

alcove cupboard and wardrobe t's & c's and info (wardrobe terms/info start near the bottom of page 2)

alcoves cupboards

1, THE METHOD, All the parts needed for your units are made and painted off-site in my workshop several days/weeks before fitting day.

The fitting stage of the process (for a pair of units) is split into 2 sessions over 2 days.

2, THE BASICS when ordering my units, you will get my units, made by me, my way, by hand.

I've made around 1300 units and counting...

My cupboards are made of mdf, with pine mouldings and battens.

Cupboards are unlined and bookcases are unbacked, this means you will see your floor and walls inside the cupboards.

Being hand-made, hand painted and bespoke, please do not expect my units to look mass produced or like any other firms units, they will look like newly painted period units.

They will look like those units shown on my site with some variations in proportion, period or style, depending on each unique situation. My standard units have plenty of period mouldings included, "Shaker" style units, for example, have fewer mouldings, 30's style units have panelled doors in a different orientation and a smaller panel moulding, but my units are basically made the same way.

THE DETAILS

3, DOORS have recessed panels on the front only.

Joinery lines are retained to enhance the period look.

4, HINGES, are painted in. They are seen, they are not kitchen hinges. Paint can sometimes remove itself with use. (all part of the period look I think) we can avoid painting the hinges if asked on paint day.

5, KNOBS are turned wood. I have a selection of sizes. I use 40mm knobs on alcove cupboards.

If you supply alternative knobs then i'll be pleased to fit them, if they are great.

6, CATCHES, I use roller catches only, these are often fixed on top of shelves to prevent locking.

7, SKIRTING, My skirting will probably not match yours and my architrave will not match your picture rail, nor is it intended to.

8, SHELVES, Please make sure you know/or have a very good idea of where you'd like your shelves to be placed. If you've got or getting a TV, please let me know it's height (including the base) so I can place shelves appropriately.

If you'd like to leave it up to me then i'll do what I think is the most aesthetically pleasing, they can't be moved afterwards. Shelves are not adjustable. (by me anyway)

I include 3 shelves per bookcase and they have a 46mm pine front. Please bear this in mind if you want to work out your preferred shelf positions. Support battens are seen under the shelves and are painted.

I can't take money off if you choose not to have shelves that are included. I include those that i've agreed to include and these can be placed in either unit as required.

Extra shelves cost extra. see price list.

Extra decorative pieces seen on some bookcases in the online pictures are an option.

Please ask for pics.

9, PLUG HOLES & CABLE RUNS, I usually supply a very neat 75mm square cut-out against the back wall in the lid and internal shelf for the tv plug and scarts (if required), I usually drill 10mm round holes in the non TV unit if required (for a cable), unless a 75mm or any other size hole is requested before fitting. Please note that in my opinion a large hole in the non tv cupboard will look terrible for ever without a tv to hide it, but i'll do it if ordered in time.

A neat 75mm cut-out cannot be made in either unit once fitted, only round holes can be drilled after fitting.

10, CARPET AND FLOORS, I can easily fit units on top of carpet or if you'd prefer your units not to be fixed through carpet then please advise me before fitting begins. I am not a carpet fitter so if the carpet is cut or pulled back it'll need to be professionally refitted or disposed of.

I do not undertake restoration of flooring or skirting where carpets has been removed, so please check out your floors and make repairs if needed well before fitting day.

Ash black or dark wood floors are more of a potential total nightmare for me than any other type. I'm not responsible for damage to any floor type. Obviously I try my best to be careful but this is a strict term/condition that you must accept before offering me the job. Please see item 15.

11, PAINT FINISH & COLOURS, Brilliant white Leyland oil based eggshell is included.

Anything else is charged for at full cost. Leftovers are yours and left on site.

If you require anything other than leyland brilliant white you must tell me at least 2 weeks before the agreed fitting days.

We use Leyland oil based eggshell as a base for colours.

