

Airbrush Makeup

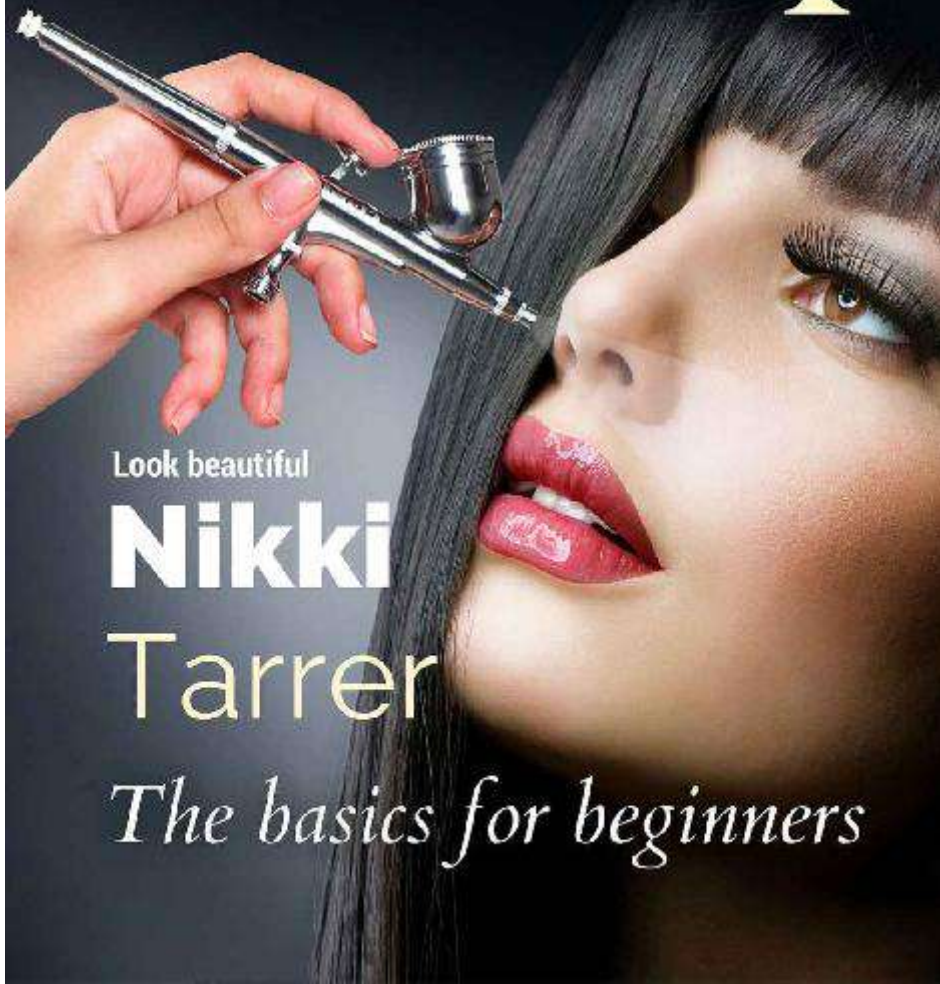


Look beautiful

Nikki
Tarrer

The basics for beginners

Airbrush Makeup



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Introduction to

Airbrushing

What is Airbrushing? It is simply a small, air-operated tool that sprays all types of fluids like makeup, paint, dye

and ink on any surface through an

airbrush gun.

Airbrushing is most used in bridal and

creative makeup and is known for its

hygienic application and HD finish.

Millions of microscopic color particles gently settle on the skin after the spray, allowing for your natural skin tones to



still shine through, so your desired look can be **achieved quicker** than the

traditional method of application of

brushes and sponges.



Airbrushing, In the beauty industry, is used in TV and film, tanning, body art airbrushing, hair airbrushing and temporary tattoos. The compressed air

atomizes the fluid and sprays it out of the needle, resulting in a very fine smooth even distribution of color.

More and more makeup artists are

turning to airbrushing makeup for
achieving beautiful, even smooth skin for **bridal work and TV**.

It is excellent for people who have
sensitive skin as there is no
application of sponges or fingers being
pushed into the skin.

Airbrushing requires a level of patience, determination and practice, from this you will
be an experienced airbrush artist,

there is much to learn, so let's get to
it....

Today, there are **many types of airbrush guns**, so let's get familiar with some of them.

Terms For

Airbrush Types

Some **airbrush guns vary** by the way **the air and paint meets then mixes**.

This is known as an **Internal or**

External mix. The internal mix is most suitable for makeup as it only requires a low
velocity of fluid intake into the

color cup. Let's go into detail with
this...

▪ Internal Mix

Internal Mix Airbrush



With an **internal mix airbrush**, the Airbrush Makeup meets and mixes stream which is then expelled out through the tip, in the air creating a finer atomized mist of **soft delicate microscopic color “dots”** which gives even distribution of color and makeup. The color cup is much smaller, as it is only required to spray smaller work **like makeup**.

