

## Paint Color - Hull

Todd Heinrich

Date: Sat Feb 26, 2000 10:14pm

Our 1967 Commander Paint Color is a perfect match for:

(Ford Motor Co. 1994 OEM Color)

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DDL 8378

We mixed this in PPG DURACRYL Acrylic Lacquer Blend.

Color #	Volume
DMA -311	1086.0
DMA -382	2.1
DMA -314	4.3
DMA -329	16.1
DMA -346	17.2

This material is very easy to work and dries in minutes. Careful: It has very little body so even small scratches will print thru. Fill and prep with West or equal. Ive done a few spots and havent used primer. Polishing compound rubs out the overspray.

Todd.

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15228

From: Todd Heinrich <toddheinrich@c...>

Date: Thu Apr 8, 2004 9:32pm

Subject: Commander Paint Color

Several have asked for this recently.

Our 1967 Commander Paint Color matches this pretty closely:

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DDL 8378 Ford Motor Co. 1994 OEM Color  
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We mix this in PPG DURACRYL Acrylic Lacquer Blend.

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This material is very easy to work and dries in minutes. Careful: It has very little body so even small scratches will print thru. Fill and prep with West or equal. Ive done a few spots and havent used primer. Polishing compound rubs out the overspray.

It will take a while to mix this so plan on two trips to the paint store. We had a qt. made and two 12oz spray cans filled from it with about a pint left over for brushing or? Cost \$43.50. 1999?

If your local supplier cant do this call Painters Supply Co. (19 stores in greater Detroit), Michigan (313)389-1600. They will take your credit card and UPS it. (Add Haz.Mat. shipping charge: about \$15.)

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34880 From: "Greg Jennings" <commander67@...>  
Date: Sat Oct 10, 2009 2:04 am  
Subject: Re: [CCCC] best match of paint color?

From: Lukey :

What current paint most closely resembles the 40-year-old gel coat on the Commanders? What about the grey fake weathered-teak-look on the decks? After three years, I'm almost out of things to do. I have procrastinated long enough.

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Lukey,

Awlgrip Cream H8002 is so very close to the original gelcoat color it would be hard to notice a difference. Awlgrip Graystone G1040 is a very good match for the deck color.

This paint is pricey, tempermental to work with and must be mixed exactly as directed, but you also have to be able to know how to feel and see how the paint is flowing and know when to add a little splash of reducer. This paint is very climate critical as well, especially if you are painting in the slip, zero wind, low humidity, and the temp cannot drop below 55 degrees at night after it is applied, or it might "blush".

This is wonderful paint, if properly applied over a properly prepped surface, it has a deep, high gloss luster that you can see yourself in. It can be either rolled and tipped with a brush or sprayed using different reducers designed for each method. I have used either method with great results depending on the environment you have to work with.

I can get this paint for anyone interested and can provide some pics of a 1970 53 Hatteras hull that I painted last year using the roll and tip method and it looks like a spray job.

Greg Jennings  
Mobile Marine Services  
1969 47 Commander Yachtfish  
"Gaviota"

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11481

From: Scott Anderson

Date: Thu Mar 13, 2003 3:00pm

Subject: RE: [CCCC] Need paint mix to match CC gelcoat

Pletch,  
Toddy told me it was the famed "Ford Wimbledon White" that Ford used from 1964 to 1990 something.....

Extremely common color, and even though I too was skeptical on an exact match, I had two quarts mixed up of ICI AUTOCOLOR Ford "Polar White" (Color Code M) (1965-71) mixed up at my friend's body shop. Hold on to your wallet though!!

All things considered, I would probably opt for the Polyurethane Enamel (single stage) over the lacquer, for durability's sake. Lacquer is very brittle, susceptible to nicks, scratches, and crazing and oxidation in strong sunlight. That's why hardly anyone uses lacquer anymore. Paint technologies have made huge strides since my days of repainting all the old 63-64 Galaxies and T Birds back in the early eighties.

I used this mix to paint my flybridge last fall, and it was not until late October when we installed the bridge up on the roof of the "My Mistake III" that I realized that it is a damn near dead nuts match for the "Commander Oyster" as the honorable Sir Neisler has called it.

I came away pretty happy with that one. She really looks great.

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12205

From: M Hunter <mhunter923@h...>  
Date: Tue May 20, 2003 9:16pm  
Subject: Re: [CCCC] Re: Gelcoat color match

I bought some of the Oyster gel coat from Mini-Craft in Fla. last month. My fiberglass guy sprayed it and it was too yellow/gold. He had to tint it out with a lot of white and a few drops of brown. I called Mini-Craft and ordered the oyster color from the 1980's model Commander 41 and mine was WAY off!

