

## How to Solidify and Dispose of Paint

Follow directions carefully to avoid causing harm to human health or the environment. If you have a chronic respiratory problem, such as asthma, ask someone else to solidify the paint. Please Note: These suggestions are only for household quantities of leftover paint. Read all instructions before starting.

You will need nitrile gloves, an old bucket or sturdy cardboard box, a stick for stirring and absorbent materials, such as clay-based kitty litter.

Please Note: It is important to avoid using a paper-based product for the absorbent, as spontaneous combustion may occur.

- ❖ Select a location where there is plenty of fresh air and which is inaccessible to children and pets. Outside is the best choice. Make sure you are away from fire, pilot lights, flammable chemicals or other sources of sparks and flames.
- ❖ Do not smoke, eat or drink (especially alcohol) while solidifying paint. Avoid inhaling fumes (if you can smell it, you are inhaling it) and wear nitrile gloves to avoid skin contact. Nitrile gloves are available in most hardware stores. If you wear contact lenses, remove them while solidifying paint.
- ❖ For small quantities, such as one or two inches in bottom of can, simply remove the lid, add the absorbent, and stir until all liquid is absorbed or remove the lid until the paint has solidified. This could take several days or weeks, depending on the amount of paint in the can.
- ❖ For larger quantities of paint, mix absorbent and paint in an old bucket or sturdy cardboard box and stir. It will be easier to mix if you pour some absorbent in the bottom of the bucket or box, and then add a little paint at a time.
- ❖ When paint is solidified, place the absorbent and boxes inside a garbage bag, seal tightly, and dispose of in the trash. Recycle the empty paint cans in your curbside collection.