

## Paint & Coating Classifications

Field-applied coatings are generally divided into **Architectural/Trade Sales Paints** and **Industrial/Maintenance Coatings**.

At a high level, **Architectural/Trade Sales paints** are general-purpose consumer products available in most paint stores, while **Industrial/Maintenance coatings** are designed for specific applications and sold through direct sales or industrial supply.

These distinctions are often based on availability rather than chemical composition. For example, epoxies or polyurethanes used in industrial applications may also be available as architectural products.

### Architectural/Trade Sales Paints

**Overview:** Architectural or trade sales paints are general-purpose consumer products available in most paint stores. These paints are typically used for residential and commercial buildings, offering a wide range of colors and finishes. They are often divided into solvent-based and water-based coatings, with solvent-based being alkyd coatings and water-based being latex products.

**Examples:** Examples of architectural paints include epoxies and polyurethanes, which can also be used in industrial applications.

**Advantages:** The advantages of these paints include ease of application and availability.

**Disadvantages:** Disadvantages may include lower durability compared to industrial coatings.

**Best Use:** They are best used for interior and exterior surfaces where aesthetic appeal and moderate durability are required.



### Industrial/Maintenance Coatings

**Overview:** Industrial or maintenance coatings are designed for specific applications and are sold through direct sales or industrial supply channels. These coatings are used in environments that require high durability and resistance to harsh conditions, such as factories, warehouses, and infrastructure projects. They often include high-performance materials like epoxies and polyurethanes.

**Examples:** Examples of industrial coatings include high-performance materials like epoxies and polyurethanes.

**Advantages:** The advantages of industrial coatings include superior durability, chemical resistance, and protection against corrosion.

**Disadvantages:** They can be more challenging to apply and may require specialized equipment and expertise.

**Best Use:** These coatings are best used in settings where long-term performance and protection are critical, such as in industrial plants and maintenance of public infrastructure.



### Architectural Coatings: Subcategories

Architectural coatings can be further divided into solvent-based and water-based coatings. Solvent-based coatings are often alkyds, whereas water-based coatings are typically latex products.

There can be significant variations between different manufacturers' products regarding quality, properties, or intended end uses. For instance, one manufacturer's 'interior latex' may be designed for high-traffic applications requiring significant durability, while another's may focus on low-cost and cosmetic properties.

