

Painters, Construction and Maintenance

SOC: 47-2141 • Career Profile Report

■ Key Facts

\$48,660 Median Salary	342,200 Employment	+4.0% Growth Rate
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■ Requirements & Salary Range

Education: No formal educational credential

■ Automation Risk Assessment

Medium Risk - 35.0% probability of being automated in the next 10-20 years.
This job has some routine elements but still requires human judgment and interaction.

■ Work-Life Balance

6.2/10 - Good work-life balance

■ Personality Fit (RIASEC)

Higher scores indicate better personality fit for this career type.

Realistic	9.4/10	Investigative	5.8/10
Artistic	4.0/10	Social	5.0/10
Enterprising	5.0/10	Conventional	6.0/10

■ Top Skills Required

Ability to work at heights, Communication skills, Detail oriented, Physical stamina, Physical strength

✓ Strengths

- High Demand
- Flexible Work
- Continuous Learning

■ Challenges

- Burnout Risk
- Rapid Technological Change

■ What They Do

Painters, Construction and Maintenance apply paint, coatings, and finishes **to buildings, bridges, machinery, and other structures**. They prepare surfaces, select appropriate materials, and ensure durable, aesthetically pleasing results. Their work is critical in construction, maintenance, and renovation projects.

This career is well suited for individuals who enjoy hands-on work, attention to detail, and working with tools and materials.

What Do Painters, Construction and Maintenance Do?

These professionals prepare surfaces and apply paints or coatings to structures and objects.

Common responsibilities include:

- Preparing surfaces by cleaning, sanding, or priming
- Selecting and mixing paints, stains, and coatings
- Applying paint, varnish, or protective coatings with brushes, rollers, or spray equipment
- Repairing surfaces and filling cracks or holes before painting
- Inspecting finished work for quality and consistency
- Maintaining tools, equipment, and work areas
- Following safety procedures and environmental regulations

Key Areas of Construction and Maintenance Painting

Painters may specialize in specific materials, surfaces, or methods:

- Residential and Commercial Painting: Painting homes, offices, and buildings
- Industrial Coatings: Applying protective coatings to machinery, bridges, and structures
- Surface Preparation and Repair: Sanding, priming, and patching surfaces
- Specialty Finishes: Using decorative or protective finishes, such as fireproofing or waterproofing
- Color Matching and Mixing: Ensuring consistent and precise finishes

Skills and Abilities Needed

Painters combine technical skill, precision, and knowledge of materials.

Core Professional Skills

Personal Qualities That Matter

Education and Career Pathway

This role typically requires vocational training or on-the-job experience:

- High School Diploma or GED (minimum): Basic math, technical, and communication skills
- Apprenticeship or Vocational Training: Learning painting techniques, surface preparation, and safety
- On-the-Job Training: Gaining practical experience in construction and maintenance painting
- Continuous Learning: Staying current on new materials, coatings, and safety standards

Where Do Painters, Construction and Maintenance Work?

They are employed in construction, maintenance, and industrial facilities:

- Residential and Commercial Construction
- Industrial and Manufacturing Facilities
- Bridge and Infrastructure Maintenance
- Renovation and Remodeling Services
- Specialty Coating and Finishing Companies

Work environments include construction sites, industrial settings, and outdoor or indoor maintenance locations.

Is This Career Difficult?

This career requires physical stamina, precision, and attention to detail. Painters must work safely, produce high-quality finishes, and adapt to varied work environments.

Who Should Consider This Career?

This career may be a strong fit if you:

- Enjoy hands-on work and working with tools and materials
- Are detail-oriented and precise
- Can perform physical tasks in diverse settings
- Have problem-solving skills and safety awareness
- Want a career creating visible, high-quality results in construction and maintenance

How to Prepare Early

- Take courses in industrial arts, construction, or painting
- Gain experience through apprenticeships, vocational programs, or hands-on projects
- Practice surface preparation, coating application, and color mixing
- Learn safety procedures and protective equipment usage
- Stay informed on new painting techniques, materials, and industry standards

Painters in construction and maintenance ensure that structures and surfaces are properly coated and finished, contributing to durability, aesthetics, and safety.

*Generated by StartRight • Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics & O*NET*

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/construction-and-extraction/painters-construction-and-maintenance.htm>