

# SEND US A PICTURE

## Painted Floors

Is your brown wood floor a bit of a bore? Ten designers show how they've used paint to make bold and colorful statements underfoot.

Interviews by  
JULIA LEWIS



*"It's great to see a painted wood floor in an entry hall. They're less expensive than marble and softer to walk on."*

ELLIE CULLMAN



"With walls covered in white subway tile, the kitchen in my house on Nantucket was in danger of becoming a white box. To liven things up, I called in decorative painter Audrey Sterk to do these large orange and white squares on a diagonal."

GARY McBOURNIE



"My guest bathroom's original wide-plank pine floor was in terrible shape. But I like the feel of wood more than tile, so I got my friend Chris Isles from Pintura Studio to help me paint it with this classic tumbling-blocks motif."

SHEILA BRIDGES



"There's a temporary plywood floor in the passageway between the 18th-century section of my house and the new kitchen addition. This faux-stonework paint job by Harpenden Design is a fun solution until I can install real slate."

EDIE VAN BREEMS



"We masked the damaged parquet floor in our dining room with a jaunty green and white diamond pattern. That was more than seven years ago, and the paint has held up—proof that painted floors are practical and full of pizzazz! Plus, dining chairs move around so much more easily on a wood surface than on carpet."

JOHN LOECKE & JASON OLIVER NIXON

*"I love painted floors because you have so much control, and it's an unexpected opportunity for color and pattern. This interior hallway was seriously dreary, but with a black and white chevron done by floor specialist Chris Pearson, it makes a big statement."*

MILES REDD



*"When an entrance hall is sparsely furnished, the floor needs to be the focal point. In my home in Connecticut, I used stenciling on the old pine boards to bring a little definition and visual excitement to the space."*

BUNNY WILLIAMS

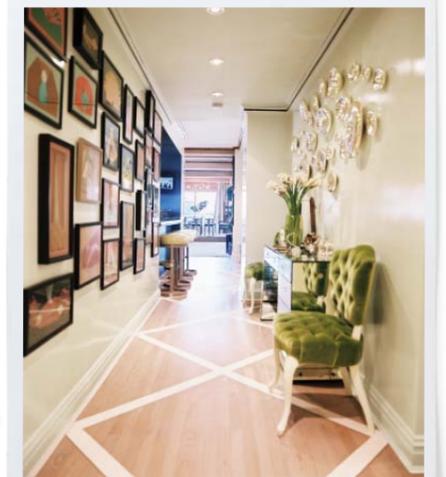
"My living room floor was originally hideous, orangish unfinished wood. Over the course of a weekend, I applied a glossy black base coat and then overlaid a vaguely Russian Constructivist-meets-Op Art geometric pattern inspired by a scrap of vintage fabric. It's showing some wear, but I love its graphic quality against my Chinese-red walls and the jolts of emerald green."

NICK OLSEN



"I'm crazy about shiny red anything, so all the floors in my house are painted glossy Carnival Red by Benjamin Moore. Weirdly, I've found that red is a neutral—it really goes with everything."

ANTHONY BARATTA



"A painted floor is a nice way to break up the monotony of too much wood. And, unlike carpet, this giant shadowed trellis pattern by Christopher Rollinson is doggy, scooter, and skateboard impervious."

CELERIE KEMBLE

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