PAINTER
What Does a Painter Do?

A painter applies paint and other decorative finishes to interior and exterior surfaces of buildings and other structures. They don’t only make walls look beautiful, they also keep these (especially the outer walls) protected from faster wear and tear brought about by exposure to natural elements. Because of this, they are in an integral part to the construction industry.
Use of Math

Calculating the costs and amount of paint needed to get a job done is a critical task that painters must do. By measuring the total area that needs to be painted and taking into consideration the colors that will be used, painters are able to calculate how many gallons of paint are needed and how much the costs are going to be. If there are areas in the structure that need to be filled, the estimates will also include putty or plaster. Other materials such as primers that will make the paint stick as well as brushes, rollers and sprayers are also included in the quotations.

Required Math

- Basic Math/Algebra
- First-Year Algebra
- Geometry
Let's Try a Problem!!

Alexis the painter is hired to paint a house, garage, and shed. The area of the house is 900 square feet, the area of the garage is 400 square feet, and the area of the shed is 200 square feet. Paint per gallon costs $15 and every gallon can paint 100 square feet. How many gallons does Alexis have to buy and how much will it cost?
This problem seems huge but let’s start small by solving for the TOTAL area Alexis needs to paint.

\[ 900 \text{ ft}^2 + 400 \text{ ft}^2 + 200 \text{ ft}^2 = 1500 \text{ ft}^2 \]

\[ \rightarrow \text{Alexis needs paint for 1500 square feet} \]

Now we can solve for how many gallons we need.

If every gallon can paint 100 square feet, then \( \frac{1500}{100} = 15 \)

\[ \rightarrow \text{Alexis needs 15 gallons of paint} \]

Now we can find the total cost of this job.

If every gallon costs $15, then (15 gallons x $15) = 225

\[ \rightarrow \text{The total cost of the job is }$225 \]
Like most jobs, the more background education you have on the skill or subject, the better because it will enhance your likelihood of getting more jobs and earning more money. Many professional contractors will not hire a painter without a college degree.

The most common degree held by construction painters is Fine Arts. Many art schools, institutes, and colleges/universities offer associate's, bachelor's, and even master's degree programs in painting and fine art. The courses will focus on the development of painting skills, as well as art history, theory, and criticism.
Works Cited

- www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/occup_workplace/painter.html