



CONTEST DESCRIPTION

36 - Car Painting

SECONDARY / POST-SECONDARY

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1 THE SKILLS FOR SUCCESS FOR CAREERS IN THE SKILLED TRADES AND TECHNOLOGY

The Government of Canada has updated the previous Essential Skills framework to the new Skills for Success model in response to the evolving labour market and changing skill requirements. This model outlines nine fundamental skills Canadians need to thrive in work, education, training, and daily life.

Skills/Compétences Canada aims to highlight the importance of these skills, vital for success in trade and technology careers. Competitors can see how Skills for Success are integrated into contest descriptions, projects, and project documents. Recognizing these skills during the competition helps competitors match tasks with specific skills necessary for success and understand how these skills apply within their trade or technology programs and future careers.

The nine key Skills for Success, validated for workplace success, are:

1. Numeracy
2. Communication
3. Collaboration
4. Adaptability
5. Reading
6. Writing
7. Problem Solving
8. Creativity and Innovation
9. Digital

These Skills for Success are detailed in sections 2.4 and/or 3.2 (to be completed by SCC) of your Contest Description and, if relevant, in your Project and supporting documents.

2 CONTEST INTRODUCTION

2.1 Description of the associated work role(s) or occupation(s)

https://www.skillscompetencescanada.com/en/skill_area/car-painting/

2.2 Purpose of the Challenge

Competitors will carry out refinishing and surface preparation techniques typical in the collision industry on different substrates. Competitors will be assessed on their understanding of automotive painting terminology, procedures, and their capacity to perform these tasks safely and professionally.

2.3 Duration of contest

2.4 Skills and Knowledge to be tested.

- Numeracy
- Reading
- Problem Solving

Essential Skills - ¹Numeracy, ⁵Reading ⁷Problem Solving

3 CONTEST DESCRIPTION

3.1 List of documents produced and timeline for when competitors have access to the documents on the Skills/Compétences Canada website.

DOCUMENT	DATE OF DISTRIBUTION
Test Project	December 2026
Paint material Technical Data Sheet (TDS) links	March 2027

3.2 Tasks that may be performed during the contest.

- Clean and prepare vehicle panels for paint application
- Mix and apply undercoats and topcoats¹
- Refinish various substrates⁷
- Perform minor damage repair⁷
- Prepare and refinish auto body panels⁷
- Remove surface paint defects⁷
- Colour matching utilizing paint manufacturer paint chips⁵
- Colour tint to a blendable match¹
- Create a colour without formula^{1, 8}
- Masking for refinish
- Decal/paint protection film application

Essential Skills - ¹Numeracy, ⁵Reading, ⁷Problem Solving, ⁸Creativity & Innovation

4 EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, CLOTHING

4.1 Equipment and material provided by Skills/Compétences Canada

- Waterborne and solvent technology from (to be announced), will be used for this competition. All clear coat and single stage products will be low V.O.C.
- SATA spray guns (undercoat and topcoat)
- Electric polisher
- Work tables and stands

- Protective equipment other than personal protective gear (PPE)
- SATA fresh air supplied respirators
- Paint suits
- Environmental controls
- Sanding equipment, blocks and palm sanders
- 3M automotive products for automotive repair and refinish

COMPETITORS WILL BE REQUIRED TO USE THE MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY SCC. ALL OTHER MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE SKILL AREA.

4.2 Equipment and material provided by the competitor.

- CSA-approved footwear
- Safety glasses
- Half mask activated charcoal respirator
 - Must be worn in all designated hazardous work areas.
 - **Valid fit-test documentation is required. Must be provided by email to nathaliem@skillscanada.com on or before Wednesday May 20 – 9:00AM (EDT).**
 - Must be clean shaven to use half mask respirator.

If the competitor is not clean-shaven, the competitor must supply their own PAPR (Powered-air purifying respirator) for use in all hazardous work areas.

4.2.1 Toolboxes Guidelines

This contest area does not require a toolbox. No outside tools or toolboxes are allowed in the contest area. Any competitors bringing external tools will be asked to remove them.

4.3 Required clothing provided by the competitor.

- CSA-approved footwear
- Safety glasses
- Half mask activated charcoal respirator
 - Must be worn in all designated hazardous work areas.
 - **Valid fit-test documentation is required. Must be provided by email to nathaliem@skillscanada.com on or before Wednesday May 20 – 9:00AM (EDT).**
 - Must be clean shaven to use half mask respirator.

