



1. to prevent the wood from splintering at the saw edges, simply apply an adhesive tape. This prevents fraying during sawing. 2. if you want to saw a recess into a closed surface, first pre-drill a couple of holes with the cordless screwdriver. This allows the jigsaw to be inserted

into the pilot holes and sawing can begin.

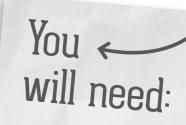














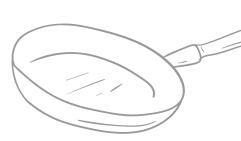
- W590 FLEXIO or a similar paint spraying system
- Grinder or sandpaper
- Jigsaw
- Cordless drill and screwdriver
- Flat nose pliers

#### ASSISTANCE

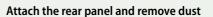
- Covering material
- Protective equipment: Respiratory mask, gloves and safety goggles if necessary
- Cloth and sponge for cleaning and dusting
- Spatula scraper
- · Black adhesive foil for hotplates
- 1 porcelain knob and two other furniture knobs
- 1 round metal bowl ca 20 25 cm diameter
- 3 5 screw hooks bent (for attaching accessories such as potholders, cookbook, etc.)
- 1 Thin chipboard approx. 50 60 cm long (as wide as the nightstand) as back wall
- 4 wood screws
- Play kitchen accessories and printed and laminated clock

## LIST OF MATERIALS

- Filler
- Lacquer mint
- Primer for wood, if necessary







Now fix the back panel to the bedside cabinet with four screws. Eva makes sure that the back wall overlaps by a good 10 cm so that it rests firmly and straight on the body of the bedside cabinet. Measure the drill holes beforehand and draw them in. Then lightly sand and dust off the entire surface including the back panel so that the new paint adheres better in the next step.

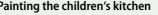
## Painting the children's kitchen

# Did you know?

Spraying is fun, but needs to be learned. In contrast to the brush, which we have known since the first time we painted with watercolours, there are a few steps to follow when painting with a paint spray system: How do I thin the paint? How do I adjust the paint spraying system correctly? What can I do if too little or too much material comes out of the paint sprayer? We would like to give you a few hints – an overview of the correct adjustment of the paint spray system for paint jobs can be found at: finish.wagner-group.com/ tips-tricks-for-paints-and-varnishes







Now it's time for the colour design: fill the spray attachment after stirring well and slightly diluting the paint if required, click on the turbine, switch on and spray! It is always advisable to carry out a test spray for example onto an old cardboard box, in order to adjust the paint jet to suit your object and your working method. In our example we do not use any additional primer, because the paint includes a primer. However, if you have chosen a dark wood, for example, we recommend an additional primer. Now spray all the surfaces you want to paint in even movements and parallel to the surface. With the paint spray system you can easily apply the paint to areas with grooves and edges.





# By the way:

The video tutorial for the children's kitchen build can be found at finish.wagner-group.com/ children-kitchen











#### Designing and decorating children's kitchens

When the paint is dry, the play kitchen can be finished. Screw the curved screw hooks to the rear wall – a predrilled hole makes it easier to attach. Eva uses a porcelain knob as a door knob and screws two more white knobs on the drawer as cooker knobs. Pre-drilling the holes is also useful here. The metal bowl is used as a sink and as, hot plates' circles are cut out of the black adhesive foil and glued on. What should not be missing is the kitchen clock. We found it on the internet, printed it out and laminated it.

All that remains is to equip the DIY children's kitchen with the right accessories and children's kitchenware. And the self-made play kitchen is ready! Eva Brenner sums up the result: "This is how you can make children's eyes sparkle. The children's kitchen was created by upcycling an old bedside table. These are my favourite projects, when something old is converted in such a way that something beautiful and new is created from it.



When it came to the colour tone for the children's kitchen made of wood, Eva Brenner opted for a fresh light green: "Bright and colourful shades are particularly suitable for children's furniture or toys. Green has a calming effect in the children's room and promotes concentration", the interior designer knows.

- Autumn/Winter 2020





Of course, a wooden toy clock with moving hands can also be attached. So the little ones have even more to explore and playfully learn how to read the time and numbers.

