

**Tech Tips** 



#### **General Definitions**

**Base Color (Basecoat):** A color coat requiring a clear coat. Base Color provides color and appearance, while the clear coat provides gloss as well as UV protection and chemical resistance.

Base Color is also referred to as a "two stage" coating because you first apply Base Color, then secondly the Gloss Clear.

There are also "three stage" Base Colors consisting of a solid Base Color (stage 1), a metallic or pearl second Base Color (stage 2), and then finally Gloss Clear (stage 3).

Base Color can be matched to any OEM vehicle. Base Wheel Color is designed to match most popular OEM Wheels.







#### **General Definitions**

Clear Gloss (Clearcoat): The clear, non-pigmented top coat that is applied over a Base Color (basecoat). Most late-model cars have factory-applied clear coat paints. Clear coat provides gloss and protection, increases paint durability, and provides resistance to harmful environmental effects.

If you have chips, nicks or scratches that have not penetrated the paint, and the color is still showing, you may be able to touch up directly with Clear Gloss.





#### **General Definitions**

**Gloss Color** (single stage): A single stage system that combines the color and clear in one coating.

Gloss Color can be matched to any solid shade such as black, white, red, blue, yellow, orange, etc.





#### **General Definitions**

**Etch Primer:** Etch Primers contain acid to help bond or etch the primer to bare metal substrates. Once an Etch Primer is applied to properly prepared bare metal (sanded, clean, free of rust and contaminants) the Etch Primer provides excellent adhesion to the substrate, and added corrosion resistance by preventing moisture from penetrating the bond between the Etch Primer and the metal surface.

Although Etch Primers are designed to bond well on metal surfaces, they also work well on aluminum, fiberglass and gel coat surfaces.





#### **General Definitions**

**Primer Filler** (also referred to as a Primer Surfacer): Primer Fillers contain solids such as talc and resins to provide extra filling properties to fill sand scratches, pinholes and other surface imperfections.

Primer Fillers sand very easy, and should be sanded before top coating with Base Color or Gloss Color.





#### **General Definitions**

**Rust Seal**: A high gloss, moisture cured, urethane coating for restoring and protecting rusty metal.

- Paint direct to rust or bare sanded steel.
- Seals current rust and prevents new rust from forming.
- Dries to a glossy, non-porous, rock hard surface.
- Excellent durability and chemical resistance.
- Will not chip, crack or peel.
- The Rust Seal Pen is great for very small rust spots.





The following guidelines will help to make sure you are using your Paint Touch Up Bottle & Brush correctly.

#### 1. Clean Surface before applying Paint

- If vehicle is dirty, wash with soap & water. Dry thoroughly.
- After vehicle is clean, wipe the repair areas with Wax & Grease Remover to remove any silicone or other contaminants that may affect paint adhesion.



Soap & Water



Clean Towels KIM 33944



WGR-PB4
Wax & Grease Remover



#### 2. Sand & Prep Repair Area

- Glossy surfaces should be dulled using a medium to fine grit sand paper. This will ensure proper adhesion of paint.
- Remove any rust that may have started on bare metal. The Prep Pen (Image 1) has an adjustable sanding tip to allow you to sand small bare metal spots, or rust spots.
- If you are down to bare metal, you should apply a Primer Filler or Etch Primer before applying Touch Up Paint. The Primer Filler and Etch Primer also work on plastic.
- If there is still some rust remaining, or if you want to touch up the rust at a later date, use Rust Seal to seal the rust spot.
- Remember to shake the Touch Up Bottle (Etch Primer, Primer Filler, or Rust Seal) first before using.

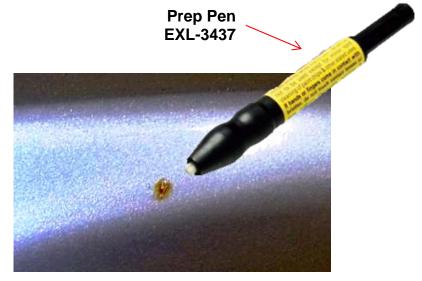


Image 1



Etch Primer Bottle (EP-GB1)



Primer Filler Bottle (PF-GB1)



Rust Seal Bottle (RS-GB1)



#### 3. Apply Touch Up Paint

- Shake the Touch Up Bottle (Base Color, Clear Gloss or Gloss Color) first before using. You should hear the agitator ball inside start to rattle.
- You can use the touch up brush included with the bottle (pictured right), or use other brushes that are available at Touch Up Zone.
- An additional assortment of touch up brushes can be found in the Touch Up Zone online catalog under the "Painting & Touch Up Accessories" section.







Assorted Artist Brushes HFT 69786



#### 3. Apply Touch Up Paint (continued)

- Remove the cap on the Touch Up Bottle and slowly remove the brush from the bottle.
- Wipe any excess paint from the brush by dragging against the side of the Touch Up Bottle.
- Brush paint on with smooth strokes. Use very slight pressure when touching the brush to the surface. Apply 1 − 2 coats or until covered.
- If using Base Color, apply Clear Gloss after Base Color has dried completely.
- If using Gloss Color, apply all coats while paint is wet. Do not apply additional coats of color once the paint begins to dry.
- When finished, recap the bottle and store upright in a moderately cool area.



