

The versatile kettle

The paint kettle has been around for years – it probably has its origin in the days when painters used to mix and colour their own paints and needed to decant from large batches. If you are going up and down ladders, or there are two of you working and need to work with the same tinted colour, then the kettle is the thing you need. It's a simple tool, but one you wouldn't have though ripe for development, until you see what Dutch company Hildering has done to make it more useable and flexible in its use.

With its Go!Paint brand, Hildering has developed a modular system which addresses three particular uses for the kettle – painting with a brush, rolling and cleaning. And, underlying each use is an eco-friendly principle, making brushes last longer, using less water and minimising paint wastage.

The lead product is Paint and Go. Outwardly, it looks the same as a standard kettle, but the clever bit is that paint does not go directly into the kettle. You put a synthetic liner into the kettle, which is rigid. So if you need to change colour, all

When Dutch manufacturer launched its Go!Paint range at the National Painting and Decorating Show, 20 % of the visitors bought products, which is remarkable for something new to the market. Here we take a closer look at what's on offer.



you do is take the liner out of the kettle and insert a new one. The liner you take out can be sealed with a lid that's part of the system, and this lid ensures an airtight seal that keeps the paint in optimum condition. The liner also has a sharp edge so that excess paint on the brush can be removed and the paint will flow back into the liner. A further factor is that, as there is no contact between the paint and the metal kettle, there is no risk of rust forming when using waterbased paints.

You can also add, Clip and Go to the system. This is a simple device which fits onto the kettle and will hold a couple of brushes whilst you are using another one. The



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brushes hang in the paint but do not touch the bottom of the kettle.

Roll and Go works on the same principle, but with an entirely different kettle. As you can see from the pictures here, the kettle is a semi-circle, a gap and a hollow handle. This gives a flat surface for the roller to load on and the round area within the handle for a roller or, for that matter, a brush to be stored in. Dimensions make this system only suitable for a mini roller, but it does allow you to use a roller in the same way as a brush – kettle in one hand, roller in the other, and it allows you to switch from roller to brush, without putting either tool down. On the safety side, Roll and Go will slot over the rung of a ladder, freeing a hand to grip the stile. It also comes with a lid, so you can take the roller handle off, slot it down the handle and then seal. We're told that this will keep the roller and paint in good condition for about 7 days.

The third part of the Go!Paint offer is Clean and Go. Once again a basic kettle is used. In

it, there is a filter bag and a metal grid. Cover both with water, and push the brush into the grid. This action should remove the paint from the brush, which then drops below the grid into the filter bag, which needs to be removed periodically, so that the paint residue can be removed.

These products have been tried and tested in the Benelux countries and, judging by the reaction of the visitors to The National Painting and Decorating Show, should find a ready market here. There is also the option have having your company logo, or your own design digitally printed on the kettles. You would have to negotiate the minimum run. Not a bad working promotional tool.

Go!Paint is distributed in the UK by Roll Roy UK, 01482 781400, sales@rollroy.com and is presently available through Brewers and a number of independent merchants.

