



**CPC30611 Certificate III in Painting and
Decorating**

**CPCCPD2011A – Handle Painting and Decorating
Materials**

STUDENT HANDOUT

Hazardous Materials

WHAT ARE THE MATERIALS THAT ARE HEALTH HAZARDS IN COATINGS AND ON SURFACES?

Hazardous pigments and chemicals are identified and the hazard stated:

In the early days of paint manufacture there were a number of ingredients which were a danger to health. Even today, there are thinner solvents that are regarded as very dangerous. There is a growing recognition of a link between these products and some cancers.

It must be recommended that the preparation of old paint coatings can be just as dangerous as applying most technically advanced modern-day coatings.

Any building over 35 years of age is likely to have been painted with lead-based paint. Until 1965 lead was regularly used in paints. Lead in paint and contaminated dust and soil as the paint breaks down is now recognised as a significant source of lead toxicity and is therefore an important occupational and public health issue.

How should you prepare these surfaces?

Before working, ensure occupants, particularly children and pets are not exposed in any way to the hazard. If necessary, arrange for the house to be vacant before work begins.

Keep children and pets away from the work area.

Be sure to keep all doors and windows shut during the working time to prevent contamination from outside.

When preparing surfaces containing old lead paint, dry sanding by hand or machine is not recommended as free-floating dust will contaminate a wide area. Where sanding machinery is to be used, an effective filter or dust collection bag must be fitted. A face mask fitted with a toxic dust filter must be worn whenever sanding is being carried out.

Collect all paint debris on a groundsheet. If you are working on a scaffold, tie a sheet below to catch falling debris.

Clean the area around the groundsheet with a vacuum cleaner (with HEPA filter) to collect up any other paint debris. The aim is to minimise the paint particles being scattered by the wind.

If you are burning off, all debris must be collected and placed in an airtight bag. A face mask must be worn fitted with correct filter for protection against toxic fumes. Do not burn paint debris as a way of disposal.

Place all debris in a sealed bag and dispose of it to the Toxic Waste Dump. Phone your local Council for details.

How do I protect myself?

At meal breaks, take off your contaminated overalls and always wash your hands before eating. Do not smoke whilst you have lead dust on your hands as this may transfer contamination to your face and mouth.

Wash off any dust contamination as soon as practicable as lead may be absorbed through the skin into the body.

Leave your dust contaminated overalls at work at the end of day. Do not wear them off site anywhere as this will spread lead dust wherever you go.

At the completion of the work, or at least twice each week, change your overalls and take them home in a sealed bag and wash them separately.

You must wear the correct dust mask to prevent inhaling the toxic lead dust.

The removal of lead-based coatings is controlled by OSH regulations.

To test for lead paint, a simple test can be undertaken using a kit available from most paint retailers. A solution of water and Sulphur will turn grey to brown when applied in the presence of lead.

HANDLING PAINTING & DECORATING MATERIALS

SITE CLEANLINESS



Every painter will recognise paint corners on site that often look like this – they are:

***FIRE HAZARDS**

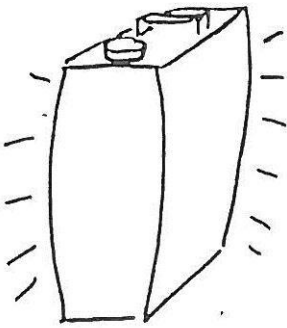
***ENCOURAGEMENT TO VERMIN**

***DIRTY**

***WASTEFUL**

When arriving on a new site, set up a work bench. Store paints neatly with lids on. Throw out all rag, newspaper, cigarette ends, etc., at frequent intervals. Protective sheets of hardboard will keep the floor surface clean.

- **Read carefully** all specifications describing how work should be carried out. If in doubt, ask you supervisor or manager before starting work. It is better to do this than cause costly mistakes.
 - **Read the manufacturer's literature**, which explains the way that a paint is intended to be used if you have not used it before.
- ... also read the instructions written on almost all paint containers.
- ... it is surprising sometimes how much information the label carries.

	<p>Take great care when opening cans, especially if they have become warm and solvent fumes inside have swollen the tin. The build-up may explode in your face.</p> <p>COVER CAP AREA WITH A PROTECTIVE RAG</p>
--	--

VENTILATE by opening doors and windows when using inside.

<p>NO SMOKING!</p>
<p>This should be the rule because, even though many materials will not burn, the fumes, if drawn through a cigarette, will cause harmful gases to be formed that could damage your lungs.</p>

IN CONCLUSION. . .

- 1 Set up a storage space out of the direct sunlight or heat source.
- 2 Keep the storage space clean and tidy.
- 3 Wipe away any spillages immediately.
- 4 Keep lids on tins (all products).
- 5 Lay out solvent or thinner soaked rags to dry out.
- 6 Dispose of empty product containers regularly.
- 7 Keep the area well ventilated.
- 8 Do not eat or drink in the storage area.
- 9 If in doubt check the MSDS for handling advice.
- 10 Always use the appropriate personal protective equipment.