

WP Tool Glossary

There are tools you will likely encounter in your role as Work Projects Coordinator. Some of these tools will be used often and kept in your toolboxes, but others you may not need or use all summer. Please consult your Work Projects Inventory and Buying Guide for more information and your Project Type Guide to know which tools to use for each project. Tools are listed in alphabetical order.



4-Edge Scraper

- For removing chipped and aging paint
- Very effective when paint is chipping off in small chips
- Less effective on houses where paint is not flaking yet



Adjustable (Crescent) Wrench

- Allows for a flexible fit for most nuts and bolts
- A good tool to have



5-Gallon Bucket

- Most paint comes in buckets this size
- Only transport paint in buckets this size or smaller
- Useful for storing tools, brushes and rags.
- Think through possible uses on site before throwing these away



Basic Tool Kit

- May include the following: Phillips and flathead screwdrivers, pliers, adjustable (crescent) wrench, hammer, measuring tape
- Try to keep toolboxes complete



5-in-1 Tool

- Can be used as a scraper, edger, utility knife, roller cleaner and in other capacities
- More expensive than the other individual items



Brush Comb

- Loosens and removes paint from the center bristles of a paintbrush
- Leaves the bristles straighter, cleaner and longer lasting than simply washing.
- Luxury item, but helpful for cleanup



32-Gallon Garbage Can

- Used for mixing paint
- Purchase a sturdy grade, circular can with smooth, easy-to-clean texture
- Handles should be built in and able to hold weight easily
- Brute is a good brand to look for



Caulk Gun

- Used for applying caulk to edges, holes, cracks, window frames, etc.
- A tube of caulk goes into the shelf of the caulk gun and the handle pushes caulk out the end
- Often has a tool on the trigger to cut open the tip of the caulk tube and a pin on the opposite end to puncture the seal



A-Frame Ladder and Extension Ladder

- Should be checked regularly for safety
- Participants must be carefully trained in how to use them properly
- If you are purchasing replacements, buy 225-pound 16ft Aluminum Type II extension ladders (\$50-\$100.00 each) and 6ft Aluminum Type I step ladders (\$30-\$45 each)



Cordless Drill

- Used to mix paint (in 5-gallon buckets or garbage cans) or drive in screws
- Must be coupled with appropriate mixer attachment, if used for mixing
- Keep battery well charged
- If purchasing new, buy a drill that has a cord



Corner Painter Pad

- Designed for painting in tight corners, primarily interior walls
- Dip the pad into paint tray, rub off excess, apply with gentle, smooth strokes
- Comes in many shapes and sizes



Drop Cloth or Plastic Sheeting

- Use to cover carpet, furniture, windows, etc. when painting
- May need to cut into 5-foot-wide strips
- For lead paint or when drying paint for disposal, use a thicker grade drop cloth or plastic sheeting (6-mil)



Manual Lawn Mower

- Not easy to operate, but doesn't use fuel or make noise
- Don't buy one, but use if available



Extension Pole

- Rollers frames can be screwed onto an extension pole to enable higher reach
- Brushes can also be attached via duct tape
- There are more expensive telescoping extension poles that expand upwards of 10 feet



Paint Brushes

- Larger brushes are better for covering larger surface areas
- Smaller brushes are good for smaller pieces of wood, for painting up against other walls, and edges where you want to avoid getting paint on other surfaces



Flexible (Flat Edge) Scraper

- Effective for scraping surfaces with a wide range of paint conditions
- Easier to use than four-edge scrapers
- Come in several different sizes – 3- to 4-inch width scrapers are most effective



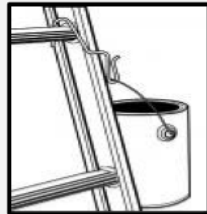
Paint Can Opener

- Make opening a 1-gallon can of paint easy
- Not an essential item since a flathead screwdriver will work just as well



Great Stuff Foam Insulator

- Fills gaps and cracks and expands greatly when applied, so use sparingly
- Spray into gaps in walls using the included straw, let dry, then cut/sand/cover excess
- Always read and follow instructions on the can



Paint Can Hook

- Used to hang a can of paint from a ladder rung
- This is only useful if paint buckets have handles
- You can also make one from coat hangers



Hose

- Chose a medium grade 50-ft hose
- For cleaning up after mixing paint far from a water supply
- For other cleaning projects
- Important at a Lead Paint Site



Paint Containers

- Use milk jugs cut off at the top or large fruit or coffee cans with no sharp edges as individual paint holders for participants
- Consider other free/recycled possibilities



