

**New York State Department of Civil Service**  
Division of Classification & Compensation

Classification Standard

**Occ. Code 7120110**

**Trades Specialist (Painter), Grade 12**

Brief Description of Class

A Trades Specialist (Painter) performs journey-level painting work and may supervise others in preparing surfaces and applying coats of paint, varnish, and other finishes and stains to decorate and protect interior or exterior surfaces and fixtures of buildings, structures, furniture, equipment, and materials.

Distinguishing Characteristics

*Trades Specialist (Painter):* non-competitive; independently works on painting projects requiring special surface preparation, remixing of paints to match specified colors, and painting calling for fine finish and decorative treatment.

A Trades Specialist (Painter) may supervise others in this work including semiskilled and unskilled workers.

Related Classes

The class of Trades Specialist (Sign Fabrication) is distinguished from Trades Specialist (Painter) by the performance of skilled sign painting work, including the design of specialized signs requiring artistic creation usually involving hand lettering, and the use of a variety of processes, equipment, and materials.

Maintenance Assistant (Painter), as a semiskilled employee, does interior and exterior painting not requiring fine finish or decorative treatment, assisting journey-level painters in a variety of painting projects, including those requiring high-quality work.

Facility Operations Assistants 1 assigned to a painting crew assist Maintenance Assistants and Trades Specialists (Painter) in such activities as erecting scaffolds and ladders, preparing and cleaning surfaces prior to painting, applying paint while learning the trade, cleaning painting tools and equipment, unloading paint supplies, and cleaning the work area.

Trades Generalists may perform journey-level painting activities. However, such

positions are classified only where the incumbents perform skilled and semiskilled level work in a combination of trades.

A Trades Supervisor (Painter) is a working supervisor of skilled journey-level painters and semiskilled and unskilled positions in the painting trade, and occasionally other trades such as plastering.

Employees engaged in other building and maintenance trades are classified in a variety of other commonly used titles descriptive of their work such as Trades Specialist (Carpenter) or Trades Specialist (Electrician).

### Illustrative Tasks

Supervises and instructs others in the preparation and painting of interior and exterior surfaces.

- Assigns work to painting crew.
- From measurements of area to be painted, may recommend to supervisor and order the kind, quantity, and quality of paint and other materials to be used.
- Assembles materials, tools, and equipment required to accomplish work.
- May give verbal instruction and/or demonstrate proper painting techniques and the use of painting tools and equipment.
- Observes and inspects work in progress and when completed to ensure that the job is done properly.
- When supervising individuals for whom the State has custody or responsibility, a Trades Specialist (Painter) must always be aware of and account for their activity while on the job and ensure that the rules and regulations of the facility governing such activities are followed.

Applies paint, varnish, stains, enamel, or lacquer to interior and exterior surfaces, trimming and fixtures of buildings, furniture, a variety of equipment, signs, and like surfaces requiring protective or decorative treatment.

- May erect scaffolding, swing stages, or ladders.
- Prepares surfaces for painting using a variety of tools and materials, including sandpaper, brushes, or steel wool, and if required, removes paints using paint remover, blow torch, wire brush, or scraper.
- Fills nail holes, cracks, or joints with putty, plaster, or other filler.

- Uses premixed paints or prepares paint to match specified colors by mixing the required portions of pigment, oil, and thinners.
- Paints surfaces using brush, spray gun, paint roller, or mittens.

May cover interior walls with wall coverings.

- Measures wall to compute amount of wall covering required.
- Prepares and cleans surfaces to be covered and cuts wall covering to proper lengths.
- Mixes paste, brushes on back of wall covering, and places and smooths strips on wall.

### Independence of Operation

Trades Specialists (Painter) are usually supervised by higher-level trades positions, such as Trades Supervisor (Painter) or Maintenance Supervisor. Generally, work priorities are prescribed, material is furnished, the nature and extent of the work to be performed is given, and detailed plans, diagrams, and specifications are provided. In the absence of such direction, the Trades Specialist (Painter) sets priorities, requisitions materials, determines the work that has to be done, and lays out the work.

Although the work of the Trades Specialist (Painter) is inspected periodically by a supervisor, incumbents are expected to work with considerable independence as is typical of a skilled tradesperson.

### Communication

The nature of a Trade Specialist's (Painter) activities generally restricts relationships to employees working within the same organizational unit, including skilled tradespersons in other trades. However, incumbents may be required to verbally communicate with administrators and others in an agency or facility on the reasons why work is being accomplished in the manner selected.

Trades Specialists (Painter) may supervise a maintenance staff. Such relationships are characterized by frequent verbal communications in assigning work and providing instructions. Written and verbal communications with the general public are not typical of this class. The tasks of this class are predominantly thing-oriented and involvement with others is not a factor in determining the classification of individual positions.

### Supervision Exercised

A Trades Specialist (Painter) may supervise subordinate maintenance staff and/or individuals for whom the State has custody or responsibility by making assignments, giving instructions and observing and inspecting work performed to ensure that instructions have been followed and that the quality of the work is satisfactory.

### Minimum Qualifications

Non-competitive: four years of full-time experience in painting under a skilled tradesperson which would provide training equivalent to that given in a training, apprenticeship, or equivalent program; or an equivalent combination of experience and training gained by completion of technical courses in painting at a school, institute, or branch of the Armed Services.

When required to operate motor vehicles, candidates must possess a valid New York State driver's license appropriate for the type of vehicle to be operated.

**Note:** Classification Standards illustrate the nature, extent and scope of duties and responsibilities of the classes they describe. Standards cannot and do not include all of the work that might be appropriately performed by a class. The minimum qualifications above are those which were required for appointment at the time the Classification Standard was written. Please contact the Division of Staffing Services for current information on minimum qualification requirements for appointment or examination.

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