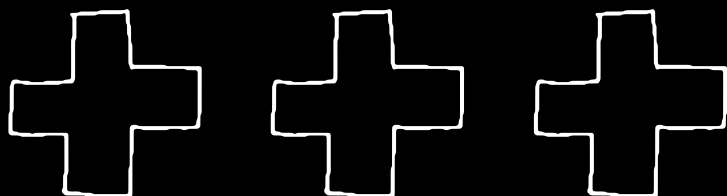


Changing temperatures

& the correct choice of hardeners & thinners



Changing temperatures.

If a 'too fast' hardener option is used, the mixed paint will potentially be more difficult to spray due to pot life of the product shortening, the paint thickening with the worst case being the paint going solid in the gun.

The use of a 'slower' thinner option will potentially make application easier and provide a better level of gloss in the final appearance due to the flow properties of the paint.

In warmer conditions when the weather is hotter, it is obvious that paint will dry quicker, however, it can also make it far more difficult for the paint applied to accept the natural overspray created while painting. As a result, potentially more of the overspray sits on the surface and gives the final appearance once dried, of a dull finish.

The outside temperature could potentially impact many product based processes in the Bodyshop. When mixing body filler, recommendations on how much hardener to use can vary from product to product ranging from pea to golf ball sized and depending upon your accuracy, a simple judgment may not be totally reliable. The real and only correct way is to weigh the amount needed and if the fillers being used recommend hardener amounts such as 2 or 5%, you may be surprised how much (or little) this really is. We know there is nothing more annoying than the filler drying half way through its application.

Another area to be aware of, when it is warm, is that a compressor will generate far more moisture than normal so it's important that a bodyshop regularly checks its filtration is working correctly and that the compressor itself is drained on a more frequent basis.

In addition to all the various performance and process points above, a simple adjusting of bake times and temperature will help to save you money and time in the warmer summer months. The ambient temperature will mean that your spray booth will reach the recommended heat level far quicker than normal which shortens bake times; saving energy usage as well as important booth time that in some cases causes a bottle neck in the whole bodyshop process.

