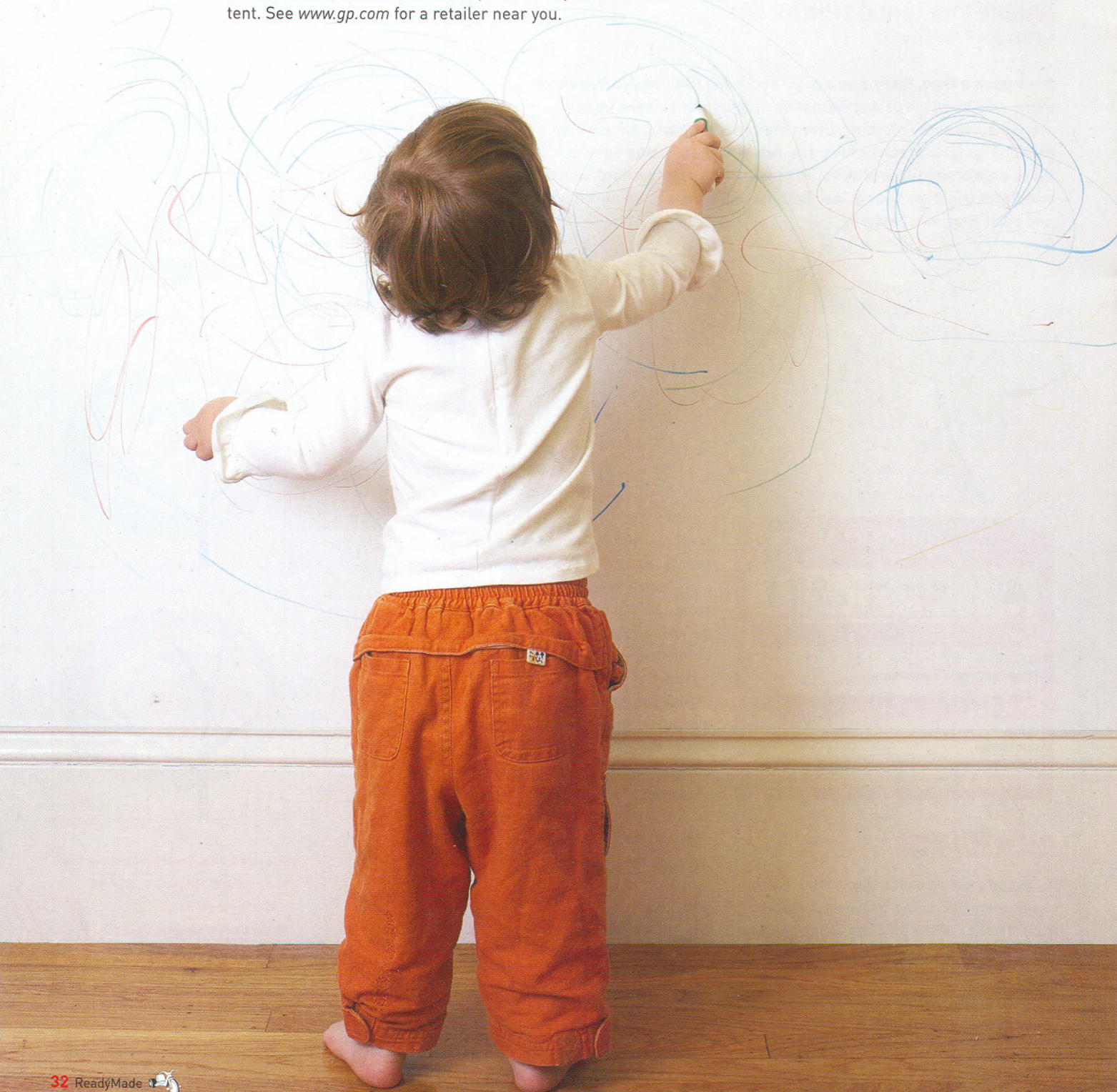


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TAG IT UP

by Steven Dodds

Let your little graffiti artist bomb to her heart's content. No, not by letting her go buck wild with a spray can on the subway, but by mounting child-height dry-erase wainscoting in her room. Georgia Pacific's Mark R Board is our favorite brand. The $\frac{1}{8}$ "-thick hardboard comes in 24" x 48" and 32" x 48" sheets and is made from 100 percent recycled or recovered fiber content. See www.gp.com for a retailer near you.



DRY-ERASE WALLS



\$20



INGREDIENTS:

- ☐ 1/8" white dry-erase board
- ☐ Latex-based adhesive
- ☐ 1 1/2" flat-head ring shank nails
- ☐ Pin nails
- ☐ Molding

TOOLS:

- ☐ Saw
- ☐ Caulk gun
- ☐ Hammer

MAKE IT

1. Cut the dry-erase board to fit the dimensions of your wainscot space. If using a hand or table saw, cut the panels with the finished side facing up. If using a circular saw or saber saw, the face should be down to minimize chipping of the surface. **2.** Every installation will be a little different, but in most cases you can adhere the dry-erase board to the wall by caulking a latex-based adhesive to the back of the board and gluing it on. The less permanent way to install is to simply nail the sheets in place with 1 1/2" flat-head ring shank nails. Either way, be sure to leave a 3/16" gap between the bottom of each panel and the floor or baseboard, and if you're using more than one piece, leave a 1/16" gap between adjacent panels. This allows for expansion and will help keep the board from bowing. **3.** For a finished look, add molding to the top and attach it to the wall with pin nails.

{ SAFETY FIRST }

This project is for kids old enough to know not to put pens in their mouth, or for those with eagle-eyed parents. We recommend choosing alcohol-based low-odor markers.

{ TIP }

Don't make the mistake of thinking this is the same material as the white shower board used in bathrooms. They look alike, but if you leave dry-erase marker scrawls in the shower for more than a few hours, you'd better get used to them—they won't come off.