

“We’re always interested to see what funny decorating stories and helpful decorating tips will arrive in our Decorating Stories and Tips competition. Sometimes you have to wonder how any paint actually makes it onto the wall! The top winning story and tip are in this issue, and we’ll share some of the other funny stories and helpful tips in future TradeLines...” ”



## Bionic glasses

If something sounds too good to be true, it often is as LB Painting Services tells us...

“Once our fellow painter (and great joker) Russell Barr was working on a commercial site with me and my team. He walked in one day wearing some unusual-looking glasses. They were about 20mm thick, made of lightweight foam and had no lens.

When questioned about these odd-looking glasses, Russell told the guys that they were “special cutting-in glasses” designed to improve your accuracy with the brush. He had a few extra pairs so he handed them out for all my painters to try out for themselves.

Three hours later I returned to site to find my whole team still wearing these ‘magical’ cutting-in glasses and working away. I couldn’t help myself but break into hysterics at how ridiculous they all looked, and how seriously they were taking themselves. When they asked me, “What’s up boss?” I asked them how they were finding the glasses. They told me that they were actually working for them!

This made me laugh even more until I was forced to spill the beans: the ‘glasses’ were in fact Styrofoam padding designed to protect the eyebrows on new mannequin dolls, which Russell had picked up somewhere and put on as a joke.”



## Wet wise!

Some problems come and go with the various seasons... winter often brings severe cold and moisture that can play havoc with getting the paint to dry and rampant mould growth, while summer can bring searing temperatures that nearly cook the paint before it hits the surface.

Surfactant leaching tends to happen at certain times of the year when the weather is particularly cold or particularly humid.

If you’re using a waterborne enamel in a bathroom then you may have seen some odd streaks on the wall after the paint has cured. Never fear, these are perfectly normal.

Waterborne interior products in particular are vulnerable to surfactant leaching, where some areas of the paint surface appear to be covered in white streaks, giving a watermark effect. Surfactant leaching only affects the appearance of the paint finish, not its durability. It cannot be accurately predicted or prevented but tends to occur when moisture settles on a film, such as in a steamy room like a bathroom when there is moisture in the air on a cold and wet day or in humid conditions. Colours with higher levels of tint are most prone to surfactant leaching.

Surfactant leaching is caused by water sitting on freshly applied waterborne paints. Water softens the fresh paint and draws out water soluble surfactants. As water dries off these are deposited on the surface. These deposits are easily removed early on by simply cleaning the surface following the interior

paintwork cleaning instructions. The problem may occur once or twice again before all leachable material is completely removed. If left, the deposits can etch the surface and leave a permanent mark. This should diminish over a few months and is only of cosmetic concern.

Surfactant leaching is usually associated with marginal painting conditions. Tinted paints are more prone to surfactant leaching than are white paints because of the ingredients that are present in tinters. To prevent surfactant leaching, it is best to avoid application in the late afternoon if cool, damp conditions are expected in the evening or overnight. Ensure adequate ventilation is maintained during the drying period. If surfactant leaching does occur, advise clients they should clean the surface as soon as possible to avoid permanent marking following the instructions in the Resene Caring for your paint finish brochure – free from Resene ColorShops and resellers or view on our website [www.resene.com/caringforpaint.htm](http://www.resene.com/caringforpaint.htm).

Remember to also grab yourself some of the bathroom mirror labels so you can use them whenever you’re painting wet areas. The idea is to affix the sticker to the mirror in the bathroom freshly painted in Resene waterborne enamels and leave a copy of the Resene Caring for your paint finish with the customer so they know how to look after their new paint finish, reducing the need for call backs and the like. If you are concerned that the environment and conditions are such that surfactant leaching is likely an alternative is to use Resene Room Velvet (available in white/colours off white).

The bathroom labels can be ordered free from Resene ColorShops or online from our website – [www.resene.com/tradeorder](http://www.resene.com/tradeorder).



## Recommended tip sizes for Resene products to get you started

These are good guidelines for exterior/interior work. When you head into the great unknown the tip sizes can vary dramatically depending on the job and unit at hand – if in doubt check with Resene before you start.

