

TESTORS | AZTEK



Air bubbles in paint jar

The nozzle is not in tight enough; air is leaking into paint line. Use cleaning wrench to re-tighten nozzle. Paint buildup on needle causes air to blow back into nozzle. Clean nozzle tip or replace (see cleaning instruction). If the needle tip is bent it can't be fixed. Replace nozzle.

Paint spits in line

Nozzle needs cleaning. Re-clean nozzle and air cap. Paint may be building up on the side walls. Be sure that the paint and nozzle type match. Check consistency of media, re-mix if needed. Poorly mixed or lumpy paint goes through an airbrush at irregular speed. Moisture may be coming from compressor; you may need a moisture trap. Nozzle may be damaged. Replace if needed.

Paint sprays continually

Roller is too far open. Adjust roller setting to loosen trigger. Nozzle needs cleaning or is damaged. You may also have internal airbrush issues and need to return to Testors for inspection and testing.

Spider spray pattern

Air pressure is too great for paint and nozzle, lower psi. Paint is too thin for selected pressure and nozzle. Wrong nozzle for paint and pressure setting, try another nozzle. Airbrush is too close to surface being sprayed.

Reverse Flow

The "Reverse Flow" or "Back Flow" method is common for most other brands of airbrushes, however it should not be used with any Aztek airbrushes. Please do not use this method; the paint should never be forced to flow through the airbrush body. Over time paint may build up on the control mechanism and cause it to fail. The only parts that need to be cleaned are the nozzles and nozzle housing.

Thinners, cleaners and solvents for Testor, Model Master, Pactra and Floquil paints.

Acrylics

The basic thinner for acrylics is water. There are other thinners that are offered. These can all be used when the paint is wet (see list below). When cleaning wet paint from an airbrush use one of the acrylic formulas listed below. If acrylic paint dries on or in your airbrush uses one of the cleaners to remove the dried paint.

Acryl Thinners

Testor Universal Acrylic Thinner 4 oz #50496/50496A
Acryl wet Acryl Cleaners
Testor Universal Acrylic Cleaner 4 oz #50497/50497A
Dried Paint Solvents
Model Master Dried Paint Solvent #50495 1-3/4 oz

Enamels

All enamel thinners are usable with other enamel paints. Model Master, Testor and Floquil are all interchangeable. When cleaning wet paint from the airbrush use thinner. To remove dried paint use enamel thinner or lacquer thinner.

Enamel thinners and wet cleaners:

Testor 8824 Airbrush thinner 1/2 pint
Testor 8825A Airbrush thinner 1-3/4 oz
Model Master 1156X Thinner 1-3/4 oz
Dried Paint Solvents
Floquil F542143 ELO Enamel Paint Remover 8 oz

Lacquers

There are three types of lacquer thinner in the Testor line of products, Model Master Metalizer, Model Master Lacquer and Pactra RC. The thinners for these should not be intermixed. If too much of the wrong thinner is added to the paint the paint may separate and form a non-spray able goo. When cleaning always use the formula made for that brand. Dry paint can be removed with any lacquer thinner.

Lacquer Thinners & Cleaners

Model Master 28016 Auto Lacquer Thinner 1/2 oz
Model Master 2018 Lacquer Thinner 1 oz
Model Master 1419 Metalizer Thinner 1-3/4 oz
Pactra RC68 Thinner 2/3 oz
Pactra RC75 Thinner 3-1/2 oz
Pactra RC95 Thinner 1/2 pint

Airbrush Thinning Ratios

In general when spraying paints through Aztek airbrushes, the paint should be the consistency of whole milk. Never add thinner to the paint jar. If the paint is over thinned the paint can't be thickened. Do not over thin flat Enamels as they can turn glossy if over thinned. Fine detail airbrushing requires practice and varies greatly with the equipment and air pressure used. Experiment on scrap material before you begin painting an actual project. NOTE the numbers listed are only a guide and may vary from color to color.

Testor Model Master Enamel Paints

Gloss; 3 parts paint to 2 parts thinner.
Flat; 3 parts paint to 1 part thinner.
Air pressure setting should be around 20-25 PSI.
Enamels require 48 hours for a full cure.
Thinner; All Enamel solvents

Model Master, Testor Acrylic Paints

Most Model Master & Testor "Acrylic" paints are pre-thinned for airbrushing. Thin paint by adding thinner drip by drop until your consistency has been achieved.
Air pressure should be approximately 18-20 PSI.
Acrylics dry to the touch in minutes, they require 24 hours for full cure.
Thinner; All Acryl thinners

Metalizer

Model Master Metalizer is pre-thinned for spraying and will not need thinning. Air pressure should be around 18-20 PSI.
Metalizer dry to the touch in minutes, they require 24 hours for a full cure. Thinner; 1419 Metalizer Thinner only.

Model Master Auto Lacquer

Model Master Auto Lacquer is not thinned to spray. Add 2 parts thinner to 3 parts paint increase drop by drop.

Air pressure should be approximately 20-25 PSI. Too much high pressure will cause cob web or spider web effect.

Auto Lacquers dry to the touch in minutes; they require 24 hours for full cure. Thinner; 28016 Thinner only.

Racing Finish Paints LEXAN Bodies Lacquers

Mix 9 parts paint to 1 part thinner. You may adjust this ratio to your own preference drop by drop.

Dry time is 5-10 minutes between coats. Full cure 24 hours.

If you achieve a "Cloudy" appearance on the clear Lexan, you may be using too much or too strong of a thinner for these paints. Thinner; RC68, RC75 or RC95 Lacquer Thinner only.

Floquil Polly Scale Acrylics

Floquil Polly Scale Acrylics are not thinned for airbrushing and may be thinned further with water. 3 parts paint to 1 part thinner.

Air pressure should be around 16-18 PSI.

Acrylics dry to the touch in minutes and require a full 24 hours for full cure. Thinner; all Acrylic thinners.

Floquil Enamels

Gloss; 3 parts paint to 2 parts thinner.

Flat; 3 parts paint to 2 parts thinner. Do not over thin flat as they can turn glossy.

Air pressure should be around 21-25 PSI.

Enamels require 48 hours for full cure.

Thinner; all Enamel solvents

Testor Enamels

Gloss; 3 parts paint to 2 parts thinner.

Flat; 3 parts paint to 2 parts thinner. Do not over thin flat as they can turn glossy.

Air pressure should be around 21-25 PSI.

Enamels require 48 hours for full cure.

Thinner; all Enamel solvents

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