

Spray Painting

Many of the solvents and chemicals used in spray painting have the potential to contribute to atmospheric pollution. Paint particles suspended in the air and odours associated with the use of solvents and paints can create environmental problems.

Spray painting must not be performed outdoors. It should be conducted in a proper spray booth, which has downdraft fans, sealed windows and doorways, and a filtration or water system. A spray painting booth must comply with Australian Standards 4114.

How are spray painting fumes disposed of?

- Discharges pass out of a premise via a vertical, open topped stack.
- The velocity of the exhaust must be a least 10 metres per second.
- The stack should be at least three metres higher than the highest roof level of the surrounding buildings to your premises. This rule only applies if the surrounding building is within 15 meters of the stack.

What are my spray booth maintenance requirements?

- Regularly inspect and maintain your spray booth in accordance with manufacturers' specifications.
- Have your booth burners serviced at least annually.
- Filtering devices should be properly and regularly maintained.

Important considerations for spray painting and reducing environmental impact

- Review all materials used and always purchase the least harmful paints and solvents available.
- Use technology and staff training techniques to reduce the amount of paint and solvent used in a job (this includes high solids paints and HVLP spray equipment).
- Save money and avoid spills by converting diesel fired ovens to gas fired ovens.
- Accumulated sludge, waste paints and thinners/solvents must be collected and disposed of as Prescribed Industrial Waste.
- Install a gun wash machine.
- Recycle gun wash with a solvent recovery machine or dispose of only with an EPA contractor.



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