

In this edition:

**Property, construction & furnishing**

Advertising feature

advertising@cbnews.es

# Autumn home improvements



Now autumn is here, take the opportunity to spruce up your home and make it cosy for the cold months ahead

**A new coat of paint is a great way to give your rooms a new look.**

**Here are some tips on how to correctly use a roller.**

#### How to paint with an emulsion roller

1. Check that the roller has a heavy wire frame and that you'll be able to get replacement sleeves (the bit you apply paint with), so you don't have to bin the whole roller when the sleeve gets worn or you fail to clean it properly.

Roller sleeves take a great deal of cleaning (in water) and if you inadvertently leave any paint to dry on the sleeve, it may ruin the finish the next time you paint.

If you don't have time to clean the sleeve properly, it's tempting to leave it to soak, but this can cause the frame to rust, which bleeds into the paint when you use the roller.

So take the sleeve off the frame first.

2. The roller should be stiff, otherwise it will bend when you apply pressure, causing you to paint unevenly.

To stop a roller shedding fibres, wrap masking tape around the sleeve - when you peel off the tape, any loose fibres should come away with it.

3. The fibres (known as the nap) are made of different materials and come in different lengths.

Some are designed to produce a smooth finish on interior walls; others are for rougher surfaces, such as exterior render. Generally, the shorter the nap, the finer the finish will be.

4. It's handy to have a roller with a screw-thread end because this allows you to screw an extension pole into it for painting ceilings and really high walls, al-

though you can get extension poles/rollers in one.

For painting behind radiators, use a radiator roller, which has a small head and long handle so you can reach down behind the radiator.

You'll have to remove column radiators and towel rails to paint behind them - summer's the ideal time to do this job because you don't need the heating on.

5. One of the main problems with rollers is that they leave 'tracks', which are lines of paint from the side of the roller that ruin the finish.

The more you try and roller these out, the more they can appear, which is very frustrating.

Rollers with bevelled edges are less likely to leave tracks, so look out for these and always check the surface you've just painted for any tracks you've missed - it's often easier to remove them lightly with a paintbrush.

## Keep the heat in and leave the cold out

**An important way of preparing for the cold weather is making your home's windows less draughty and more energy efficient, especially if you live in an older property that has the original windows.**

Replacing windows is expensive, typically costing several thousand euros for a house, but it is worth doing if you can afford to - swapping single-glazed windows for B-rated double-glazed ones could save you around €200 annually.

Remember that double-glazed windows don't have to be made of UPVC - there's more choice of styles and materials than you might think.

If you can't afford to change the windows, or at least the glazing (sometimes you can replace single glazing with double glazing, or fit special heat-retaining glass to the existing windows), there are much cheaper ways to make windows more energy efficient.

These include fitting secondary glazing units or film (clear film you fix in place

across the windows with tape).

Another good DIY option is weatherstripping, which is draught-proofing tape that helps to fill the gap between the frame and the window's moving parts.

In a similar way, brush draught excluders around exterior door frames can be effective at keeping the cold out, as can a brush strip fixed to the bottom of the door - just cut it to fit and screw it in place.

A 'sausage' fabric draught excluder will also help to reduce draughts, as a brush strip will only cover some of the gap - fit it too low, and it will drag on the floor.

And don't forget to fit keyhole covers to stop cold air coming in there.

For extra insulation at this time of year, it's a good idea to fit a curtain pole above the door and hang a heavy curtain across it, especially if the door is partially or fully glazed.

Measures like these should make your home cosier and help to reduce your heating bills, which is always welcome.



# Now also in Spain - 100% solar air conditioning

Cool or heat without electricity!

An absolutely technical innovation has recently enabled the functioning of a solar air-conditioning system **WITHOUT** electricity. Powered exclusively by solar energy, is a German company that is now offering these units here in Spain. These units work without electricity costs are suitable for houses, apartments or even for fincas that are located in areas not connected to the network. Even boats can be equipped with it.