DIY blackboard Finish — Autumn/Winter 2020



For quite a while now, blackboards have been making their way back into the catering trade and into our homes. As pavement stoppers in front of cafés, as hand-written food and drink boards in bars and restaurants or even as an oversized shopping list in the kitchen: with thoughts handwritten and drawn, they let us pause, slow down and be more conscious in the fast-moving digital age. It is not without reason that such places attract us almost magically and coffee tastes worlds better there.

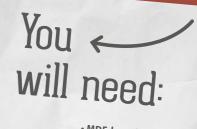
Why create a blackboard yourself instead of buying one? Quite simply, you can not only determine the perfect size of the board, but also choose the frame based on where it will be hung. Self-made blackboards are much nicer to look at than bought ones don't you think?

# **MAKE YOUR OWN** DIY BLACKBOARD FOR HOME





The choice is yours: either use an old picture frame from your basement or from the flea market that you can recycle. Or you can create a new, bespoke wooden frame as we did.





- MDF-board in desired size
- Four matching frame parts or an old picture frame • Paint sprayer from WAGNER, e.g. Wood&Metal Sprayer W 100
- · Blackboard paint
- Wood & Metal paint for the frame Mounting brackets
- · Ruler, sandpaper
- Masking material and face mask





If the paint is applied too thickly, drips can form, so it's better to spray thin coats and build up the layers rather than one thick coat.

#### Prepare the workplace

In order to make your own blackboard, it is best – depending on the size of the board – to have a work-place outside. Protect a large area using a dust sheet or an old, large sheet for example. A small garden table or similar can be useful to create an ergonomic work area while standing which will support the MDF board while you are working.

## Cutting and sanding the material

After you have chosen a suitable place for your workplace, cut the MDF board and frame to size or have everything cut to size in a specialist shop. Lightly sand down the wooden surfaces which will help the paint stick better.

#### Get the paint sprayer ready for use

The paint spraying unit is ready for use in a few easy steps. Fill the paint container up to 3/4 full with the blackboard paint. Stir the paint with the supplied stirring rod and dilute it if necessary according to the paint manufacturer's instructions. Each notch on the stirring stick corresponds to a 10% dilution.

The spray jet can be adjusted in three ways – horizontal, vertical and round for detailed, precise spraying. Be sure to carry out a test spray on a scrap of cardboard to find the right setting for you.

## Painting MDF board with blackboard paint

For a blackboard to be easy to write on the surface needs to be really smooth. With a brush or roller this is difficult to achieve, spraying the paint gives a very smooth even coverage of paint. Start by spraying the MDF always hold the sprayer about 15cm from the surface. Overlap the paint strips by about 30 percent. Allow the paint to dry repeated the process and apply a total of five coats onto the board.

#### Paint the frame

To paint the frame, first clean the spray attachment and adjust the paint sprayer to the new material as described above. If it is untreated or dark wood, apply a primer first. Let it dry and then apply the top coat in the desired colour and material.

### Assembling and mounting the chalkboard

When the paint is completely dry, apply wood glue to the four parts of the frame, press them against the MDF board and let the glue dry really well. Mount one or more brackets on the back to be able to attach your new chalkboard to the wall.





Since the Middle Ages, dining rooms have offered space for socializing, get-togethers and dining together. A beautiful and cosy room for daily meals becomes the centre of lively conversation and culinary delights. But which colours are suitable for the dining room and which decorati-

on ideas do you use to create the perfect feel-good atmosphere for your guests? Using a very small room as an example, we will show you which tips and furnishing ideas you can use to create an individual look by skilfully combining two matching wall colours.

**DINING ROOM -**WALL COLOUR IN TWO PART DESIGN!

How to create a new sense of space with two-tone accents.



Which wall colour for your dining room? A short excursion into the world of colours and their effect on the appetite:

Warm wall colours such as red, yellow and orange are said to have an appetising effect. They are classically perfect for rooms where people eat. As red is also considered to promote aggression in the teachings of Feng Shui, it should always be combined with neutralising colours such as white, cream or beige to ensure a harmonising balance. If you want to lose weight, cool tones such as blue, green or violet are recommended. These are intended to curb your appetite. Grey in all its shades is rather unsuitable for a dining room, as the colour grey is said to completely spoil your appetite. However, choosing the right wall colour for your dining room – especially in open spaces – always depends on the colour harmony with the surrounding rooms: make sure that the colours you choose match the wall design in your living room or kitchen.



