



SAFETY BRIEF

WORKING WITH PAINTS SAFELY

Working with paints can be a hazardous job if you have prolonged or repeated exposure. Since paints can create long-term health effects, it's important to be aware of the hazards and know how to safely work with them.

KNOW THE HAZARDS

Short- and long-term hazards associated with paints can include:

- Dizziness
- Eye irritation
- Nausea
- Shortness of breath
- Kidney damage
- Cancer

PROTECT YOURSELF

Before beginning work, check the product's safety data sheet (SDS) for information specific to the chemical(s) you'll be working with. Take note of what precautions you should take and what personal protective equipment (PPE) you should use. Here are some general guidelines:

- Use a less hazardous material if possible
- Use a spray booth to avoid breathing in paint vapors and to prevent explosion hazards
- Keep solvents away from heat sources
- Wear PPE such as safety glasses or goggles and an appropriate respirator
- Avoid painting in areas that are not well ventilated

- Use the correct respirator when working with polyurethane paints in enclosed areas
- If you need to use a ladder, make sure it's in safe working condition
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while working with paints

CLEANING AND STORAGE SAFETY

- Use soap and water to clean your hands when you're done working
- Remove any clothing that becomes soaked in solvents
- Keep all containers tightly sealed when not in use
- Store the paint in ventilated, nonsmoking areas to prevent ignition
- Dispose of empty containers or cans in the appropriate receptacle



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