



the anatomy of a paintbrush

the bristle tips

Where the action is!

Good hog bristle is tapered with a split or 'flagged' tip.

This flagging gives a natural bristle paintbrush a unique ability to produce a smooth paint finish.

As the paint flows down the bristle, it is distributed evenly over the work surface by myriads of the flagged tips.

As a general rule, the more flagging the bristles have, the better is the quality of finish.

Some cheaper brushes have tips trimmed off, resulting in inferior paint work.



the right bristle brush for the job



long bristle
For acrylic and water-based paint.



medium bristle
For gloss, enamel and oil-based paint.



short bristle
For masonry and rough sawn surfaces

handles

styles

- beaver tail
- varnish
- long handle cutter

types

- timber
- polypropylene

ferrule

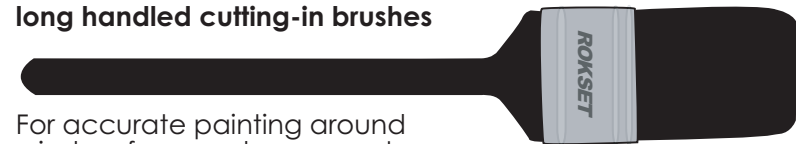
Binds component of brush together.
- stainless steel
- copper

setting

Set in epoxy resin.
- holds bristle pack firmly in the brush

long handled cutting-in brushes

For accurate painting around window frames, doorways etc. and trimming off after roller painting. Long handle provides extra control.



wedges

important because

- gives the bristle a tapered shape
- creates a reservoir for paint within the bristle
- makes the brush easier to clean

two types

- timber (premium brushes)
- cardboard (handyman/DIY brushes)

Note: imported brushes use larger wedges to replace bristle pack.





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bristle features and benefits

features		benefit
Tapered	→	Shapes brush especially for cutting in
Hard wearing	→	Long lasting brush
Absorbent	→	Better paint holding capacity
Can be shaped & styled	→	Improved performance
Flag or split end	→	Better paint holding capacity and fineness of finish

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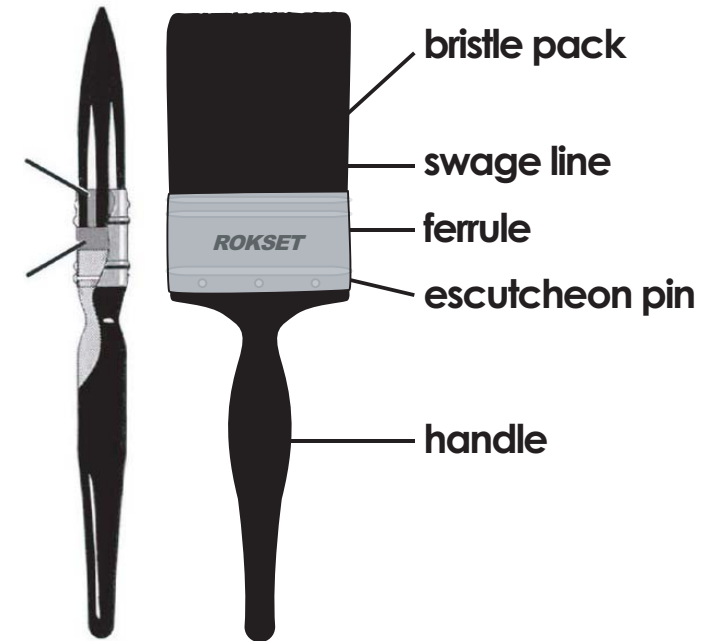
wedges

Prevent flaring of the bristles and preserve the bristle shape.

Create expansion spaces for the wet bristle.

cavity

Filled with epoxy on premium brand brushes.

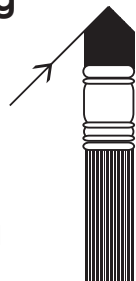


hand crafting cutter brushes

1 clipping

Bristle roots are trimmed at an angle.

The flagged tips are retained and levelled off.



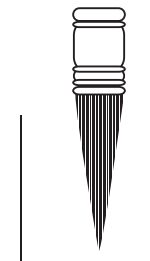
2 doping

The bristles are then tapped level and pulled through the ferrule. The flagged tips thus form a point.



3 linseeding

Assembled brush head is then dipped in boiling linseed oil.



4 shaping

The brush is hand shaped to a chisel point - giving it the best shape for accurate cutting in. When dry, loose bristles and linseed particles are flirtd out.