Wall colour in a two-part look



It may also be necessary to work with a blocking paint for wood or veneered surfaces in order to prepare the surface properly. It is best to find out more about this when you buy your desired colour in your paint shop or DIY store.













On bare plaster it is best to apply a diluted layer first to prepare the wall for the final coat. Then, in a second spraying process, go over all surfaces again to achieve a nice and even result.

# Two-tone walls in the dining room – this is how it's done:

#### The right preparation:

First of all, it is important that you prepare all walls for the new paint. If necessary, remove old wallpaper and fill in cracks and holes in the wall to create a perfect base for the new wall paint.

Wooden surfaces, such as doors or wall coverings, should be sanded down to ensure that the paint adheres perfectly. Do you live in an old building? Then it is also advisable to seal small gaps between the door and the wall with a suitable filler like caulk.

Before you start spraying, please cover all surrounding surfaces that are not to be coated with a well adhering masking tape. For floors, windows and doors, masking tapes with integrated foil are particularly suitable. In this way you save yourself the additional covering and can get started faster with your sprayer. In order to protect your floors optimally, you can lay a thick fleece over the foil.

To protect yourself as well, please put on protective goggles and a dust mask before spraying and then do a small spray test on an old piece of cardboard or paper.

# Here we go – the dining room becomes colourful!

First spray all objects made of wood or veneered materials, such as skirting boards, doors, window frames or wall paneling. It is best to use a suitable solvent-free paint to avoid subsequent evaporation into your home and to maintain a healthy indoor climate. For wooden surfaces, please use the spray attachment for wood and metal paints to obtain a fine and homogeneous coating.

Allow the painted wood to dry completely before masking these parts to spray the surrounding walls. After covering the wood surfaces, please dilute your wall paint by about 10%, pour it into the spray attachment for walls, and so a small spray test again to check the settings and adjust them if necessary. When coating walls, it is best to start at the corners and edges and then coat the surfaces in a so-called crosscoat to achieve optimum coverage.

Allow the area that you have painted with the first colour (here white) to dry thoroughly before masking the freshly sprayed wall surface to apply the second colour (here red). Important: Use the drying time to thoroughly clean your spray attachment for walls before you apply the second wall paint, so that you can achieve a beautiful, even and brilliant result later.

Start with paint no. two, also in the corners, and go over all surfaces with the paint spraying system at an even distance of approx. 20-30 cm from the wall. Make sure that the spray passes overlap by about 30%. For an even result, work again in a crosscoat pattern and remove the masking materials before the paint is completely dry to obtain perfect edges.



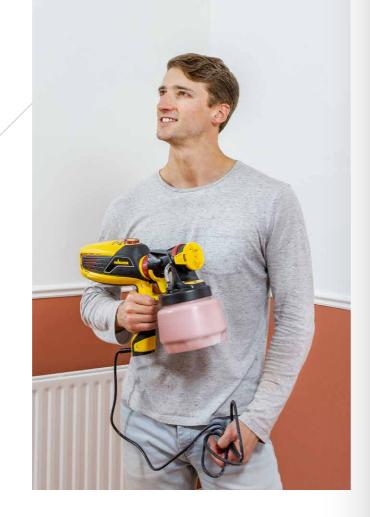








If you want to make your divided wall look even more impressive with a deco rative strip, you can also work with wooden profiles from the DIY store or from the carpenter, which you can attact to your wall and then paint it in the desired colour. There are no limits to you imagination and you can breathe a little old-fashioned flair into particularly high rooms with just a few steps.



