



# Painter and Decorator Guide to Course Content

2026



Online: [www.saskapprenticeship.ca](http://www.saskapprenticeship.ca)

*Recognition:*

*To promote transparency and consistency, this document has been adapted from the 2022 Painter and Decorator Red Seal Occupational Standard (Employment and Social Development Canada).*

*A complete version of the Occupational Standard can be found at [www.red-seal.ca](http://www.red-seal.ca)*

# STRUCTURE OF THE GUIDE TO COURSE CONTENT

To facilitate understanding of the occupation, this guide to course content contains the following sections:

**Task Matrix:** a chart which outlines graphically the major work activities, tasks and sub-tasks of this standard detailing the essential skills and the level of training where the content is covered. The Task Matrix is broken down into the following:

**Major Work Activity (MWA):** the largest division within the standard that is comprised of a distinct set of trade activities.

**Task:** distinct actions that describe the activities within a major work activity.

**Sub-task:** distinct actions that describe the activities within a task.

**Training Profile Chart:** a chart which outlines the model for Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission (SATCC) technical training.

**Technical Training Course Content for the Painter Decorator trade:** a chart which outlines the model for technical training sequencing. For the harmonized level of training, a cross reference to the Harmonized apprenticeship technical training sequencing, at the learning outcome level, is provided.

# TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PAINTER AND DECORATOR TRADE

To graduate from each level of the apprenticeship program, an apprentice must successfully complete the required technical training and compile enough on-the-job experience to total at least 1800 hours each year. Total trade time required is 5400 hours and at least 3 years in the trade.

There are three levels of technical training delivered by Prairie Finishing Trades Institute in Edmonton Alberta:

- Level One: 8 weeks
- Level Two: 8 weeks
- Level Three: 8 weeks

The information contained in this guide to course content details the technical training delivered for each level of apprenticeship. An apprentice spends approximately 15% of their apprenticeship term in a technical training institute learning the technical and theoretical aspects of the trade. The hours and percentages of technical and practical training may vary according to class needs and progress.

The content of the technical training components is subject to change without notice.

## Entrance Requirements for Apprenticeship Training

Your grade twelve transcripts (with no modified classes) or GED 12 is your guarantee that you meet the educational entrance requirements for apprenticeship in Saskatchewan. In fact, employers prefer and recommend apprentices who have completed high school. This ensures the individual has all of the necessary skills required to successfully complete the apprenticeship program and receive journey person certification.

Individuals with “modified” or “general” classes in math or science do not meet our entry requirements. These individuals are required to take an entrance assessment prescribed by the SATCC.

English is the language of instruction in all apprenticeship programs and is the common language for business in Saskatchewan. Before admission, all apprentices and/or “upgraders” must be able to understand and communicate in the English language. Applicants whose first language is not English must have a minimum Canadian Language Benchmark Assessment of six (CLB6).

Note: A CLB assessment is valid for a one-year period from date of issue.

Designated Trade Name	Minimum Class Requirements		Recommended /Assets
	Mathematics (one of the following)	Science	
Painter and Decorator	<b>WA</b> 10 or <b>F</b> 10 or <b>P</b> 10 or <b>Math</b> 10	10	<b>3, 5, 7</b>
<b>WA</b> - Workplace and Apprenticeship; <b>F</b> – Foundations; <b>P</b> – Pre-calculus; <b>1</b> Biology 10; <b>2</b> Chemistry 20; <b>3</b> Physics 20; <b>4</b> Biology 30; <b>5</b> Chemistry 30; <b>6</b> Physics 30; <b>7</b> English and Math at Level 30			

# PAINTER AND DECORATOR TASK MATRIX

This chart outlines the major work activities, tasks and sub-tasks from the 2022 Painter and Decorator Red Seal Occupational Standard. Each sub-task details the corresponding essential skill.

\* Sub Tasks with numbers in the boxes is where the content will be delivered in training. The Task Matrix will be updated every year until Harmonization implementation is complete. Implementation for harmonization will take place progressively. Level one to be implemented in 2021/2022, level two 2022/2023, and level three 2023/2024.

## A - Performs common occupational skills

**16%**

<b>Task A-1</b> Performs safety-related functions	<b>1.01 Uses personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment</b>  1	<b>1.02 Maintains safe work environment</b>  1			
<b>Task A-2</b> Uses and maintains tools and equipment	<b>2.01 Maintains tools and equipment</b>  1	<b>2.02 Uses rigging, hoisting and lifting equipment</b>  1, 2	<b>2.03 Uses access equipment</b>  1, 2		
<b>Task A-3</b> Performs routine trade practices	<b>3.01 Uses documentation</b>  1	<b>3.02 Determines project requirements</b>  3	<b>3.03 Plans job</b>  3	<b>3.04 Protects surroundings</b>  1	<b>3.05 Handles materials</b>  1
<b>Task A-4</b> Performs quality control assessments	<b>4.01 Assesses substrate conditions and deficiencies</b>  1	<b>4.02 Assesses product conditions and deficiencies</b>  1	<b>4.03 Assesses quality of painted or coated surfaces and wall coverings</b>  1		



