

Vehicle Damage Paint Technician (ST0448) Level 3 Apprenticeship

Overview

A Vehicle Damage Paint Technician works in the vehicle body repair sector of the motor industry. The role is to prepare, spray and finish vehicles that have been involved in collisions and other incidents in an efficient manner. The vehicles can include Cars/Light Commercial Vehicles. This includes ensuring correct colour match and final finish to the company and customers exacting standards. This is usually within a collision repair workshop or smart repair workshops/mobile repair micro business and working alongside another fully qualified Paint Technician.

They understand the general principles of spray painting technology, paint composition, paint mixing and the various methods of paint spraying vehicles.

They prepare vehicles fully before painting to include masking, sanding and other necessary preparation work.

They are also responsible for keeping all company tools and equipment safe and in a clean, workable condition paying particular attention to the reduction of any fire hazards.

Their role includes repair, surface preparation and painting to the manufacturer paint specification. A technician is able to follow defined processes to restore the vehicle to a high-quality paint finish. This includes being able to demonstrate colour identification and select the correct materials such as primers, base coats and lacquers applied using spray equipment and utilising modern drying/curing techniques such as Ultra Violet (UV), Infrared and catalytic solutions used in the refinishing of vehicles. Create a safe environment working efficiently and reducing waste.

They usually work as part of a team and under supervision

Expected course duration

39 months

College attendance

TBC – depending on location, year and start

When can the apprentice start employment?

The apprentice can start employment anytime. However, if they are being employed as an apprentice, they cannot start employment until the apprenticeship starts.

When can the apprenticeship training start?

September 2025.

Course content

Knowledge

- Expert working knowledge & understanding of Automotive refinishing materials such as paint and fillers and their application techniques to deliver quality results
- Drying and curing techniques use in the finishing of vehicles
- Body Paint Repair tools, equipment and devices used in the process e.g. mixing systems, spray guns and nozzles, paint
- Substrates such as metal (Steel/Alloy) along with carbon fibre & glass reinforced plastic to select the correct refinish process and materials
- Safe handling and risks in the management of solvents, high voltage components, conventional and alternate fuelled vehicles and other areas of significant risk
- Calculation / estimation of paint volume requirements per job
- Health & Safety and compliance requirements of a collision repair business, such as control of substances.
- Their direct commercial productivity and efficiency impact of their role within the whole repair process such as understanding causes for paint defects to reduce waste and the techniques required to prevent these e.g. paint runs. The impact of rework on resources and reputation.
- Quality control process and the implications of poor quality repairs.

Skills

- Ability to undertake appropriate job preparation prior to commencing repair e.g. substrate surface preparation, paint volume calculation etc.
- Ability to correctly identify the substrate materials to be refinished e.g. plastic, steel, aluminium etc.
- Ability to interpret relevant technical data and methods to create paint manufactures specified application.
- Ability to use refinishing materials following paint manufacturer specifications to reinstate vehicle finish back to high quality
- Ability to identify and operate the correct repair tools, equipment and devices used in the process e.g mixing systems, paint booths, UV lamps and spray equipment.

Behaviours

- Use all the knowledge and skills developed to carry out tasks in a safe and efficient manner, complying with all business operating procedures and policies
- Operate as an effective team member and take responsibility, be honest and accountable when things go wrong, tracking their own progress and informing others if deadlines are at risk
- Proactively find opportunities to learn about the wider business.
- Commitment to customer service and meeting deadlines by being flexible with their time and willingness to take on tasks outside of their job role to ensure goals are met
- Take responsibility for personal and professional development, keeping knowledge and skills up to date with emerging technology to perform the role effectively
- Anticipate problems and put steps in place to avoid them, where problems do occur explore and address the cause
- Effectively communicate with customers and colleagues.

Entry requirements

Candidates should demonstrate an interest in the occupation as well as an ability to work in an organised and methodical way to identify and solve problems; also demonstrate an ability to communicate both orally and in writing to a level 3 standard. Candidates will also need to have some industry experience or a level 2 qualification in this area.

Apprentices will need a minimum of Grade 4 GCSE in Maths & English.

Apprentices without level 2 English and maths will need to achieve this level prior to taking their apprenticeship end-point assessment.

What training is required in the workplace?

Employers need to ensure they can provide regular weekly exposure to all of the skills and behaviours set out in the standard.

Assessment methods

- Portfolio
- Knowledge test
- Professional discussion
- Skills test

Further study and career options

Students completing this apprenticeship will be fully qualified to work in the industry.

Additional information

Equipment

Steel toe cap boots, overalls or work wear.

Campuses

This course is available at our Bedford College, Brunel Road Campus.

Further details

For more information, please visit here:

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/vehicle-damage-paint-technician-v1-2>

How to apply

Through the apprenticeship vacancy page of our website:

<https://bedfordcollegigroup.ac.uk/study/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies/>

and the national apprenticeship website:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/>