

Spray Equipment

Extending the life of your spray gun

Paul Masters, owner of Paul Masters Spray Gun Repair, has been cleaning and rebuilding spray guns since 1975, so it doesn't come as a complete surprise to hear furniture and cabinet finishers and refinishers tell him exactly what he's heard for years from automobile refinishers: "When my spray gun stops working properly, I toss it under my bench and buy a new one."

With implementation of a simple preventive maintenance program, says Masters, finishers and refinishers can have their guns rebuilt for far less than it would cost to replace them.

There are four levels of spray gun maintenance:

- 1) Daily lubrication
- 2) Periodic maintenance
- 3) Thorough cleaning
- 4) Spray gun rebuilding

The nine (9) steps below cover everything you need to know about spray gun maintenance.

For more information on spray gun maintenance, contact Paul Masters at (860) 928-1802. For information on the Master 2000 maintenance kit, contact Tom Sullivan, president of Spray Gun Solutions at (303) 424-3741.



Step-1
Start by brushing the outside of the air cap using the GP brush.



Step-2
Locate the needle in your seven-piece needle set that fits the air holes in the face of the air cap and make sure they are open.



Step-3
Locate the appropriate brush in the five-piece mini brush kit and clean the center hole of the air cap (fluid passage).



Step-4
Using the same kit, clean the air horns of the cap (front and back).



Step-5
Use the 3/16-in. end brush to clean the inside of the fluid tip.



Step-6
Using the five-piece mini brush kit, clean the needle seat (center hole) of the fluid tip.



Step-7
The same kit is used for cleaning all the air holes in the fluid tip



Steps 8 and 9
A brush in the same kit is also used to clean all the air holes in the baffle (front and back). Wipe your needle and lubricate. Be sure to lubricate the needle packing, air valve and trigger stud. The best time for this procedure is a Friday afternoon so your equipment is ready for use at the start of the next week.



Shown directly above are the tools that you need to get started with the maintenance program. Shown here is the Master 2000 maintenance kit from Spray Gun Solutions. Other tools needed include safety glasses, safety gloves and Klean Strip cleaning solution. Shown above left is the Gun Tip Cleaner from Klean-Strip and SAS safety equipment. Klean-Strip offers the Naked Gun Klean-Strip (#11026) gun tip cleaner kit, which is a cleaning solvent designed for aiding in the cleaning process for spray guns. Klean-Strip is the preferred solvent used with Spray Gun Solutions' Master 2000 spray gun maintenance kit. The cleaning process also requires the use of SAS Safety Corp. safety glasses and gloves.



For the purpose of the exercise featured here, a Binks BBR spray gun has been used.