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DIY Auto Body and Paint

Step-By-Step - Seal, Paint, Blend, Clear

- 1 The part has been prepped, primed, blocked, final sanded, and masked. Now the spraying process.
- 2 Clean the surface to be painted with wax and grease remover.
- 3 Tack surface, including surrounding masking paper, with a tack cloth.
- 4 Read primer sealer technical data sheet.
- 5 Mix primer sealer - If blending within a panel, only seal the repair area to help achieve hiding. Use a shade of sealer that is a close shade to the paint being sprayed.
- 6 Adjust paint gun setting.
- 7 Spray sealer on the repair area with the recommended number of coats. (usually 1-2 coats)
- 8 Allow to dry recommended amount of time.
- 9 Read base coat (color) technical data sheet.
- 10 Mix base coat - If blending only mix enough to spray the repair area, not the entire panel.
- 11 Spray the repair area with paint and allow to flash.
- 12 Spray a second that extends past the first coat a few inches.
- 13 Repeat painting steps until full hiding is achieved. (2 coat are good enough sometimes, but not every time.)
- 14 Note: the remaining steps are when using PPG paint. Other paint may vary.
- 15 Reduce base clear 1:1
- 16 Add reduced paint and reduced base clear 1:1
- 17 Spray another coat with this new mixture. Extend past your previous painted area 6 to 10 inches. Slightly arc the gun on the end of the paint pass. Be careful to limit this as heavy arching will cause the metallic to land differently, which may cause a halo effect.
- 18 Allow paint to flash recommended time.
- 19 Read clear coat technical data sheet.
- 20 Mix enough clear coat to clear the entire panel the recommended number of coats.
- 21 Spray a full-wet coat of clear on the entire panel and allow to flash.
- 22 Spray second coat of clear. Most recommendation require 2-3 coats.