

Overview This standard is about the ability to identify, mix and match vehicle paint colours, including the use of tinters and the preparation of colour test cards.



Performance

criteria

You must be able to:	P1	wear su	itable personal protective equipment and use the specified	
		environ	mental safety equipment throughout all paint mixing and matching	
		activities		
	P2	support paint mixing and matching activities by reviewing:		
		P2.1	the vehicle manufacturer's technical data	
		P2.2	material manufacturer's technical data	
		P2.3	colour libraries	
		P2.4	spectrometer	
		P2.5	work instructions	
	P3	prepare	e, check and adjust all the equipment required, following manufacturer's	
		instructi	ions, prior to use	
	P4	prepare	all the refinishing systems and materials required following health and	
		safety r	equirements and using:	
		P4.1	materials which conform to the specification required	
		P4.2	the manufacturer's approved method	
		P4.3	the manufacturer's approved equipment	
	P5	mix, co	mpare and adjust colour tones and effects correctly using suitable	
		mixing a	and matching techniques	
	P6	estimat	e the appropriate amount of mix material	
	P7	select a	in appropriate refinishing technique	
	P8	ensure	all refinishing systems and materials prepared meet the specification	
		required	d for colour and viscosity prior to application	
	P9	apply re	finishing systems and materials to colour test cards using approved	
		equipm	ent and following:	
		P9.1	the manufacturer's instructions	
		P9.2	the correct application techniques for managing colour and tone	
		varia	bles	
		P9.3	health and safety requirements	
	P10	dry all c	olour test cards before checking colour following health and safety	
		requirer	ments and using:	

P10.1 the manufacturer's technical data



	P10.2	the manufacturer's approved equipment
--	-------	---------------------------------------

- P11 ensure the colour produced:
 - P11.1 meets the material manufacturer's technical data
 - P11.2 meets the customer's requirements
 - P11.3 is a blendable match to the existing colour
- P12 dispose of waste materials to conform with legal, environmental and workplace requirements
- P13 leave tools, equipment and work environment in a clean and serviceable condition, as appropriate
- P14 complete all mixing and matching activities within the agreed timescale and to an agreed quality control process
- P15 report any anticipated delays in completion to the relevant person(s) promptly



Knowledge and understanding

You need to know

and understand:

- K1 the health and safety and environmental legislative requirements specific to mixing and matching vehicle colours and why it is important that these are followed
- K2 workplace procedures and workshop practices relevant to personal and vehicle protection before, during and after mixing and matching vehicle colours
- K3 the importance of disposing of waste safely and the consequences of not doing so to others, the business and the environment
- K4 the vehicle work specification agreed
- K5 your workplace procedures for:
 - K5.1 the referral of problems
 - K5.2 reporting delays to the completion of work
- K6 the importance of working to agreed timescales and keeping others informed of progress
- K7 the relationship between time, cost and productivity
- K8 the importance of reporting anticipated delays to the relevant person(s) promptly
- K9 how to prepare, check, adjust and use all the equipment required for mixing and matching vehicle paint colours
- K10 how spraying equipment adjustments can alter colour
- K11 spray gun faults, their cause and their rectification
- K12 the properties of refinishing systems and materials and the factors affecting their use
- K13 how to find, interpret and use sources of information relevant to the mixing and matching of vehicle paint colours
- K14 the principles of colour theory and the effects of light
- K15 how to compare, mix, test and adjust colour tones and effects, including metallic, mica and other specialist effects
- K16 the consequences of adding too much tinter and the process for correcting and adjusting it
- K17 the implications of combining different manufacturer's paint products



throughout the refinishing process

- K18 the factors affecting colour variation and tone, including the effects of metamerism
- K19 how to dry test panels and colour test cards and the importance of doing so
- K20 how to identify the causes of, and rectify, colour mismatch
- K21 how to assess and evaluate the need for blending techniques to achieve an acceptable colour match
- K22 the importance and implications of correctly preparing the existing finish for colour matching and checking the match using the correct light source
- K23 how to identify the paint substrate and the importance of doing so
- K24 how to dispose of waste materials in compliance with any environmental requirements/legislation and workplace procedures
- K25 how to work safely avoiding damage to vehicles, personal injury and injury to colleagues
- K26 the importance of following manufacturer's instructions and using their approved methods of working, including use of refinishing systems, materials and equipment)
- K27 the consequences of failing to follow manufacturer's instructions
- K28 the varied range of technology used within the mixing and matching process
- K29 the advantages of creating and storing your own colour library
- K30 the implications of rectification identified by an agreed quality control process





Developed by	IMI
Version number	3
Date approved	Not yet approved
Indicative review	31 March 2025
date	
Validity	Draft
Status	Original
Originating	IMI Ltd
organisation	
Original URN	ARPO13
Relevant	Engineering; Vehicle Trades; Senior Automotive Paint Technician;
occupations	Cosmetic Refinishing Technician (Automotive); Cosmetic Senior Refinishing Technician (Automotive)
Suite	Accident Repair - Paint; Accident Repair - SMART - Cosmetic
Key words	Mix; match; paint; colour; automotive; vehicle