If you require any other brand then that's fine but we charge for it as we would any colour.
We'll need to know your final colour choice or preferred brand or anything to do with paints at least 2 weeks before fitting.
Oil paint is smelly on the last day of fitting and can take 2/3 days to fully dry.
We supply trade equivalent colours at your cost and at your risk.
Any colour from any firm is usually available.
Repainting/re-purchasing different colours is not possible within the painted quote.
We accept no responsibility for the quality of finish of acrylic/water based paints that you may choose, as oil is best, we recommend oil only.
UNPAINTED, If you choose the unpainted option, units are supplied unprimed as bare MDF, all easily seen construction holes are filled/sanded back and ready to paint. Internal cupboard holes are not filled.

12, YOUR WALLS, During fitting it will be necessary to mark walls with pencil lines, this is normal and to be expected so please supply a small quantity of your room paints to cover these and for all the necessary touch-ups.
A professional job is not possible without wall paint.
We do not supply wall paint.
We don't paint your walls inside the cupboards or behind bookshelves other than to touch-up.
Wall paint must be in good condition or we might not be able to use it.
If you find our touch-ups are the wrong colour due to a mistake with the paint you've supplied or the paint being old or the walls have faded or for any other reason etc then we can't re-do this complimentary work.
Asking us to paint next to decorative wallpaper is very difficult and could easily go wrong, please have fancy wallpapers hung after the cupboards are fitted, we try very hard not to damage wallpaper but we are not responsible for accidental damage.
Our touch-ups are pretty seamless where the wall and cupboard colours are similar in tone, touch-ups on greatly differing paint tones can be very difficult, please bear in mind that i'm a cupboard maker and not a full time painter, unfortunately you may need arrange a painter yourself if you find our complimentary work isn't as crisp as you'd like, or have contrasting wall colours painted after the cupboards are fitted.

13, SPACE AND YOUR STUFF, Please ensure that there is plenty of space for me to work in the fitting room, at least enough for my collapsible workbench, all the cupboard parts, tools etc. My preferred site is empty and ventilated. I supply plenty of dust sheets and all my tools have professional dust extraction, however some very fine mdf dust may settle so please remove all and any fragile/easily damaged belongings. (art, chandeliers, ancient artifacts, heirlooms, urns, pets, relatives etc) Please completely clear objects around and on fireplaces, all clothes, even those hanging behind doors, and anything else I've forgotten. Objects left in the fitting room are a constant hindrance and will likely get damaged. I accept no responsibility for anything left in the fitting room. The quote you've received is based on my being able to complete the work on schedule, therefore please ensure any electrical/and other works are completed before I start fitting. I'll need an uninterrupted power supply and a clean site to enable me to work efficiently and to provide a good paint finish.

14, PARKING, If you live in a controlled zone..... It is essential that you supply parking permits for myself and the painter as requested.
Any issues or problems encountered on the fitting days will likely mean the cancellation of the job so please do anything and everything you need to do to ensure that parking is something I wont have deal with with/worry about/think about or pay for. The quote clearly does not cover parking costs.

15, LEGAL & OTHER STUFF, I thoroughly test and check any wall to be drilled however I cannot be held responsible for accidental damage to loose plaster/render, water pipes or cables. I make every effort to avoid damaging carpets or flooring, however any building work can potentially cause accidental damage, in this unfortunate and unlikely situation it is at your risk so please supply opened-out cardboard boxes or extra dust sheets (beyond those supplied by me) to help protect your own floors. I am not responsible for damage to floors or anything else. I'm covered by public liability insurance. Please inform me of the position of cables or pipes known to you, also the location of your water stop-cock and fuse box, before fitting. A full spec of the construction methods and parts spec used is available on request before fitting commences. Units are constructed using battens and panels which are fixed into walls and floor in the traditional manner. All these parts are subject to alteration due to changes in each specific situation in respect of proportion and style. Some of the mouldings shown on the site can become unavailable from time to time but the mouldings used, if different from those shown, will be the improved versions. (like those shown or better/more glam)

16, PAYMENT, Full payment by direct bank transfer promptly upon completion please. No deposit required.