Don't know if it was just a bad batch or not but my fiberglass guy used to work at Rybovich in Fla. and is good at tinting colors to match and is in the process of finishing my work.

Be sure and get a tinting kit!

Captain Mark  
Shindig  
1973 Commander 41 Flush Deck

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22349 From: "Scott C. Anderson" <commander31@...>  
Date: Sun Jan 22, 2006 6:31 pm  
Subject: Re: [CCCC] Commander gel coat color matching

We have used Ford Wimbledon White (1965-85) on several occasions for matching the gelcoat color on our Commander. This was recommended to me by our own founder, and past Grand Poobah Todd Heinrich. If you knew Toddy like I do, (we grew up in the same neighborhood) you would know what a perfectionist he is, and he has learned this from his dad. If this color formula, which you can have custom mixed at any automotive paint outlet, is good enough for the Poob, it's good enuff for me.

I used a single stage automotive enamel in this custom mix to refinish my flybridge for my 69 31 Commander. It is a dead on match, right on the money.

Hope this helps.....

Scott

Scott C. Anderson  
1969 31' Commander SFB  
"My Mistake III"

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23932 From: "bbasler.ccabc" <bbasler@...>  
Date: Mon May 22, 2006 9:31 am  
Subject: Re: Gel Coat colors

--- In cccommander@yahoogroups.com, "botjem1" <botjem1@...> wrote:  
>  
> Any-one know gel coat colors in 1965 - have 1965 27' Commander and need  
> to do some touch up. Also if anyone has place to buy would be helpful.

---

I have used (several times in recent years) Minicraft in Florida.  
<http://www.minicraft.com/>  
Their Chris-Craft records online, go back to 1984. Possibly they have records that go back farther, offline. They will do a custom match for you, if you can give them a good, non-chalky sample to match from. Minicraft will sell you bulk gels and resins, or they have an aerosol sprayer that works OK for small areas. If you have ever worked with gel coat, you'll know that an "aerosol sprayer" does not give you a smooth, spray gun like, finish. Rather, it is a sprayer with a large orifice, designed to get a layer of gel applied somewhat evenly over a surface. You will still need to block sand, feather, buff and all those other fun things that go with gel coat repair.

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41767 From: Lee Dahlen <glassicboats@...>  
Date: Mon Jul 11, 2011 6:41 am  
Subject: Re: [CCCC] Advice on Repairing the Hull

On Mon, Jul 11, 2011 at 5:45 AM, John <brock71@...> wrote:

I managed to put a pretty good scratch through the gelcoat on my '31 Friday. It's mostly just below the rub rail, about 1/4" at it's widest and maybe 18" long. Varies. Also got the topside rear right next to the cleat.

My question is am I better off trying to mix up some gelcoat to match, or go get some Ford white spray paint that is a close match and repair it like an automobile?

John

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Many Years ago we all deduced that Hatter@\$ \$ Eggshell White was by far the closest color. I think putting a Ford white will only make the scratch stand out even more! Just Sayin....

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43298 From: Greg Gajcak <35cevice@...>

Date: Wed Jan 11, 2012 9:34 pm

Subject: Re: [CCCC] awlgrip

Hi Jim,

I painted my 35 commander a few years back and I also used to sell marine paints so please bear with me as I try to cover some of the issues as I see them.

Awlcraft & Imron are both generically categorized as Acrylic Urethanes. This means that they are more forgiving in application and repair. Both can be buffed (wet sanded too) if needed in the future and are generally easier to "keep a wet edge" during application by spray. Both are spray only as far as I know with no brushing catalyst available. Awlgrip and comparable Polyester Urethanes are generally harder coatings and slightly more abrasion resistant but you spray it or brush it and you need to get it just right. Repairability is really a repaint not a touch up. The Solids content is higher in the Awlgrip. If you buff Polyester Urethanes you are really damaging the surface and shortening the life of the product. Most of us commander owners would be well served with Acrylic Urethane like Awlcraft (aka Awlcraft 2000) or Imron. Most big paint manufacturers make an Acrylic Urethane product for Marine such as Interlux etc.

Benefits of the traditional Awlgrip are that it can be Rolled and Tipped by a good brush man. Dennis did this on his 47 if I recall. I painted my boat with awlcraft 2000 on the horizontal surfaces and I used Awlgrip for the decks, non-skid and walking surfaces. Non-skid additive can be added to most paints and can be sprayed with a large orifice nozzle on decks or flat or can be rolled with good success and you can add a flattening agent to hide the variations in texture.

I think that the most important factor is to use what your painter is most familiar with. The learning curve and spray requirements vary from product to product and if you ask a painter to use Awlgrip or Awlcraft and he has only sprayed Imron you are probably more likely to experience some disappointment in the end result. Now, depending on your location some spray shops in Florida and elsewhere do a lot of boats and probably can handle requests but they are likely to be the pricier shops.