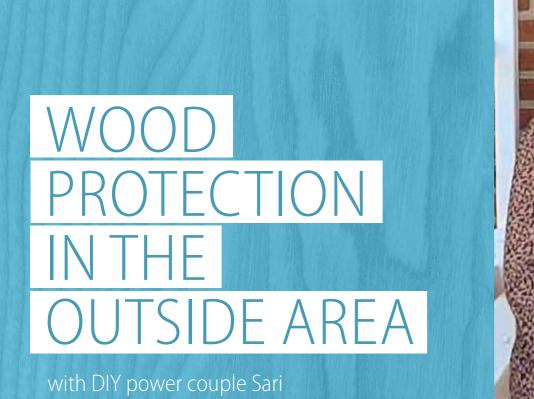


For detailed information on how to clean your paint spray system quickly and efficiently, please visit our website. You will also find videos and step-bystep instructions to prepare your equipment perfectly for its next use:

www.wagner-group.com

# The dining room is ready – only the right decoration is missing ...

When decorating a dining room, you can give free rein to your furnishing ideas. It's best to choose a beautiful table that can accommodate your family and friends. A wooden table looks cosy, while tables with stone or marble tops stand for cool elegance. A glass tabletop is not recommended for the dining table, as no one likes to look at their feet while eating. When choosing chairs, you should make sure they are comfortable to sit on, as this creates the perfect conditions for evenings with your loved ones. Other practical furniture includes sideboards or cabinet to store cutlery and display crockery and other items.







Outside wooden garden furniture needs regular maintenance, so that you can benefit from it for a long time. Applying paint with a sprayer allows wood protection to be applied very easily and in no time. Our do-it-your-self experts Sari and Christian from the blog Saris Garage show us how.

and Christian from Saris Garage

Absolutely on trend: Holidays in your own garden or on the balcony!
This is not only easy on the wallet, but also on the CO<sub>2</sub> balance. It's sustainable and still fun! Discovering your own environment can be just as exciting as a long distance journey. Check it out!

The nice thing about holidays is the change of scenery - but you can also do that at home! To ensure that your home radiates the necessary holiday atmosphere, Sari and Christian show you how to give new splendour to your outside area. With a harmonious planting, blooming flowers and fresh colours the furniture turns every home garden into a holiday paradise! Using natural wood really helps - it has a warm and cosy effect, is incredibly individual and beautiful to look at. But it also needs a lot of care so that it stays beautiful for a long time - because of weather influences, such as withstanding the rain, sun and frost. Even insects or fungi can damage the furniture in your outside area.

Wood protection in the outside area



All other important information about the different materials and their characteristics can be found on our advice page at: finish.wagner-group.com/
spraying-different-materials

There is only one thing that helps protect wood, a coat of paint. Whether you use wood paint, varnish or special wood preservatives, it depends on the type of wood and what your goal is for coating it.

For furniture, it is often advisable to apply a paint, it not only protects the wood from the influences of weather, but also makes it more durable. Seating in particular is often in need of protection. In addition, the painted coating can visually increase the appeal. There is only one thing to consider: paint is completely opaque, this means that the natural grain of the wood is lost. Stain or varnishes on the other hand adds protection but is transparent and maintains the natural appearance of the wood. It is particularly suitable for fences or privacy screens, but also windows and doors. Now you can renovate wooden furniture and newly acquired wooden objects, such as a privacy screen with paint to protect them for years to come, Sari and Christian show you how in their own garden.

renovating garden furniture and wooden items such as a privacy screen and protecting them from ageing with paints? Sari and Christian show you how they do it in their garden.

How have you got on this year with

# Repainting old wooden items

Sari and Christian have a comfortable bench – once paint in a pale blue, reminiscent of the blue sky on a beautiful summer's day, the coating is now showing heavy traces of wear and tear due to the weather influences such as sun and rain. New paint is urgently needed here!

Since the seat is still surrounded with a decorative trellis, the Blogger thought for a long time before starting this task – too many corners, edges and struts that have to be painted – that takes forever! But not with a paint sprayer! With it you can reach every surface no matter how inaccessible

Christian has set up a small spraying area outside. Sheets and old cardboard boxes protect the surroundings from any spray mist. Always make sure that during spraying that there is no wind. First sand the surfaces a little and then remove dust and dirt. Then pour the paint into the container for wood and metal paints and then off you go. With the W 590 Universal FLEXiO sprayer Christian sprays at an even distance from the Bench with white paint – don't forget your dust mask! In just 5 minutes the garden bench will have a completely different look and be like new again.







If you already have an HVLP paint sprayer at home, you can of course also use it coat the wooden furniture. You need only a little longer, than when using an airless sprayer.

