



| NSW Department of Education

# Painting Trades Worker

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

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## Job title examples

- Painter
- Painter and Decorator

## 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 qualifications are 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.



To find out more regarding these related jobs, visit [education.nsw.gov.au/job-guides](http://education.nsw.gov.au/job-guides).

## 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

### 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](http://joboutlook.gov.au), based on ABS Characteristics of Employment Survey, August 2014