<b>Task B-10</b> Prepares plaster surfaces and drywall	<b>10.01 Repairs existing plaster surfaces and drywall</b>  1, 3	<b>10.02 Finishes new drywall</b>  1
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## C – Prepares and applies residential, institutional and commercial paints, coatings and finishes

24%

<b>Task C-11</b> Prepares for application of residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings	<b>11.01 Prepares residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings</b>  1, 2	<b>11.02 Installs residential, institutional and commercial reinforcing mesh</b>  1, 2			
<b>Task C-12</b> Applies residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings	<b>12.01 Applies residential institutional and commercial paints and coatings with brushes</b>  1	<b>12.02 Applies residential institutional and commercial paints and coatings with rollers</b>  1	<b>12.03 Applies residential institutional and commercial paints and coatings with applicators</b>  1, 3	<b>12.04 Applies residential institutional and commercial paints and coatings with equipment</b>  1, 2, 3	
<b>Task C-13</b> Applies decorative/specialty finishes	<b>13.01 Applies paints and coatings using decorative techniques</b>  2, 3	<b>13.02 Creates faux finishes</b>  3	<b>13.03 Applies gliding</b>  3	<b>13.04 Applies stencils and graphics</b>  3	<b>13.05 Creates textured finishes</b>  3
	<b>13.06 Applies multi-spec coatings</b>  3				

## D – Prepares and applies wall coverings

7%

<b>Task D-14</b> Prepares for application of wall coverings	<b>14.01 Treats surfaces for wall coverings</b>  2	<b>14.02 Lays out surface</b>  2	<b>14.03 Prepares wall coverings</b>  2		
<b>Task D-15</b> Applies wall coverings	<b>15.01 Applies adhesives</b>  2, 3	<b>15.02 Installs vinyl wall coverings</b>  2, 3	<b>15.03 Installs fabric and natural material wall coverings</b>  2, 3	<b>15.04 Installs rigid wall coverings</b>  2, 3	<b>15.05 Repairs existing coverings</b>  2, 3

## E – Prepares and applies wood finishes

8%

<b>Task E-16</b> Prepares for wood finishing applications	<b>16.01 Conditions wood surfaces</b>  2	<b>16.02 Applies wood fillers</b>  2	<b>16.03 Seals wood surfaces</b>  2	<b>16.04 Prepares wood finishing products</b>  2
<b>Task E-17</b> Finishes wood surfaces	<b>17.01 Brushes on wood finishes</b>  2	<b>17.02 Wipes on wood finishes</b>  2	<b>17.03 Sprays on wood finishes</b>  2	

## F – Prepares and applies industrial paints and coatings

22%

<b>Task F-18</b> Prepares for application of industrial paints and coatings	<b>18.01 Prepares industrial paints and coatings</b>  2	<b>18.02 Installs fibre-reinforced plastics (FRP)</b>  2
<b>Task F-19</b> Applies industrial paints and coatings	<b>19.01 Applies industrial paints and coatings with hand tools</b>  2, 3	<b>19.02 Applies industrial paints and coatings with spray equipment</b>  2,3

# TRAINING PROFILE CHART

This Training Profile Chart represents Prairie Finishing Trades Institute technical training at the topic level.

<b>Level One (Harmonized)</b>
Standard Workplace Safety and General Painting
Surface Preparation
Manual Applications of Coatings and Paint
Conventional and Airless Spray Systems
Residential Drawing Interpretation

<b>Level Two (Harmonized)</b>
Wood Finishing
Colour
Industrial and Commercial Abrasive Blasting
Air Assisted, Airless and Electrostatic Spray Systems
Commercial Drawing Interpretation

<b>Level Three (Harmonized)</b>
Industrial Coatings
Wallcoverings
Specialty Finishes
Industrial Drawing Interpretation

# TECHNICAL TRAINING COURSE CONTENT

This chart outlines the model for Prairie Finishing Trades Institute (FTI) of Edmonton Alberta. FTI delivers out of province Painter and Decorator technical training for Saskatchewan Painter and Decorator apprentices. For the harmonized level of training, a cross reference to the Red Seal Occupational Standard (RSOS) apprenticeship technical training sequencing, at the learning outcome level, is provided.

As of the 2023/2024 semester, the Painter and Decorator trade will be fully harmonized for all levels of technical training.

