Paint your own plane? By Dennis Oelmann

I've painted several airplanes and cars myself. What I learned was your garage is a great place to apply primer and get it ready for top coat. Not a good place to spray top coat.  The reason is because it's really hard to get enough airflow to get rid of the overspray and dirt. Wet the floor and get it right.  I would recommend finding a local body shop with a paint booth and work out a deal to paint your plane in two separate jobs. One for the fuselage and one job for wings, control surfaces and cowlings. Use hood racks for the cowls. I hung the wings my a cable from the aileron bolt holes using strong hooks I got at the hardware store.

Make sure your primer is fully cured before top coat. A guy that paints every day is worth a couple hundred bucks in the results you will get. It's best if you can help him handling the parts since some parts are fragile and need to be handled with care. Most car guy won't understand this. The guy who painted a project I worked on was excited about painting an airplane. Paint is expensive. Doing it over would cost more than hiring someone and doing it right. JMHO