- If competitor is not clean shaven, the competitor must supply their own PAPR (Powered-air purifying respirator) for use in all hazardous work areas.

5 HEALTH AND SAFETY

5.1 Safety program

SCC has implemented a comprehensive safety program as health and safety is an integral part of our competitions. Our safety program includes guidelines and procedures to make the work environment in each skill area safer.

5.1.1 Safety manual

As part of our program a safety manual has been created to monitor and document health and safety within each skill area. It includes a definite plan of action designed to prevent accidents. The safety manual will be provided for every skill and these instructions must be followed and respected by all participants and officials at the SCNC.

5.1.2 Safety workshop

During orientation, Competitors will participate in a Safety workshop and they will be expected to work and maintain a safe working area during the competition. Any Competitor breaking any health, safety, and environmental rules, may be required to undertake a second safety workshop, this will not affect the Competitor's competition time.

5.2 List of required personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by Skills/Compétences Canada

- Fresh air supplied respirators
- Nitrile gloves
- Particulate respirators

5.3 List of required personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the competitor.

- CSA-approved footwear
- Safety glasses
- Half mask activated charcoal respirator
 - Must be worn in all designated hazardous work areas.
 - **Valid fit-test documentation is required. Must be provided by email to nathaliem@skillscanada.com on or before Wednesday May 20 – 9:00AM (EDT).**
 - Must be clean shaven to use half mask respirator.

- If competitor is not clean shaven, the competitor must supply their own PAPR (Powered-air purifying respirator) for use in all hazardous work areas.

Note: Competitors without required fit test or PAPR respirator will not be able to compete.

Note: Competitors who do not have the required protective equipment will not be allowed to participate in the competition

6 ASSESSMENT

6.1 Point breakdown

Note: This list is subject to change.

TASKS	/100
Prepping and masking	25
Colour tinting projects 1, 2 & 3 (sprayout card)	20
Polishing/chip protection film/decal project	17.5
Paint Project	30
Applied work practices	7.5

7 CONTEST SPECIFIC RULES

Contest specific rules cannot contradict or take priority over the Competition Rules. They do provide specific details and clarity in areas that may vary from contest to contest. Any additional contest rules will be reviewed during the competitor orientation.

TOPIC/TASK	CONTEST SPECIFIC RULE
Spray Booth	All competitors must always wear fresh air supplied respirators in the spray booth whenever spraying occurs. No exceptions.
General work processes	Endangering others or damaging panels will invoke a three-strike rule. After three warnings, the competitor will be asked to leave the competition area.
Injuries	If a competitor sustains an injury that requires them to leave the competition area for medical attention, they will not be able to continue competing due to safety concerns.

8 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

8.1 Interpreter

If a competitor requires the help of an interpreter once onsite during the competition, the Skills/Compétences Canada Provincial/Territorial offices must advise Skills/Compétences Canada National Secretariat a minimum of 1 month prior to the competition or this service may not be guaranteed.

8.2 Ties

- Tiebreaker #1: The competitor with the highest score in the Paint & Masking criteria will be declared the winner.
- Tiebreaker #2: The competitor with the highest score in the Prepping/ Priming criteria will be declared the winner.
- Tiebreaker #3: The competitor with the highest score in the Polishing/ Chip Protection Film/Decal criteria will be declared the winner.

8.3 Test Project change at the Competition

Where the Test Project has been circulated to Competitors in advance, NTC shall change a maximum of 30% of the work content. Please refer to the Competition Rules.

8.4 Competition rules

Refer to the competition rules of the Skills Canada National Competition which can be found on our website.

9 NATIONAL TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBER ORGANIZATION	NAME
Quebec	Normand A. Cormier
Ontario	Catherine Mathewson
Saskatchewan	Brayden Neufeuld
Alberta	Cecile Bukmeier – Chair
British Columbia	Keith Mew- Co-Chair
New Brunswick	Kevin Boudreau
Manitoba	Barry Lee
New Foundland and Labrador	Lindsey Tackaberry

Contact the Skills/Compétences Canada national secretariat for any questions or concerns: Olga Malvine Rwemera (olgamr@skillscanada.com).