Wardrobes

1, THE METHOD, All the parts are made and painted off-site in my workshops several days before fitting day, the fitting process and final painting is therefore as fast and as clean as is possible.

2, THE DETAILS, My cupboards are made from MDF with pine mouldings and battens.
Cupboards are unlined and unbacked. This means you will see your floor and walls inside the cupboards.

We do not paint your walls inside the cupboards other than to touch-up. Frame nearest outside wall may be larger than frame near chimney breast to allow for differences in alcove width. (usually just a couple of inches, in the traditional manner)

Depth is 22" approx, please advise if you want something other. Double hanging needs a minimum 82" height. Low shelves can be rendered useless if clothes from above foul them. The area behind my skirting is great for shoes.

Wardrobes have a frame which restricts access into the cupboard, If you are considering planning your own interior shelf arrangement then please allow for this. The full width of the alcove is available inside the unit.

Being hand-made, hand painted and bespoke, please do not expect my units to look mass produced, they will look like newly painted period units.

They will look like those units shown on my site with some variations in proportion depending on each unique situation. My units are of my design and mine only. I can't usually copy existing units. Please don't expect my units to be anything other than like those shown on the site, they are not "factory made", they are made by me by hand, and painted by my painter by hand, but you can expect them to be beautiful and appropriate for a period setting, as if they had always been there.

DOORS have recessed panels on the front only. Joint lines are seen to enhance the period look.

HINGES, I use real hinges which are seen, they are painted in. The paint might well remove itself with use.

KNOBS that I include are painted, 45mm turned wood. I'll fit for free any you wish to supply.

CATCHES, I use roller catches, often fixed on top of shelves to prevent locking.

HANGING RAILS are 19mm chrome if seen, white if not seen, all with chrome fittings (screws are gold or silver colour, chrome screws are not used because they are pants) I use my own screws which are countersunk style, these may protrude slightly as the fittings are not countersunk, they are far superior though and will never fail.

SKIRTING, I use my own skirting, which meets yours but does not match, this is so the doors can be as long and as elegant as possible. If you'd like skirting to match then please inform me of this at the outset so I can quote for the extra work to fit it, you'll need to supply it and have it available on the first fitting day. I may charge to fit it though.

BATTENS, Internal battening below 4' is supplied to satisfy structural necessity only and is unpainted, any battening which is seen, such as in open bookshelves or any placed above 4' such as inside wardrobes is supplied with 'all round' battening only where aesthetically appropriate or practically necessary and is painted. Only shelves over 22" will have a pine front. Shelves supported by a supporting divider from below will not have a pine front, as per the internal images. All internal fixings made into walls are un-filled to allow for the possibility of removal.

MIRRORS, I'm happy to fit mirrors inside wardrobes if present on the first fitting day so that I can make space for it behind the door. I do not supply them or collect them as they are expensive and fragile. Whilst I take great care when fitting them, I'm not responsible for breakages under any circumstances. If successfully fitted, the charge is £25 per mirror, which includes my preferred brushed satin/chrome corner brackets.

CARPET AND FLOORS, I can fit on top of carpet, floating floors or floorboards. I am not a carpet fitter so if the carpet is cut it will likely need totally replacing or I can pull it back from the affected area, but I don't undertake re-fitting. I do not undertake floor or skirting repairs, please make sure the floors and walls etc are ready for the units to be fitting to them, I know a great handyman who can quote to make the space ready.

3, GENERAL. once fitted, my units cannot be moved or altered so please state any specific requirements before fitting begins.

I'm hoping you've chosen my units because you feel that they are "just right" as they are.

