

Painting Trades Worker

Painting trades workers apply paint, varnish, wallpaper and other finishes to protect, maintain and decorate surfaces of buildings and structures.

Job title examples

- Painter
- Painter and Decorator

Other jobs in this field of work

What painting trades workers do

- erect scaffolding and ladders, and place drop sheets to protect adjacent areas from paint splattering
- prepare surfaces by removing old paint and wallpaper, fixing woodwork, filling holes and cracks, and smoothing and sealing surfaces
- select and prepare paints to required colours by mixing portions of pigment, oil, and thinning and drying additives
- apply paints, varnishes and stains to surfaces using brushes, rollers and sprays
- hang wallpaper, match patterns and trim edges
- clean equipment and work areas
- may repair windows and replace glass in wooden and metal frames
- may lay and repair wall and floor tiles

Main employing industries

- Construction

Qualifications

The following government subsidised qualification is available in NSW:

Certificate III in Painting and Decorating available as an apprenticeship or qualification

Apprenticeships and traineeships: Find out how to get an [apprenticeship or traineeship](#).

Course fees: You may be eligible for government subsidised training under Smart and Skilled. Go to the [Course Finder](#) to find training in your area, estimate your fee and find a training provider.

Job prospects and pay



- There are around 14,857 painting trades workers working in NSW.
- Over the next four years, employment in this occupation is expected to decline in NSW.
- Employers report current shortages of painting trades workers in Sydney and regional NSW across a range of business types including specialist painting and decorating firms, construction companies, property services and large organisations with their own in-house painting services (such as hotels and community clubs).

Average weekly full time earnings (before tax):

- Painting Trades Workers: \$966
- All occupations: \$1,200

Related jobs



- Floor Finisher
- Plasterer
- Wall and Floor Tiler

To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit the [Job Guides Homepage](#).

Information sources

Occupations: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 1220.0

Employment: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly, 6291.0.55.003

Skills shortages: Department of Employment, Skill Shortage List NSW 2015-16

Job prospects: Centre of Policy Studies (CoPS), Victoria University, Employment Forecast Data for NSW 2015/16 to 2022/23

Earnings: Department of Employment, joboutlook.gov.au, based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014