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## Level One

8 weeks

240 hours

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### Standard Workplace Safety and General Painting

- apply legislation, regulations and practices ensuring safe work in the trade
- describe climbing, lifting, rigging and hoisting
- apply industry practices for hazardous materials and fire protection
- discuss apprenticeship training program (exceeds RSOS scope of work)
- discuss and apply painter and decorator health and safety
- describe scope of the paintings and decorating industry
- identify and describe surface analysis and remedies
- select liquid coatings material

### RSOS topics covered in this section of training:

#### A-1 Safety-related functions

- A-1.01 Uses personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment
- A-1.02 Maintains safe work environment

#### A-2 Uses and maintains tools and equipment

- A-2.02 Uses rigging, hoisting and lifting equipment
- A-2.03 Uses access equipment

#### A-3 Performs routine trade practices

- A-3.01 Uses documentation
- A-3.02 Determines project requirements
- A-3.03 Plans job
- A-3.04 Protects surroundings
- A-3.05 Handles materials

#### A-4 Performs quality control assessments

- A-4.01 Assesses substrate conditions and deficiencies
- A-4.02 Assesses product conditions and deficiencies
- A-4.03 Assesses quality of painted or coated surfaces and wall coverings

#### A-5 Uses communication and mentoring techniques

- A-5.01 Uses communication techniques

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### Surface Preparation

- prepare surfaces for coating and painting
- finish drywall surfaces for painting and coating

**RSOS topics covered in this section of training:**

**B-6.01 Removes existing paints and coatings**

- B-6.01 Uses communication techniques
- B-6.02 Removes existing wall coverings and adhesives
- B-6.03 Cleans surfaces
- B-6.04 Primes surfaces
- B-6.05 Sands surfaces
- B-6.06 Applies caulking

**B-7 Prepares wood surfaces for paints, coatings and wall coverings**

- B-7.01 Treats wood surfaces
- B-7.02 Repairs minor imperfections in wood

**B-8 Prepares concrete and masonry surfaces**

- B-8.01 Mechanically treats concrete and masonry surfaces
- B-8.02 Chemically treats concrete and masonry surfaces
- B-8.03 Repairs concrete and masonry surfaces

**B-9 Prepares metal surfaces**

- B-9.01 Treats metal surfaces
- B-9.02 Repairs metal surfaces
- B-10 Prepares plaster surfaces and drywall
- B-10.01 Repairs existing plaster surfaces and drywall
- B-10.02 Finishes new drywall

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**Manual Applications of Coatings and Paint**

- apply coatings and paint using manual application methods

**RSOS topics covered in this section of training:**

**C-11 Prepares for application of residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings**

- C-11.01 Prepares residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings
- C-11.02 Installs residential, institutional and commercial reinforcing mesh

**C-12 Applies residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings**

- C-12.01 Applies residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings with brushes
- C-12.02 Applies residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings with rollers
- C-12.03 Applies residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings with applicators

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**Conventional and Airless Spray Systems**

- operate conventional and airless spray equipment

**RSOS topics covered in this section of training:**

**A-2 Uses and maintains tools and equipment**

- A-2.01 Maintains tools and equipment

**A-3 Performs routine trade practices**

- A-3.04 Protects surroundings

**C-12 Applies residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings**

- C-12.04 Applies residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings with spray equipment

**F-19 Applies industrial paints and coatings**

- F-19.02 Applies industrial paints and coatings with spray equipment

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## **Residential Drawing Interpretation**

- solve trade calculations in the Imperial and Metric systems
- interpret residential drawings

**RSOS topics covered in this section of training:**

### **A-3 Performs routine trade practices**

A-3.01 Uses documentation

A-3.02 Determines project requirements

A-3.03 Plans job

**There are no Level One topics from the RSOS that are taught in context.**

*For details regarding the In Context Topic, see page 25*

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**Wood Finishing**

- finish wood surfaces
- demonstrate specialized wood finishing procedures

**RSOS topics covered in the section of training:****B-7 Prepares wood surfaces for paints, coatings and wall coverings**

B-7.01 Treats wood surfaces

B-7.02 Repairs minor imperfections in wood

**E-16 Prepares for wood finishing applications**

E-16.01 Conditions wood surfaces

E-16.02 Applies wood filler

E-16.03 Seals wood surfaces

E-16.04 Prepares wood finishing products

**E-17 Finishes wood surfaces**

E-17.01 Brushes on wood finishes

E-17.02 Wipes on wood finishes

E-17.03 Sprays on wood finishes

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**Colour**

- match and mix colours for specific applications
- use colourants to develop custom mixes

**RSOS topics covered in this section of training****A-4 Performs quality control assessments**

A-4.01 Assesses substrate conditions and deficiencies

A-4.02 Assesses product conditions and deficiencies

A-4.03 Assesses quality of painted or coated surfaces and wall coverings

**C-11 Prepares for application of residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings**

C-11.01 Prepares residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings

**F-18 Prepares for application of industrial paints and coatings**

F-18.01 Prepares industrial paints and coatings

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**Industrial and Commercial Abrasive Blasting**

