



Achieving Color Excellence with AWX[®] Waterborne Basecoat

STEP 1: AGITATION/SHAKING

- Run the mixing machine for 15 minutes in the morning and at noon.
- Run the mixing machine for an additional 5 minutes while mixing color.
- Shake new toners for 5 minutes on a mechanical shaker.
- Remove the lid of the can and hand stir to remove any pigment from the bottom of the can before installing agitation lid; then agitate for 15 minutes before dispensing.

STEP 2: SELECTING THE BEST FORMULA

- Before mixing the color use FormulaExpress[®] online color formula retrieval system and PROSPECTOR[®] color reference system.
- Enter the color code of the vehicle into FormulaExpress[®] color formula retrieval system and click on Color Chip Location. Use this color chip as a starting point. All other color chips from this "color family" must be considered before mixing the color.
- Be sure to select the best formula to match the repaired portion of the vehicle.
- If there is no color chip available, no color code for this vehicle, or the car has been refinished with a different color, go directly to the PROSPECTOR[®] color reference system and select a chip from a fan deck that best represents the vehicle color.

NOTE: Before mixing the color, review your sprayout library and custom formulas to determine if a better formula already exists.

STEP 3: VERIFY COLOR

- Verify your color before the vehicle enters the spray booth.
- All colors must be viewed under equal gloss. Polish the adjacent panels to those being refinished or blended.
- Always use natural sunlight or "color corrected" lights when comparing the car color to the sprayout.
- Always compare the sprayout from **all** angles. (Face or head-on and side tone or flop).

NOTE: You cannot blend a color with a bad side tone!

STEP 4: ASK YOURSELF: "IS THE COLOR CLOSE ENOUGH TO BLEND?"

- If yes: Blend the color!
- If no: Tinting is required.
- If tinting, ask yourself: "How does the car color compare to the paint color."
The answer to this "question" will tell you which direction to adjust the color of the paint.
- Be sure to use the AWX[®] Toner Let-down Decks (set AS2723) to help you select the correct toner for tinting.

STEP 5: MIX COLOR

- Carefully add the correct amount of reducer to the mixed color and stir thoroughly before straining into the gun.
- Before completing the repair, prepare a sprayout card for your library.

NOTE: If the repair requires new parts, a sprayout card should be prepared during the "Jamming" or "Cut In" process. The sprayout card must be sprayed the same way as the car.

Best Demonstrated Practices

I-CAR[®] | INDUSTRY TRAINING
ALLIANCE™

I-CAR recommends following the paint manufacturer's recommendations for paint preparation, mixing and application of automotive refinishing products.



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Automotive Finishes

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