

There's no quicker or less expensive way to make a dramatic improvement in any home than with a can of paint or a few rolls of wall covering.

Doing it yourself can save significant money, but tackling an entire room – for the first time or the first time in a while -- can make the average homeowner feel all thumbs.

Santos, a fourth generation painting contractor and author of the popular guide "**Painting Secrets,**" a best-seller from Meredith Books, will explain how the pros do it.

In three separate seminars at the show, Santos will tackle basic painting, creating faux finishes and coping with wallpaper and borders.

Armed with buckets and brushes, he'll demonstrate techniques that he has showcased in television appearances on ABC's "Good Morning, America," HGTV's "Smart Solutions," and NBC's "Today" show.

In his first talk, "Painting Secrets," Santos promised to challenge everything homeowners thought they knew about the walls that surround them. He'll teach his audience how to choose paint colors with confidence, pick the right brushes and rollers and use masking tape for the neatest job.

But there's more – you wouldn't think that ordinary household products like plastic wrap and PAM cooking spray belong in the painter's tool kit, but Santos will explain how they can speed up your painting by as much as 400 percent.

Beautiful surface effects can give Plain Jane wall-board or wood trim the luxurious look of marble, leather or aged paneling. These faux finishes used for generations by Hollywood set designers to create convincing illusions for the cameras. In "Faux Finish Secrets," Santos will reveal how to use the three most common techniques, dragging, flogging and whacking, without feeling as if you are torturing your walls.

The third talk, "Wallcovering Secrets," is designed expressly for those who are frustrated by air bubbles trapped beneath wallpaper, borders that fall off the walls and seams lift and peel. Santos can tell you how to repair wallpaper tears in the kids' rooms, strip multiple layers of old wall coverings off the walls without damaging the surface and how to permanently cure common problems in seconds.

If walls could talk, they would encourage every homeowner with a wall renewal project in mind to head for the Wizard's Workshop at the home show. Santos' featured appearances are not the only good reason to visit the only home show created expressly for Shore homeowners.

Brian Santos, Wall Wizard, at Jersey Shore Home Show



Brian Santos, known nationally as the "Wall Wizard," will share his secrets for achieving the perfect paint or wallpaper job when he appears Jan. 13 – 15 at the Jersey Shore Home Show on the Lincroft campus of Brookdale Community College.

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