

Touch-up paint, matched to the exact color of a product, can restore the “like new” appearance of its original finish, but, if the touch-up doesn’t quite match the original coating in color and gloss, it doesn’t do the job. It may even highlight the area you want to disguise. This brochure should help you spray out the best possible product.

**Note:** *Minor scratches and/or blemishes on exposed surfaces such as doors, frames, end panels and slope tops should never be touch-up using a spray method. The best procedure for touching up a scratch is to spray the touch-up into the cap or a pallet and touch-up the scratch using a small brush or cotton swab. This will limit over-spray which many times will end up looking worse than the original blemish.*

## Before You Begin

Make sure the surface is clean, dry and free of grease and oil. If needed, use a mild solvent like Naptha (available in hardware stores) and a clean cloth to wipe down the surface. Glossy surfaces should be dulled using a medium to fine grit sand paper. This will ensure proper adhesion of paint.

**Note:** *Always test the touch-up in an inconspicuous location prior to applying to an exposed surface. This will insure your technique is proper for the application and that the paint has been adequately shaken.*

## Directions for Use

Always shake an aerosol can for at least one minute after the mixing balls begin to rattle. If the mixing balls aren’t rolling freely, turn the can upside down and tap the bottom of the can with the palm of your hand to free the balls. **Note:** *It is possible to change the color and gloss of the paint by not shaking properly.*

**Note:** *To avoid excessive over-spray, a template should be created to allow paint to hit only the targeted area blocking areas where no touch-up is needed. A template can be easily created using scrap cardboard. Simply cut a hole in the cardboard to match the area needing touch-up. Make sure the cardboard is large enough to protect surrounding surfaces.*

When spraying, always hold the can upright 10-12 inches from the surface. For best results, spray with even misting passes. When a smooth continuous film has been achieved, the paint will have a glare or wet look, allow the paint to dry 5 minutes and then continue. Shake the can periodically between coats.

When you are finished, prepare the can for storage. Hold the aerosol can upside down and spray until you see a white gas (2-3 seconds). This will clear the valve and prevent paint from drying in the spray tip.

## Trouble Shooting Guide

### Color Doesn't Match

- The can was not shaken enough. *The pigments inside the can must be thoroughly mixed to achieve the proper color and gloss.*
- Your production coating may have changed. *It is possible that your original coating has shifted in color. If this situation occurs, submit a new color standard to List Industries for color matching.*

### Color Appears Flat or Hazy

- Humid conditions may exist. *Apply under less humid conditions.*
- The surface your are touching up may be too hot. *Remove the object from direct sunlight or heat; allow surface to cool and continue.*

### Paint Finish Appears Speckled

- Something is blocking paint flow.
    - ✓ *Rotate the tip ¼ turn and try again.*
    - ✓ *Remove and/or clean tip and tip stem using a toothpick.*
- Note:** *Never stick any object in the hole on top of the can.*
- ✓ *Soak spray tip in acetone to remove dried paint.*
  - ✓ *Use spray tip from another can.*
  - ✓ *If your finger is blocking flow, slide you finger back on tip until paint sprays smoothly.*
  - ✓ *Can is being sprayed at an angle. Hold can upright 10-12" from object.*

### Surface Appears Streaky

- All application passes have been made in the same direction. *Vary spray pattern.*

### Paint Appears Saggy or Has Run

- Too much paint was applied. *Apply lighter coats by increasing the speed of your hand motion as you spray. Hold can 10-12" from surface. After 3-4 passes, allow paint to dry 5 minutes before continuing.*

*By varying your spray technique, you can achieve the color you want.*

*Practice on a piece of scrap metal before painting the object. There is not substitute for experience when spraying a metallic color.*

## Getting the Color Right

The right color and gloss is achieved by following the application instructions listed in this brochure and brushing to opacity. Opacity simply means that light can no longer penetrate the layers of paint and reflect off the surface being covered.

If you can see the original surface color or the color does not match, opacity has not been reached; apply a few more coats.

## Aerosol Storage

Always store cans upright. Storing cans upside down can cause pigments to settle in the neck of the can or in the valve and cause blockage. Never store cans where temperatures may exceed 120 degrees F.

Cold temperatures will not harm the aerosol, however always let cans settle to room temperature before using.

*Note: It is advisable not to store cans at either temperature extreme for prolonged periods of time.*

## Aerosol Recycling

Aluminum and steel aerosol cans are fully recyclable. In fact, steel cans are one of the physically easier consumer products to recycle.

Acceptability of aerosols for recycling varies among communities. Contact your local recycling/waste management center for aerosol recycling information.

## Aerosol Facts

- Aerosol products have not contained ozone depleting chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) since 1978.
- Aerosol products do not deplete the ozone layer.
- Aerosols are not a significant source of smog.
- Aerosol containers, plastic overcaps and shipping cartons are all recyclable.
- Aerosol containers are hermetically sealed so their contents cannot spoil or spill.
- Aerosol products are tamper proof.
- Aerosol products allow you to deliver the precise amount of product you need.
- Aerosol products are convenient, economical and efficient.