Base Color Bottle (BC-GB1)



Clear Gloss Bottle (CG-GB1)



Base Wheel Color Bottle (BWC-GB1)



Gloss Color Bottle (GC-GB1)



#### **Other Useful Tips**

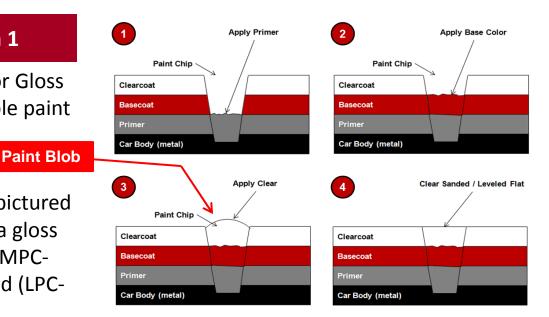
- The optimum painting conditions are temperatures between 65°F (18.3° C) and 85°F (29.4° C) and relatively low humidity (20% to 50%).
- Do not paint in direct sunlight.
- Do not paint over fresh enamel (enamel paint that has not fully cured).
- Try to apply paint in low-wind conditions to avoid having dirt or debris land in wet paint.
- Always use appropriate personal protection (safety gloves, safety glasses, safety respirator).
- Allow paint to dry overnight before handling, or polishing.
- •Always dispose of used paint products in compliance with local and federal regulations.

50°F	60	°F	70°F	80°F	90°	F	100°F
10° C (or below)	15.6	5° C	21.1° C	26.7° C	32.2°	С	37.8° C (or above)
Do not recommend painting at 50°F or below (paint products will dry too slow, or not at all).							Do not recommend painting at 100°F or above (paint products will not too fast leaving a rough surface).
	Optimal Painting Conditions 65°F - 85°F Temperature 20% - 50% Humidity						



#### **Trouble Shooting - Paint Blobs: Option 1**

- When applying Base Color, Clear Gloss, or Gloss Color over paint chips, at times a noticeable paint blob is left.
- Option #1: Paint blobs can be sanded flat using a small sanding disc and water (pictured below – right), and then polished back to a gloss finish with Medium Polishing Compound (MPC-PB4) followed by Light Polishing Compound (LPC-PB4):
- -Medium Polishing Compound (MPC-PB4) removes 1200- 1500 grit sand scratches.
- Light Polishing Compound (LPC-PB4) removes very minor sand scratches (3000 grit and above).
- •Sanding Discs are available in 1500, 2000, 2500, and 3000 grit. The finer the grit sandpaper, the easier it is to remove the sanding scratch with polishing compound and polish back to a gloss finish.





Sanding Cylinder 33 MM / 1.3 Inch 3M 33909



Sanding Disc & 1500 Grit Sanding Circle



#### **Trouble Shooting - Paint Blobs: Option 2**

- With Option #2, you are using Leveling Solution and a Microfiber Towel with a flat Sanding Pad or Block to level the paint blob.
- Allow final coat of Touch Up Paint (or Clear) to dry (approximately 20 to 30 minutes longer if temperature is cooler).
- •Wrap the Microfiber Towel around the Sanding Pad (or Block) and saturate with Leveling Solution. Then, gently level the paint blob by rubbing in a circular motion. Do not rub too hard you may remove too much paint.

• Once leveled, wipe remaining Leveling Solution from the finish with a clean Microfiber Towel.

or



Hand Sanding Pad 3M-33911 115 mm x 67 mm (4.5 x 2.6 Inches)



Hand Sanding Block 3M-33910 (37 MM or 1.4 Inch Diameter)



Apply Primer

**Apply Clear** 

Paint Chip

Paint Chip

Clearcoat

Basecoat

3

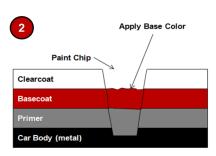
Clearcoat

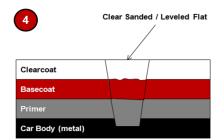
Basecoat

Car Body (metal)

Car Body (metal)

Microfiber Towel







Leveling Solution LVS-PB4



#### **Trouble Shooting**

- Color Doesn't Match:
- The paint in the bottle was not shaken enough (*The pigments inside the bottle must be mixed thoroughly to achieve the proper color and gloss*).
- Please also see "Color Matching Challenges"
- Color Appears Flat or Hazy.
- Humid conditions may exist. Use at room temperature (70°F) for best operation.
- The surface may be too hot. Remove from direct sunlight or heat. Cool surface, then continue.
- Paint Appears Streaky
- The thickness of the paint film is uneven.
- Apply an additional coat of paint and try to get it as smooth and uniform as possible.
- Cannot Achieve Proper Gloss
- Apply additional coats of paint or clear.
- Paint is too glossy
- Apply thinner coats of paint.
- Paint Appears Saggy or has Runs
- Too much paint was applied. Apply lighter coats.
- The temperature of the paint or surface may be too low. Allow surface to warm to room temperature.



#### **Additional Information**

- You can turn your Touch Up Bottle into an Air Brush Bottle by simply screwing the the Air Brush Cap onto the bottle.
- With an airbrush you can gently mist or spray on color and clear, avoiding brush strokes and blobs.
- With the compressed aerosol can (PRV 168) there is no need to buy a costly air compressor, and you can repair scratches and nicks professionally and economically with an Air Brush (please see the "Spray Equipment" section of the Touch Up Zone online catalog).





# How to use a Touch Up Bottle & Brush Tech Tips

Please email any questions that you may have to info@touchupzone.com