

## What does it take to become a **SPRAYPAINTER?**

Spraypainters apply the right colour and finish to cars and other vehicles to cover repairs or remove scratches and minor damage, making sure that the newly painted areas match the rest of the car. They remove grease, dirt, paint, and rust in preparation for paint application, using abrasives, solvents, brushes and sandblasters. They adjust spraygun nozzles and paint mixes in order to get the proper paint flow and coating thickness. They communicate with clients, employers and other employees to plan and execute painting jobs on a variety of vehicles. Some spraypainters may need vehicle collision repair capabilities as well.

### Skills & Knowledge

High school courses in arts, mathematics and science are considered useful. Spraypainters need to be physically fit and strong, whilst possessing a good mixture of practical and creative skills; a good sense of timing and visual awareness; a high level of attention to detail; and the ability to work under pressure and meet tight deadlines. Safety consciousness is of utmost importance as spraypainters follow strict safety procedures for using hazardous materials. Spraypainters need to have normal colour vision, and not have breathing problems.

### Training

Training is offered at registered training institutions. Many vehicle repair and spraypainting companies take in prospective spraypainters to learn the trade on the job as labourers on car collision repair projects, selecting those able to follow instructions and who demonstrate talent and initiative for full apprenticeship. Amassing industry experience is of utmost importance in building resumes, as employers prefer well-experienced workers.



### Working Conditions

Spraypainters usually work regular business hours in paint shops and workshops or on clients' sites, including road and rail bridges, in conditions that may be noisy and fume-y. However, they can also work long and unusual schedules, based on the availability of jobs and the scheduling of projects. Shift work may be required when working as part of teams on major projects. Workshops attach significant importance to safety and it is important for spraypainters to adhere to such requirements.



### Job Prospects

Spraypainters typically work for specialist paint shops and car collision repair companies, industrial companies and joinery and furniture manufacturing companies making items such as cabinets and doors. Many spraypainters are self-employed and those with established clientele tend to earn more than their salaried counterparts

You too can live your passion and qualify as a Spraypainter. If you are creative and detail-oriented and have normal colour vision and a medical record clear of breathing problems, you are a good candidate.

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