	Product	Data Sheet	Hose (no less than)	Filter	LTX tip	Fine finish	Wide rac	Safety mask
Waterborne topcoats	Ceiling Paint	D305	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX517	-	WR1221	Carbon filter
	Clinicalcote	D318	1/4	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	Crown Roof Acrylic	-	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX517	-	WR1221	Carbon filter
	Earthsense Ceiling Paint	D316	1/4	60 mesh (black)	LTX517	-	-	Carbon filter
	Enamacryl	D309	1/4	60 mesh (black)	-	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	Enamacryl Metallic	D309a	1/4	30 mesh (grey)	-	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	Hi-Glo	D31	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX517	FF414	WR1221	Carbon filter
	Lumbersider	D34	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	WR1221	Carbon filter
	Lustacryl	D310	1/4	60 mesh (black)	-	FF412	-	Carbon filter
	Sonyx 101	D30	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	SpaceCote Flat	D314	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	-	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	SpaceCote Low Sheen	D311	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	WR1221	Carbon filter
	Summit Roof Semi-Gloss	D315S	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	-	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	Summit Roof Metallic	D315M	1/4	60 mesh (black)	LTX517	-	-	Carbon filter
	Waterborne Woodsman	D57a	1/4	100 mesh (light blue)	-	FF412	-	Carbon filter
Zylone Sheen	D302	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	WR1221	Carbon filter	
Primers/sealers/undercoats	Acrylic Undercoat	D404	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	Broadwall 3 in 1	D810	3/8	30 mesh (grey)	LTX525	-	WR1227	Carbon filter
	Broadwall WB Wallboard Sealer	D403	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	-	WR1221	Carbon filter
	Broadwall Surface Prep & Seal	D807	1/4 or 3/8	30 mesh (grey)	LTX523	-	WR1225	Carbon filter
	Concrete Primer	D405	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	-	-	Carbon filter
	Enamel Undercoat	D44	1/4	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	Galvo One	D41	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	Galvo-Prime	D402	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX517	-	-	Carbon filter
	GP Metal Primer	D411	1/4	60 mesh (black)	LTX517	-	-	Carbon filter
	Limelock	D809	1/4	60 mesh (black)	LTX513	FF412	-	Carbon filter
	Quick Dry	D45	1/4 or 3/8	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	WR1221	Carbon filter
	Sureseal	D42	1/4	100 mesh (light blue)	LTX513	FF414	-	Airfed filter
	Timber Surface Prep	D814	1/4+	30 mesh (grey)	LTX523	-	-	Carbon filter
	Vinyl Wallpaper Sealer	D406	1/4	100 mesh (light blue)	-	FF412	-	Airfed filter
	WB Smooth Surface Sealer	D47a	1/4	100 mesh (light blue)	-	FF412	-	Carbon filter
Solventborne topcoats	Wood Primer	D40	1/4	60 mesh (black)	LTX517	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	Lusta-Glo	D33	1/4	100 mesh (light blue)	LTX513	FF412	-	Carbon filter
	Ceiling Velvet	D321	1/4	60 mesh (black)	LTX517	FF414	-	Carbon filter
	Kristal Clear Polyurethane	D52	1/4	60 mesh (black)	-	FF412	-	Airfed filter
	Room Velvet	D320	1/4	60 mesh (black)	LTX515	FF414	-	Carbon filter
Super Gloss	D32	1/4	100 mesh (light blue)	LTX513	FF412	-	Carbon filter	

## Getting the best out of your airless spray equipment

We all know that applying paint by airless spray application can be a very speedy way of getting a lot of paint on the surface very quickly, however you have to make sure everything is set up just right otherwise you'll end up using up more paint and time than you planned. One of the keys to successful spray application is making sure you have the right equipment to do the job including the right tip. Of course there are what seems like fifty thousand different options in this area so to help you wade through all the info we've picked out the important bits for you. This information applies to airless spray application only, because as we all know pressure pot and HVLP are a whole different kettle of fish...

If you have always wondered what all the numbers mean in the tip descriptions here's the easy way to decipher them... Take the first digit and multiply by 2 – that gives you the width of the fan. For example, a 515 would be a 10 inch fan (i.e. 5 x 2). The second and third digits tell you the size of the hole, therefore a 515 would be a 15 hole size.

**Tip 1:** The orifice size alone determines flow rate of tip. If you want to cover a greater area with each pass do not try to do this by backing the gun away from the surface. The further away you are the less paint will reach the surface and the more you'll waste as overspray. Instead, use a tip with a larger fan and orifice. Remember if you use a tip with a larger fan but not a larger orifice, the build will be less and you'll have to move the gun slower.

**Tip 2:** Make sure tip and sprayer are rated for each other. Always make sure that the flow rate for the tip is lower than the maximum flow rate for the sprayer. If the tip flow rate is LESS than the sprayer flow rate you're all ok to go. If the tip flow rate is GREATER than the sprayer flow rate, you'll have to change either your tip or sprayer so that the sprayer flow rate is greater than the tip flow rate.

## Dual purpose rubbish bags

Being inventive on the job can help save time and money. Adams Painting tells us their top tip to save curtains from paint...

"Although it's important to protect items such as curtains from paint splashes when doing renovations, removing such items can be a time consuming hassle. In order to save time for the job I had of painting the small ceiling and paperhanging the walls in this room we came up with a quick and simple solution: place the curtains in plastic rubbish bags! You can still use the rubbish bags afterwards and the curtains remain free from paint splashes. Problem solved."



Catch you next month!

TwoCan, Editor.

