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DIY Auto Body and Paint

Steps To Adjust A Spray Gun When Spraying A Complete Panel or Complete Vehicle

1. Open Fluid Adjustment Fully Open- Before connecting the spray gun to the air hose, open the fluid adjustment by turning the fluid adjustment out (counter clockwise). Once backed off, turn the fluid adjustment in by turning (clockwise) while holding the trigger. When you first start to feel the trigger move stop.

2. Adjust Air Pressure – Connect the air hose to the regulator on the gun and adjust the air pressure to the recommended setting. This is going to vary depending on the spray gun recommendations.

3. Adjust Fan Pattern – Open the fan pattern open all of the way by adjusting the fan adjustment by turning (counter clockwise) until it stops turning. This is a full pattern open to full width. This is fully open, which will spray approximately an 8 to 12 inch pattern with the gun 8 inches away for the surface being sprayed.

4. Fine Tune Air Pressure – Use a test panel to test the spray gun settings while holding the gun approximately 8 inches away from the surface being sprayed. If the spray drops are too big or the pattern is too round in the center, you will need to slightly increase the air pressure and retest the pattern. If the pattern has too much overspray or if the pattern looks like the figure “8”, the air pressure will need to be decreased.

5. Fine Tuning Fluid – When spraying the test pattern, if the pattern is too wet when sprayed decrease the fluid adjustment slightly and retest until you have achieved desired fluid.

6. Fine Tuning Fan – If you are spraying a medium-wet coat, such as many base coats, a full open pattern (10 to 12 inches) may produce desired result. If not, slightly decrease fan pattern and retest your pattern. If you are spraying a full-wet coat, such as clearcoat, (8 to 10 inches) you may want to decrease your fan width slightly to produce a wetter edge when spraying. Decrease until you have a pattern that works well for you.

- ***Remember, when you set one setting it may affect other settings. For example, smaller fan pattern is going to increase air pressure so you will need to keep an eye on all settings when fine tuning a spray gun. However, remember to spend some time to adjust your spray gun to fit your individual techniques and the materials you are spraying. Don't try to make yourself adjust to the spray gun.***