

MOLD ON THE JOB: HOW TO STAY SAFE AND PAINT SMART

It’s not uncommon to uncover mold on a jobsite, especially during prep for painting. Basements, bathrooms, behind old cabinets, anywhere that's dark and damp is mold’s favorite hangout. While a little mold might seem like a minor issue, it can quickly turn into a serious health risk if ignored or handled improperly.

Let’s break down what you need to know about mold safety, and what paints to use to help prevent it from coming back.

Know the Risks

Mold is a natural fungus, but don’t let that fool you, it’s hazardous on the job. Inhaling mold spores can cause respiratory issues, skin rashes, and eye irritation. The longer the exposure, the worse it gets. And if mold gets on broken skin? It can lead to infections.

Key safety tip: Inhalation is the main exposure risk. PPE is your first defense. Use an N-95 mask for light exposure. If you’re dealing with widespread mold, go with full-body disposable gear and a full-face respirator with a HEPA filter.

Handle Mold Right

Before you pick up a paintbrush, you’ve got to deal with the mold:

- **Small areas:** Gloves, N-95 respirator, and goggles. Remove and replace affected material (like drywall or MDF), then treat the area.
- **Medium to large areas:** Add disposable overalls and consider upgrading to a half-face respirator with a HEPA filter.
- **Heavily contaminated spaces:** Go all in. head-to-toe protective gear, full-face respirator, and seal off the work area.

Disposal matters too. Moldy materials should be bagged and sealed with duct tape before they’re thrown out. If it’s porous and has been wet for over 48 hours, it’s trash.

Painting to Prevent Mold

Once the area is clean and dry, the right paint can help keep mold from coming back. Here's what to look for:

- **Mold-resistant primers**: Use these after remediation to seal the surface and prevent mold from penetrating again.
- **Antimicrobial paints**: These contain additives that inhibit mold and mildew growth. Ideal for bathrooms, basements, and high-humidity zones.

Just remember: paint is prevention, not a cure. If you skip proper mold removal, no paint in the world will protect your work.

Protect Your Project from the Ground Up

At HiTech Painting Inc., we understand that a quality paint job starts with a safe, clean surface. When mold shows up, we don't just cover it, we handle it right. Our crews are trained in mold safety protocols, equipped with proper PPE, and experienced in using the right products to keep mold from coming back.

Paint Smarter. Paint Safer.

If your project involves mold-prone areas or post-remediation painting, choose the team that knows how to get it done safely and effectively. Contact HiTech Painting Inc. today for expert painting solutions that prioritize health, safety, and lasting results.