Also a so-called hybrid system is possible, this system works during the day with solar energy and (if necessary) at night with electricity from the network.



Of course, these units can not only cool without electricity costs, but also heat without electricity costs in the winter months. Even at night, the units can be powered by solar batteries, ensuring you 24 hours a day cooling or heating. Up to 60 square meters can be covered with just one unit.

Saving costs in electricity bills ranging from as low as 800 € and up to 3,000 € annually compared to conventional air conditioning.

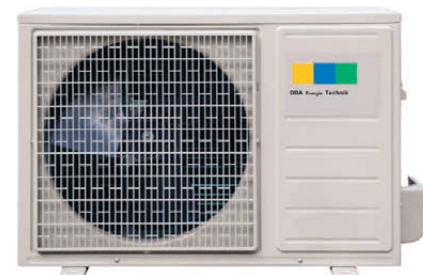
DBA Energie Technik has been working in this field since 2011 and has been offering these units here in Spain since August 2018 and now also has installers on site. Thus, not only the installation of the systems, but also the



service is ensured here on site.

Another service of DBA Energie Technik:

Interested persons receive (after an on-site inspection) a free and non-binding offer. You can then choose which unit you would like. Experts from the company advise you free of charge and without obligation and discuss the installation with you.



Air conditioning technology by a specialist  
**DBA ENERGIE TECHNIK**  
 Tel. Spain: +34 966 868 328  
 Tel. Germany: +49 177 749 2233  
 web: [www.dba-energie-technik.de](http://www.dba-energie-technik.de)  
 Mail: [zentrale@dba-energie-technik.de](mailto:zentrale@dba-energie-technik.de)

# No need to empty your pool for repairs

WORKINPOOLS can carry out pool repairs without having to empty it, allowing the owner to save money and benefit the environment.

They are experts replacing tiles, locate and fix leaks, manufacturing and installation of handrails, rust stains reparations, spotlights replacement and repair, among other jobs... using a unique adhesive material which makes all the difference when it comes to the end result.

This allows them to provide the best possible finish with effective results and offer a 5 year guarantee.

We recommend you visit our website [www.workin-pools.com](http://www.workin-pools.com) to appreciate the finish and effectiveness of our work so you can check the before and after several jobs that we have done.

It is important to know that the tone of the tile is carefully selected to allow it to mix with the pool environment, which means that the areas where the repair is carried out will later be indistinguishable.

Their work techniques do not create rubble or dirty the water and drying times are minimal.

Workinpools is able to work

without interfering with the use of the installations, allowing their clients to continue using their pools during the day as their products do not affect the health and are respectful of the environment.

They specialise exclusively in swimming pools, providing solutions for all the problems quickly and effectively, being faster, more efficient and more precise.

With proven experience, unquestionable work ethics and commitment to do the best job possible, the company is innovative through continuous development at the same time they apply techniques to allow costs, to be kept down in all their works, which is highly recommended by its clients. Our rates are affordable for all the customers.

Based in Benidorm, Workin-pools cover the whole of the Valencian Community, carrying out work for all types of clients from large hotel chains to residential community managers and also providing an excellent service to individual owners.



For more information  
[contact@workinpools.com](mailto:contact@workinpools.com)  
 or call  
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## Solar Air Conditioner

World's first

... these units work without being connected to the mains, saving you a fortune on electricity costs!

The units have their own electricity supply by solar panels. They are like conventional units providing heat and cold air!

Get in touch today to get your non-binding quote! Simply let us know the area that needs to be covered.

**DBA Energie Technik**  
 100% Autarkie für Strom und Heizung

Tel. Spain (Albir): +34 966 868 328 · Tel. Germany (Leipzig): +49 177 749 2233  
[zentrale@dba-energie-technik.de](mailto:zentrale@dba-energie-technik.de) · [www.dba-energie-technik.de](http://www.dba-energie-technik.de)