

How to Dry Out **LATEX PAINT** for Disposal

Latex paint is a water-based substance and is considered a non-hazardous material compared to oil-based paint. In order to discard latex paint in your household trash, **it needs to be SOLID!**



How to **Solidify/Dry Out** Latex Paint:

If the clean-up instructions say to use “soap & water”, it’s latex.
Oil based paint must be brought to a hazardous waste collection.

- Make sure to dry your paint in a well-ventilated area away from children and pets.
- If there is a **thin film** of paint in the can, simply take off the lid and let it dry out. Recycle metal cans at a transfer station.
- **For 2/3 can or less**, pour into a plastic bag lined box to a depth of an inch at a time allowing it to dry between layers. When it is all dry, throw it into another bag for disposal.
- **If more than 2/3 full**, pour some of the paint into a large container such as an ice cream or cat litter bucket and stir in cat litter, sawdust or shredded newspaper. The amount needed will depend on the nature and condition of the paint. When your paint has hardened, you can put it in your trash.
- You can also purchase commercial paint hardener at your local home improvement store to help dry latex paint.

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