Finish ——— Autumn/Winter 2020 Wood protection in the outside area

# Protecting new wooden fences

It is also worthwhile for newly acquired wooden items to begin maintenance and care promptly. Saree and Christian also wanted their privacy screen to be part of the rest the colour scheme and fit in the with the garden. So they have chosen a very dark anthracite

If you want to coat not just one, but perhaps several privacy screens or have a very long, high fence it is even quicker with an airless paint sprayer. Time saving: at least 10 times faster than with a brush and roller!

A privacy screen is also a challenge to paint because of its structure - with the Control 150 M Christian can easily reach the entire surface. So in just a few steps he has a perfectly covering surface. With the right colour, the privacy screens is transformed from functional furniture to a fresh style element.







# WHAT MAKES WOOD MORE DURABLE? WHEN PAINTING WITH A BRUSH OR WITH A PAINT SPRAYER?

Fences, furniture and other objects exposed to the weather need protection: sun, wind, rain and snow, heat, cold and moisture attack the surfaces. To determine, which coating method protects the wood longer and is more resistant a series of tests were carried out using varnish and paint.

Various common types of wood were half painted with a typical commercial paint brush.

The same wood was coated on the other half with a WAGNER paint sprayer. They were then exposed to the weather. After only a short time, the wood painted with the brush had started to show signs of deterioration. In contrast, the wood coated using the paint sprayer was much more resistant.



Paint application with a paint sprayer



Paint application with paint brush



# By the way:

The video tutorials for the projects with Sari and Christian can be found under: finish.wagner-group. com/wood-protection

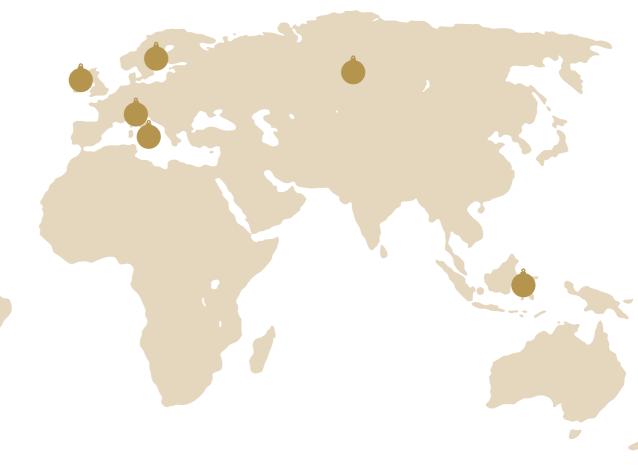
Christmas Customs Worldwide



CUSTOMS WORLDWIDE

Do you know how other countries celebrate?

We look back on a truly turbulent year 2020, in which everything was turned upside down. Up to now, we have been able to spend Christmas relatively easily in faraway countries and experience first-hand the traditions and customs celebrated there. This year this is suddenly no longer a matter of course, so we would like to present the 8 most beautiful Christmas customs from all over the world. Maybe they are not only interesting, but also offer you one or the other inspiration for new DIY ideas or who knows: maybe the right destination for December 2021. Come along on our Christmas journey around the world and let us surprise you, because at the end of the journey Santa Claus, the witch Befana, Father Christmas or our star interior designer Eva Brenner might be waiting for you with a little present.



Finish ——— Autumn/Winter 2020 Christmas Customs Worldwide



Some customs and traditions from America have already become very much part of our own Christmas habits. Santa Claus and the hanging of stockings over the fireplace have become popular rituals in this country as well. But did you know that American families do not open their presents on December 24th? That's because Santa Claus doesn't bring them into the house through the chimney until the night of December 25th, and to make sure he's well looked after, children in the U.S. give him a few cookies and a glass of milk.

**USA** – Santa Claus and stockings by the fireplace

The typical Italian Christmas customs are not so easy to grasp, as most regions have developed their own traditions. For example, there is no typical Christmas dish that is served at the big family dinner on December 25th. However, dessert is always the same, as it is traditionally served with panettone – a typical Italian cake – with mascarpone cream cheese. The fact that children in Italy today receive their presents on 25 December is due to American customs, because in this southern European country the witch Befana traditionally brings presents on Epiphany, i.e. 6 January. Fun Fact: Italians collect small change all year round, which they then gamble away with the family at a kind of bingo at Christmas.