In a prior life I sold Awlgrip and some competing products and while generically similar they all require one common thing - Surface preparation. While some can get a favorable result with "scratch and shoot" and not using primer, most will recommend a primer which will fill pinholes and will cover other repairs necessary. Also, note that using dark paints on our commanders will result in some "post-curing" of the resin and no matter how well you prep that hull once the sun cooks that dark color it will heat up and cure the resin further and this will result in some print through showing. There are ways around this but require Heating the hull to a very high and dangerous temperature or you could prime it in Black and leave it outside for a while in the sunny weather! ha!

On primer, I love the Awlgrip epoxy 545 primer. It is easy to spray and it is a great sanding surfacer. Once you're done sanding it will have a near gloss finish. If you have prepped well, the

boat will look excellent at this point and fantastic with 2-3 thin coats of urethane on it. Oh, Most important thing, you need an air fed respirator to apply these products safely. You can get by with an Organic filter units in very short doses in well ventilated areas or outside but the fumes are terrible and dangerous to your health especially on Polyester Urethanes which give off isocyanates. If you are dumb enough to paint your own boat (like me) be smart enough to get good safety gear.

The original Chris Craft Gel Coat is outstanding quality and shouldn't need to be painted unless it has become porous to wet sand and buff out or if it has worn through or has significant damage. Gel coat will be more durable and forgiving but the gloss factor on a urethane finish is far greater. It just takes either a lot of work or a chunk of change to hire someone to do it. There are some links to photos in my signature block which show some of the painting steps on my 35 Commander. I used Flag Blue and Stark White and I am very happy with the color even though the dark blue does some serious heat radiating in the summer.

Here is a link to the boat I copied for my paint scheme. It's a scaled up 35 commander but built in Germany.

<http://www.superyachttimes.com/yachts/details/956>

Good luck.

Best regards,  
Greg Gajcak  
"Ceviche" 1972 35 Commander Express  
FXA35-3024-H  
CHICAGO, IL  
email: 35ceviche@...  
<http://picasaweb.google.com/ggajcak>

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33607 From: "Rick Traskos" <rick\_traskos@...>  
Date: Mon Jun 22, 2009 4:49 pm  
Subject: Re: [CCCC] paint colors for hull

John - My 45' was painted years ago but my yard has no problem matching either gel coat or paint and having PPG paint products (similar to DuPont's Imron) made to match the paint or gel coat. Any good yard or Painter can do a perfect match so you could get away for \$500 to \$1,000 rather than springing for a whole new paint job. They compound your hull to get exactly the underlying hull color, Then they take a picture of it with a special paint camera. This feeds the colors into a computer and the computer mixes the paint. The claim they get it right the first time 98% of the time. They did both my hull color and my blue boot strips perfectly. If you look at a gallon of beautiful Chris Craft hull white for my boat, it looks more like a light colored coffee

milkshake than white. Definitely got some tan in there. Just offering a cheap alternative just in case you thought you were painted into a corner.  
I must believe DuPont and Interlux can also do this. I recall one time an Awlgrip salesman telling me they had 26 shades of white available at the factory. Send them a sample and they can match. Good Luck. RT

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32787 From: Don Hancock <dhancock3167@...>  
Date: Mon Apr 20, 2009 11:05 pm  
Subject: Re: [CCCC] Paint

Chris,

Welcome to the club, where are you located? lets see some engine pics. I painted my 67 31 with Interlux brightside white. Does your boat run? Yours may be the only other express besides mine with 454s. I put mine in from scratch last year, If you have'nt run the boat yet it should fly, mine cruises at 26 knots at 3000 rpm. I also have a bridge so I'm slightly heavier.  
Looking forward to hearing from you.

Don Hancock  
FXA 31 2074 H

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47229  
Painting with Imron

Byron Smith on October 4, 2013 at 7:40pm

Painted the hull of my 25 regal 14 years ago with imron, still shines like new! Sales rep came to boat with portable Color matching Computer. Perfect match. Best thing about Imron is no primer over gelcoat necessary. Just DA with 320, wipe down with prep-solvent and paint. Imron can be buffed too

Byron

FBA 42 3019H

Delray Beach Fl

Cummins 330 repower

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Jim Sizemore

[http://www.iboats.com/Chris-Craft-1972-Off-White-Color-Boat-Gel-Coat-Gallon-Spectrum-Color/dm/cart\\_id.356138182--session\\_id.859358497--view\\_id.833552](http://www.iboats.com/Chris-Craft-1972-Off-White-Color-Boat-Gel-Coat-Gallon-Spectrum-Color/dm/cart_id.356138182--session_id.859358497--view_id.833552)