

## FACT SHEET

### SPRAY PAINTS – HEALTH AND SAFETY

#### AT HOME

Aerosol spray paints have been used and stored safely in homes for over 60 years. There are very few aerosol accidents each year and those that do occur are usually caused by not following the instructions on the product label or deliberately misusing or abusing the product.

Many aerosol spray paints contain gases and liquids that are flammable near a fire or heat. They also contain contents under pressure. This pressure increases with heat and may cause the can to burst.

It is important to remember:

- Always carefully read and follow the label instructions;
- Aerosols must be kept away from heat, sunshine, window sills, heaters, ovens, barbeques and any ignition source (eg, candles or pilot lights);
- Never keep aerosols in cars because temperatures can rise quickly even on cool days;
- Do not pierce or burn aerosols, even when empty – they may explode;
- Do not spray near a naked flame, fire or source of ignition;
- Do not smoke when using an aerosol or immediately afterwards;
- Store in a cool, dry area. Damp conditions should be avoided to prevent corrosion; and
- Do not allow them to freeze in cold weather.

The Aerosol Association of Australia has published a comprehensive Fact Sheet for Aerosol Safety in the Home.

See: [www.aerosol.com.au/about-aerosols/safety-at-home/](http://www.aerosol.com.au/about-aerosols/safety-at-home/).

#### SPRAY PAINTING IN THE WORKPLACE

##### Model Code of Practice – Spray Painting and Powder Coating

This model Code of Practice has been developed to provide practical guidance for persons conducting a business or undertaking on how to manage health and safety risks associated with spray painting and powder coating under the WHS Act and Regulations. This Code applies to all workplaces where spray painting and powder coating are carried out and to all persons involved in these activities.

See:

<http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/sites/swa/about/publications/pages/spray-painting-and-powder-coating>