

Technical Tip 144 – Paints

The last article on mixing paints prompted the question from a few club members of why use 2K paints and not good old cellulose paints (Duco).

Good question, and I can only answer by my own experiences.

Duco. It's becoming quite hard to get as the industry has moved on to 2K and only specialised shops keep it. Once applied, Duco takes some time to dry so when you have painted an item you have to leave it to dry thoroughly before working on it. If you have a "run" it's not easy to fix. You may have to leave it for a few days (preferably in the sun) before it can be flatted down and repaired.

2K. Once you have learned how to get the mixture of thinners and hardener correct it's very easy to apply and very forgiving. It hardens in a few hours and if you have runs or other woopsies they are relatively easy to fix. Serious botches can be repaired once it has set by "flattening" the botches down with 1200 to 1800 water paper then using a polishing compound to get a smooth finish.

Picture: A polishing compound popular with professional body shops – often referred in the trade as "toothpaste".

