



## Jump Painting

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Tips for painting your own jumps at home.

When looking at refurbishing your old set of jumps the first thing you need to ask is if the jumps are worth refurbishing. Jumps that are starting to feel heavier than they used to, or much lighter than they were in their prime may be showing signs of water saturation or dry rot. In either case it may be time to look at purchasing new jumps.

### Prep

If your jumps are in good order with no rotten areas then the first step in refurbishing is to remove the old paint. Depending on how thick the old paint is you can either scrape or sand it off. If the paint is thicker and chipped, you will need to scrape off as much as possible then sand off the remainder. If the paint doesn't have many old layers, you will be able to skip the scraping and use a course grit sand paper to take the old paint off followed by a finer grit to give you a smooth finished surface to begin painting.

### Painting

Once you have stripped the old paint off and have sanded the remaining paint and exposed smooth wood you can start thinking about primer and paint. Make sure you do not skip the primer, this is what protects your jumps from the elements. Paint primer combos are not ideal for exterior use and do not last the test of time, to get a professional lasting finish you will want to start with at least two coats of high quality exterior primer. Once you have the jumps primed it's time for paint, no matter what your budget buy the best exterior paint you can afford (the paint store professionals will be able to help you make this decision). Once you have your paint its time brush or roll it on, I would recommend at least two or three coats of paint on top of the primer. I hope these tips will help you decide whether to buy new Jumps, or make the old ones like new again!