- prepare surfaces for industrial coatings using abrasive blasting
- prepare surfaces for industrial coatings using abrasive blasting

**RSOS topics covered in this section:****A-2 Uses and maintains tools and equipment**

A-2.01 Maintains tools and equipment

**A-3 Performs routine trade practices**

A-3.04 Protects surroundings

**B-6.01 Removes existing paints and coatings**

B-6.01 Uses communication techniques

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## **Air Assisted Airless and Electrostatic Spray Systems**

- operate air assisted airless spray equipment
- operate electrostatic spray systems
- operate spray booths

### **RSOS topics covered in this section of training:**

#### **A-2 Uses and maintains tools and equipment**

A-2.01 Maintains tools and equipment

#### **A-3 Performs routine trade practices**

A-3.04 Protects surroundings

#### **C-12 Applies residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings**

C-12.04 Applies residential, institutional and commercial paints and coatings with spray equipment

#### **F-19 Applies industrial paints and coatings**

F-19.02 Applies industrial paints and coatings with spray equipment

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## **Commercial Drawing Interpretation**

- perform perimeter and area calculations on three-dimensional geometric shapes
- interpret information found in schedules and commercial drawings

### **RSOS topics covered in this section:**

#### **A-3 Performs routine trade practices**

A-3.01 Uses documentation

A-3.02 Determines project requirements

A-3.03 Plans job

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### **Level Two topics from the RSOS that are taught in context:**

***A-1 Safety-related functions***

***A-2 Performs routine trade practices***

***A-4 Quality control assessments***

***For details regarding In Context Topics, see page 25***

**Industrial Coatings**

- apply safety regulations for industrial coatings
- apply knowledge of industrial coating prior to use
- operate hot spray systems
- use plural component industrial spray equipment for industrial coatings applications

**RSOS topics covered in this section:****A-1 Safety-related functions**

- A-1.01 Uses personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment
- A-1.02 Maintains safe work environment

**F-18 Prepares for application of industrial paints and coatings**

- F-18.01 Prepares industrial paints and coatings
- F-18.02 Installs fibre-reinforced plastics (FRP)

**F-19 Applies industrial paints and coatings**

- F-19.01 Applies industrial paints and coatings with hand tools
- F-19.02 Applies industrial paints and coatings with spray equipment

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**Wall Coverings**

- apply wall coverings

**RSOS topics covered in this section:****D-14 Prepares for application of wall coverings**

- D-14.01 Treats surfaces for wall coverings
- D-14.02 Lays out surface
- D-14.03 Prepares wall coverings

**D-15 Applies wall coverings**

- D-15.01 Applies adhesives
  - D-15.02 Installs vinyl wall coverings
  - D-15.03 Installs fabric and natural material wall coverings
  - D-15.04 Installs rigid wall coverings
  - D-15.05 Repairs existing wall coverings
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**Specialty Finishes**

- create specialty finishes

**RSOS topics covered in this section:****C-13 Applies decorative/specialty finishes**

- C-13.01 Applies paints and coatings using decorative techniques
  - C-13.02 Creates faux finishes
  - C-13.03 Applies gilding
  - C-13.04 Applies stencils and graphics
  - C-13.05 Creates textured finishes
  - C-13.06 Applies multi-spec coatings
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## **Industrial Drawing Interpretation**

- develop estimates from industrial drawings and specifications
- identify resources required for project completion
- use coaching skills when training an apprentice
- use Red Seal products to challenge an Interprovincial examination (exceeds RSOS scope of work)

### **RSOS topics covered in this section:**

#### **A-3 Performs routine trade practices**

A-3.01 Uses documentation

A-3.02 Determines project requirements

A-3.03 Plans job

#### **A-5 Uses communication and mentoring techniques**

A-5.02 Uses mentoring techniques

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### **Level Three topics from the RSOS that are taught in context:**

**A-1 Safety-related functions**

**A-4 Quality control assessments**

*For details regarding In Context Topics, see page 25*

# IN CONTEXT TOPICS

In context means learning that has already taken place and is being applied to the applicable task. Learning outcomes for in context topics are accomplished in other topics in that level.

## **A-1 Safety-related functions**

- A-1.01 Uses personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment
- A-1.02 Maintains safe work environment

## **A-3 Performs routine trade practices**

- A-3.01 Uses documentation
- A-3.02 Determines project requirements
- A-3.03 Plans job
- A-3.04 Protects surroundings
- A-3.05 Handles materials

## **A-4 Performs quality control assessments**

- A-4.01 Assesses substrate conditions and deficiencies
- A-4.02 Assesses product conditions and deficiencies
- A-4.03 Assesses quality of painted or coated surfaces and wall coverings

