

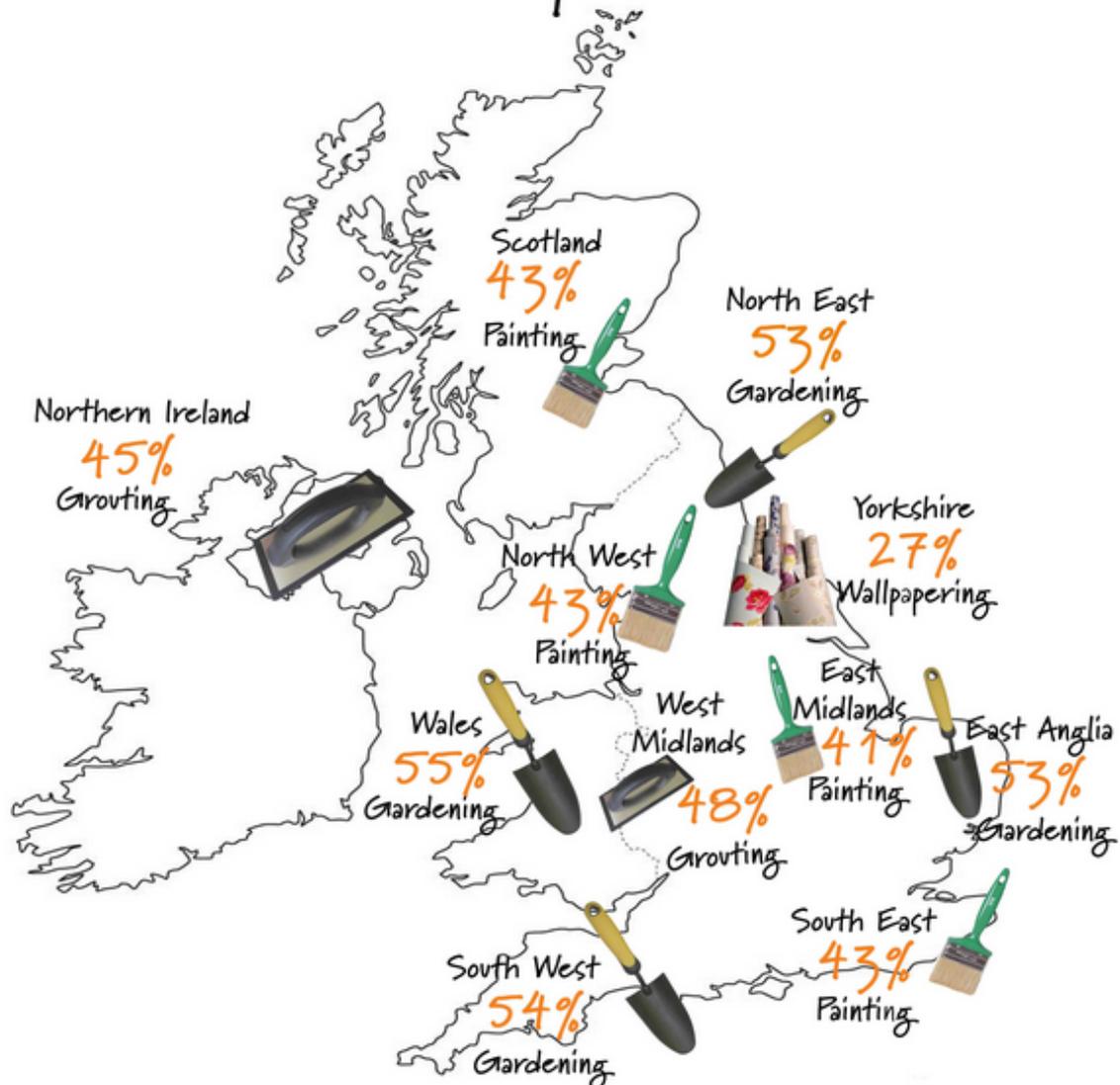
19.2* million of Brits are scared of DIY...but we're not a nation of quitters

Date: May 2013

With May Bank Holiday around the corner, a popular weekend for DIY, new research from B&Q unveils that DIY is being avoided by over 19 million UK adults because they are concerned they cannot deliver a quality finish.

However, despite a lack in confidence, 45 per cent of Brits are still planning on repainting some rooms, plus doing all the little DIY jobs which have been waiting and gardening this weekend.

The UK's Top Jobs for the Bank Holiday Weekend



Regionally, this weekend, 43 per cent of DIY happy Scots and South Easterners plan to get painting, whilst getting to grips with the garden is top of the list for those in the North East, Wales, South East and East Anglia. In general, a quarter of Brits are planning on doing more DIY this year.

Help is at hand this Bank Holiday weekend for those doing some DIY – back by popular demand are B&Q's expert You Can Do It Crew, who will be taking to the airwaves to offer online help to those in need.

Customers can simply go to www.diy.com/howdoi for free live help and advice from the B&Q experts via Twitter, Facebook and telephone – the perfect online Bank Holiday help service meaning more customers can get handy over the weekend without the arguments.

It seems the state of the nation's 'unloved rooms' can lead to quarrels. More than 15million arguments between couples are sparked off by unfinished jobs or because of an unloved room in the home.

Women, who fiercely defend decor choices, are most likely to grumble over the state of their homes and unloved rooms. 31 per cent of females vs 24 per cent of males unashamedly admit to this. But, the good news is, the older we get, the less likely we are to argue about home improvements. 77 per cent of couples polled aged over-55 are prepared to let things go, compared to 69 per cent aged between 35-44.

Couples in the East Midlands will be having the least disagreements about their 'unloved rooms' this weekend, closely followed by the North West (23%) and then Scotland (25%).

Kirstie Allsopp TV presenter and B&Q Ambassador says: "My tips for a harmonious DIY Bank Holiday weekend include making sure your 'man drawer' is up to date, stocked with bulbs and fuses, screwdrivers and screws, Sellotape and scissors, all the handy things we always look for and can never find! Pick your moments, agree on a project and make sure you complete the project as a couple. The purpose of decorating is to enhance a relationship, as well as the home."

As well as expert advice from the You Can Do It Crew, B&Q has trained to date 64,000 people through its in store workshops, at its You Can Do It Centres. From how to hang wallpaper, to how to lay a floor, simply book a class to learn the skills to DIY.

If getting along to DIY workshop is not possible, couples can log onto B&Q's YouTube channel from the comfort of home to learn home improvement from over 100 'How To' videos. The videos cover everything from how to lay decking to how to create the perfect summer party.

B&Q's celebrity ambassador Kirstie Allsopp has also filmed her own 'how to' videos to pass on her expert knowledge to the nation. Check out her videos by logging onto www.youtube.com/bandq.

*B&Q State of the Nation survey of 2000 UK adults, March 2013

Link: <http://media.diy.com/2013/05/03/19-2-million-of-brits-are-scared-of-diybut-were-not-a-nation-of-quitters/>