# **Italy** – Panettone and the witch Befana



Russian Orthodox Christians celebrate Christmas according to the Julian calendar only on 6 and 7 January. Until that date, it is even a tradition to fast and not to indulge in delicious Christmas cookies, as is the case here. With the Soviet Union, however, the old traditions were temporarily banned and new customs were introduced. Russian families now give each other presents on New Year's Eve and the children wait patiently until Father Frost, who according to legend lives in forests in the Taiga, brings them presents at midnight together with his granddaughter – the Snow Maiden.

Russia – New Year's Fve and Father Frost

In Mexico, the 16th of December is already celebrated. In the so-called "Posadas" the search for shelter of the Holy Family is re-enacted. Everywhere small theater performances and fireworks take place. An important part of the festivities are also the pinatas, figures made of papier-mâché, which are filled with sweets and small toys. On Christmas Eve, first the midnight mass is attended and then the "Baile de la Flor" is danced, a dance of joy accompanied by fireworks and party mood. At Christmas, the children in this Latin American country first receive useful things and have to wait until January 6th before the big presents are handed out.



**Mexico** – from Los Posadas' to the Baile de la Flor'



In Sweden the presents are not brought by Santa Claus, but by three funny house gnomes called Tomte, Tomtebisse and Nisse. They are served a milk pudding in front of the door to take care of them. If you don't do that, it's bad luck. The Swedes celebrate with glögg (mulled wine) and julmust (a malt flavour soft drink) as well as bratwurst, jellied herring and the traditional julkuchen. It is also customary to leave windows and doors open to allow neighbours and friends to throw presents into the house. Speaking of throwing presents: on 13 January, St. Knut's Day, the Christmas tree is thrown out of the window to mark the end of the festivities.

# **Sweden** – from house gnomes to flying Christmas trees

The people in the Philippines are almost Christmas crazy! Already 4 months before "Feliz Navidad" is resounding through the supermarkets and everybody is looking forward to the festival. So it's not surprising that the church services are also something for die-hard Christmas fans. They start on 16 December and take place for nine days at about 3 o'clock in the morning. If you manage to attend all the masses in sequence, legend has it that a heart's desire will be fulfilled. San Fernando traditionally hosts the Giant Lantern Festival on the Saturday before Christmas Eve, when 11 villages compete in the design of Christmas lanterns up to 6 metres high. This shining spectacle attracts visitors from all over the world every year.



# **Philippines** – early risers and lanterns



The Irish are mostly unimpressed by cool temperatures all year round, but at Christmas things change. In really icy temperatures, they jump into the cold water at Christmas time and ring in the traditional Christmas swimming. At the Forty Foot Mountains hundreds of people go into the cool water and show how tough they really are. A nice tradition is also that in Ireland at Christmas candles are placed in the window to remember all family members who cannot spend the feast season with their families.

# **Ireland** – intrepid swimmers and candles in the window

A custom that at first glance might seem more appropriate for Halloween is causing a terrifying hustle and bustle in the Alps around 6 December. The Krampus, as an unpleasant antagonist to Santa Claus, punishes the children who have not been well-behaved throughout the year. This tradition is especially celebrated in Vorarlberg with so-called Krampus processions in which figures in creepy Krampus and Perchten costumes parade wildly through the streets and drive away evil. A nice custom is also the so-called Barbara branch. On Barbara's Day, December 4, a cherry or forsythia branch is placed in a vase – if it blooms on Christmas Day, the family is blessed by good fortune or a family member is getting married next year.



# Austria – creepy Krampus parades and Barbara Day



The Christmas journey around the world now ends back in Germany and we and Eva Brenner would like to wish you a Merry Christmas in the circle of your loved ones. To give you a little Christmas joy, we are giving away 3 of our popular Flexio W590 spray systems. With them you can make the most of your holiday around the turn of the year for a nice renovation project in your home. You can take part under: finish. wagner-group.com/christmas-lottery2020. Deadline for entries: 11 December 2020. Good luck and a enjoy the celebration.

Your WAGNER team & Eva Brenner







Planning to decorate or renovate your home? Fancy building your own garden furniture? How about painting bright colours on the wall or making creative invitation cards? Whatever it is that deserves a new coat of paint,

do it easily yourself.

# **FINISH**

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