Ladder Covers

- Used to protect walls from damage due to a scraping or sliding ladder
- A sock or a wrapped rag will work just as well



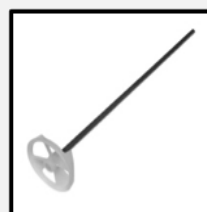
Putty Knife

- Similar in appearance and use to a basic scraper
- Smoothly spreads putty over cracks or holes
- Paint smoothly over surfaces once the putty dries



Lead Paint Testing Kit

- Follow the packaged instructions to test any house that may have lead-based paint
- Always have a couple of these on hand
- Check your Resource Box for a small supply of these



Paint Mixer Bit Attachment

- Slides into the bit end of the drill
- Use with spiral end inserted into a bucket of paint; careful not to splash
- When purchasing, ensure that the bit will actually fit your drill
- May need a larger bit for 32-gallon batches of paint



Paint Shield / Edge Guard

- Can be held in one hand against an edge you don't want painted while holding a paint brush in other hand
- These come in many different sizes



Roller Pad

- Come in a variety of thicknesses (called nap)
- Heavier nap is better for rougher surfaces like stucco or concrete
- A good multi-purpose roller is 3/8" nap, which can be used for a few days if cleaned well after each day



Paint Tray

- Holds paint for use with rollers or foam pads
- Has a deeper section for paint and sloping section for rolling or painting off excess paint
- Line with aluminum foil or plastic wrap for easy cleanup



Safety Goggles

- Should be worn at all times when scraping or painting to prevent any paint from getting in the eyes
- Clean regularly



Paint Thinner

- Necessary when cleaning up oil-based products
- Not something you should need to use most of the time, but good to have on hand
- Read instructions before use



Sandpaper and Hand Sander

- Sandpaper can be used to rough up the surface of a wall to help paint stick
- This is especially useful on inside walls and on smaller pieces of trim (such as between window panes)



Plastic Wrap

- Used to wrap around wet paintbrushes for overnight storage when a group is returning to a project the following day
- Also useful for lining paint trays for easy cleanup



Screwdrivers

- Flathead screwdrivers have a single edge on the screw end
- Phillips screwdrivers have a cross pattern on the screw end
- Use flatheads to open paint



Rags in a Box

- Great to have on hand for quick paint spill cleanup
- Blue shop towels (heavy-duty paper towels found in the auto section) also work
- Fairly cost efficient



Small First Aid Kit

- Put one in each toolbox
- Keep fully stocked



Respirator Masks

- Must be used when scraping paint to avoid inhalation of dust or paint
- Each person should have their own and people should not share
- Lead paint projects require HEPA certified masks



Spackling

- Fills holes and cracks in walls
- Spread using a putty knife
- A similar product is "Wall Patch"
- Check label to see required drying time
- After dry, sand it until smooth using a fine-grit sandpaper
- If well-sanded, filled-in crack should not be visible through two coats of paint



Roller Frame

- Handheld frame for roller pads to roll paint onto a surface
- Pad slides onto the end of the frame
- Rollers can cover a larger surface area in a quicker time
- Will last a long time if cleaned well regularly



Staff Toolbox

- Good to have with you
- Could be a container with various tools from storage, or could be purchased whole
- Don't go overboard – purchase only what you need



Trimming Snips

- Good for trimming small branches or other plant life
- Come in a variety of looks, but are basically used as heavy-duty scissors for yard work



Tube of Caulk

- A filler and sealer material
- Comes in tubes and in many different colors
- Apply using a caulk gun, then smooth either with a putty knife or, if along a joint or window frame, with your finger



Utility Knife

- Many uses!
- Assists in opening sealed 5-gallon buckets and meets other cutting needs
- A good resource in any tool box
- Safety concerns should be considered



Vine Loppers (Clippers)

- Useful for trimming tree branches up to 2 inches thick
- Have a couple of these available for any project with some overgrowth nearby



Wasp Spray / Bug Repellant

- Choose a repellant that sprays at least 20 feet
- Follow instructions on the can
- Note that you should spray from a distance, and you must spray specifically at the wasp or nest, not in a general cloud



Window Scraper

- Also known as a razor blade
- Very sharp with replaceable blades
- Good for cleaning off drips on glass pains after painting
- Consider safety concerns when using



Wire Brush with Scraper

- Use scraper end when paint is flakey
- Use brush end when surface needs to be scraped up a little so paint will stick
- Use wire brushes when scraping paint off of concrete or other rough surfaces