In some situations I may be obliged to proceed with practical solutions to structural issues I encounter as a priority over aesthetic considerations. Being hand-made and bespoke, please do not expect my units to be mass produced in appearance, because of this you'll find they settle into their new surroundings appropriately, quickly and as if they had always been there.

I'm very happy to supply photos of previous work so you can see what you're getting.

4, SHELVES, My interior shelving is practical, strong and clean. If you expect a quality of interior such as may be seen in 'free standing' units then please bear in mind that in a 'built-in' situation, given the peculiarities and eccentricities of period property, a 'perfect fit' of internal shelving may be an unreasonable expectation.

I include shelves at a rate of 1 per door, (2 door unit includes 2 shelves, 3 door unit 3 shelves included etc) if required. I do not take any money off if you choose not to have the included shelves.

Extra shelves cost extra and prices are listed on the quote above.

Please be aware that where an internal divider (if requested) splits a shelf into 2, what was 1 shelf now becomes 2 and these 2 shelves are charged for, each. If you're intending to design your own shelf arrangement then please bear this in mind.

Feel free to send me a picture of your preferred shelf arrangement and I'll price it for you/suggest similar but cheaper options if needed. I have a vast collection of internal pics for inspiration.

If you have specific requirements for placing of shelves then please have this written or drawn for me to follow or be ready to discuss on the first fitting day morning.

I cannot make progress without being advised.

If you'd like to design the arrangement then base your plans on the following thicknesses, short shelves are 18mm thick, anything over 25" wide is 46mm thick.

If you leave it for me to decide then that's great but I only place them once, they cannot be removed afterwards.

I often construct short-span shelving in the traditional manner (as boards).

5, PAINT AND YOUR WALLS, Brilliant white Leyland oil-based eggshell paint is included.

Anything else is charged for at full cost, leftovers are yours and left on site.

If you require anything other than leyland brilliant white then please make it clear at least 2 weeks before the agreed fitting days.

If painted, I achieve a hand-painted finish (not sprayed) similar to other interior woodwork. (window frames, doors etc).

Please supply a small quantity of your room paints if you'd like us to touch-up. A professional join is not possible without wall paint. We do not supply wall paint, and we don't paint your walls inside the cupboards or behind bookshelves other than to touch-up, this wall paint must be in good condition, if you find our touch-ups are the wrong colour due to a mistake with the paint or the paint being old or the walls have faded since the last time it was painted etc then please note we only perform touch-ups once.

If you require any other brand then that's fine but we charge for it as we would any colour, or have your painters use leyland oil paint.

Oil paint is smelly on the last day of fitting and can take 2 or even 3 days to dry.

If you are worried about oil paint vapour then we can supply acrylic paint at cost but it's not as good a finish. We accept no responsibility for the quality of finish of acrylic/water based paints that you may choose, as oil is best, we recommend oil.

Our touch-ups are pretty seamless where the wall and cupboard colours are similar in tone, touch-ups on greatly differing paint tones can be very difficult, please bear in mind that i'm a cupboard maker and not a full time painter, unfortunately you may need arrange a painter yourself if our complimentary work isn't as crisp as you'd like, or have dark wall colours painted after the cupboards are fitted.

5a, COLOURS, We'll need to know your final colour choice and anything to do with paints at least 12 days before fitting. We supply trade equivalent colours mixed in Leyland oil based eggshell paint at your cost and at your risk. Any colour from any firm is usually mixable and is supplied in Leyland oil based eggshell, unless you've ordered an alternative or a branded colour.

Repainting/purchasing preferred colours is not possible within the painted quote.

5b, WALLPAPER, Painting next to decorative wallpaper is ultra risky, please have fancy wallpapers hung after the cupboards are in, clearly we try very hard not to damage wallpaper but we are not responsible for accidental damage.

5c, UNPAINTED, units are supplied unprimed, they are bare MDF, all construction holes are filled/sanded back and ready to paint.