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TECH TIPS

Proper care of spray gun nozzles is imperative

Paint spray problems can be due to damaged air caps, fluid tip or distortion to the air passages. Invariably these problems are the result of dropping the gun or using the wrong cleaning technique.

Damage to the nozzle set affects atomization, spray pattern and ultimately the peak performance of your spray gun. We cannot emphasize enough the importance of proper handling and cleaning of critical nozzle components. The proper wrench to remove the fluid tip and small brushes to clean air passages are of extreme importance to the performance and reliability of the nozzle set.

Painters must remember that a dirty spray gun increases friction. Atomization, performance and finish results are seriously affected because parts wear faster. Keeping spray equipment clean and fine tuned for optimum performance is the most important step the painter can take for doing a perfect paint job. It helps eliminate a multitude of application problems and makes the painter look good. Even if your spray gun is the best money can buy, quality performance will definitely suffer from dirty equipment. Keeping your spray guns clean after every use will assure years of trouble free use and provide excellent finish work.

Once you have cleaned your spray gun or after cleaning it in the gun washer there are other important suggestions to remember. Cleaning a digital or standard spray gun in thinner is perfectly safe, but as with any spray gun, extended soaking in solvent can swell or damage seals or packings. Solvents contain resins that cause paint residue to collect in the air and fluid passages. This blocks air flow that negatively affects fan size, shape and atomization. With today's paint going waterborne, little will change with the cleaning procedures that we use for solvent. Use manufactures recommended mixtures for their product and always follow up with rinsing with deionized water and blow all passages as well as parts completely dry.

After cleaning and reassembly, apply spray gun lubricant sparingly to exterior moving parts. Your spray gun will then be ready for action on your next paint job.

If after cleaning you are still having problems with your spray gun see us at Auto Body Supply for repair or replacement.