▪ External Mix

With an **external mix**, the air and paint exits the needle then mixes outside the tip, which creates a coarser **atomization and dotted spray pattern**. This covers larger areas to develop a flat, continuous color and is best suited for people using media such as paints or varnishes. **Due to the larger areas and volume of**

work, the bottle or jar is required to hold larger volumes of fluid. People who airbrush automobiles, t-shirts, backgrounds, fine art signs should use this method.

The Trigger

Let's talk about the trigger of the gun, there are 2 main types of triggers: single and double (dual) acting guns.



Single Action Gun

Also referred to as **single “acting,”** the single act of the trigger being pulled back to release airflow and makeup mixed together.

This gives a **preset volume of spray, better used for a continuous use of a flat spray pattern, therefore limited to such detailed work.**

A **single action gun** is ideal for covering basic work such as spraying foundation in the examples below, though it is

limited in the control of its volume of spray and the definition you may require, hence why a **dual action gun** may be the better option if you wish to use it for airbrushing eyeliner, eyeshadow and more detailed work such as special fx makeup.



However, with a single action gun, the definition required can still be controlled by:

1. Lowering or maximizing the air pressure (psi) on the compressor (air source) 2.

Using a different nozzle and needle diameter 3.

Manually moving your hand closer or further away from the surface to achieve a smaller or wider width of spray.

4. Using cut out friskets and

stencils to give precise lines

Dual Action Gun

Also referred to as a “**double acting**

gun,” this gun works by first **depressing the trigger down** to release the air, then pulling the trigger 1-3 thirds back which then **releases the mix of makeup and**

air together. Allowing you to gradually release makeup, and take more control

of the width of spray, the transparency and opacity of makeup. The more you

pull the trigger back, the more makeup is released.



This is ideal for creating detailed thin lines to a wider spray pattern. People

who work in **craft, cake decorating,**

painting murals, artworks and makeup

artists doing special FX would be the perfect user of this.

Fluid Feed Reservoir (where

the makeup goes in)

Gravity Feed, Side feed, and Bottom feed simply means how the **makeup is fed into the system**. Makeup/paints/oils are fed into the system in different ways due to each nature of the work. Let's take a closer look at them.



Gravity feed



Is where the makeup/fluid is drawn into the airbrush from the color cup mounted on top of the airbrush gun and pulled down by gravity. This feed is most commonly used and **ideal for people requiring less velocity of spray**, however they do come in different sized cups as some require more applications of spray work. These are suitable for makeup artists, cake decorators and nail artists. **The gravity feed is ideal for the**



beginner as it is easier to clean and affordable.

Side feed

Is a **removable siphon feed system**

where fluid/paint is drawn in from the color cup mounted from the side of the airbrush.

Fluids are sucked up from the bottle then **fed through the front of the nozzle tip.**

This is ideal for artists requiring

airbrushing in odd spots and want

nothing obstructing their vision. **Suitable for painting motorcycles, ceilings, and illustrator work).**

Bottom feed



Also known as “**siphon-feed,**” this feed is similar to the side feed, except that the bottle is much larger and since it is bigger, the bottle is mounted at the bottom of the airbrush gun.

This is ideal for body spray tanning,

murals, automobiles, and industrial

work.

CUP SIZES

Airbrush guns come in **all types of**

sizes, depending on how much makeup spray work is required. Generally for

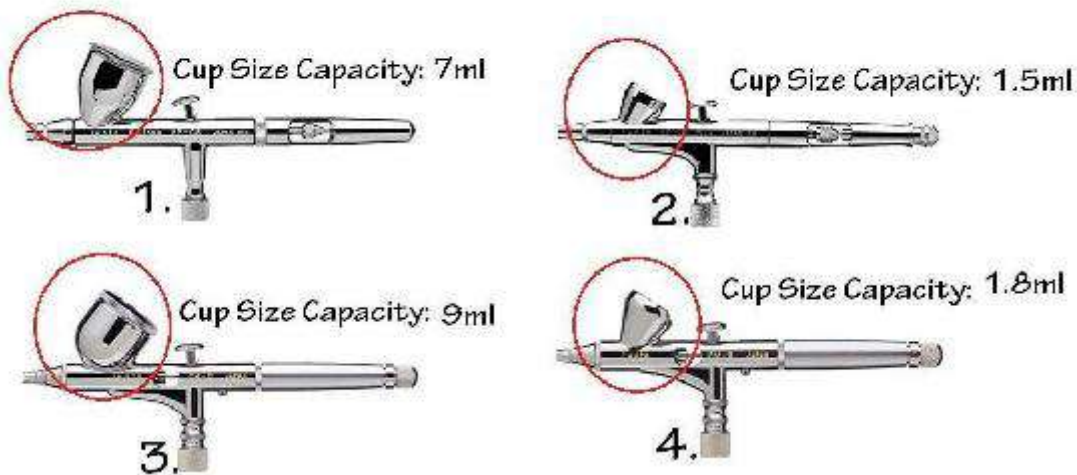
spraying just foundation makeup, 1.8ml

to 9ml cups are all ideal. **Some cup**

reservoirs come with a lid as you can see in diagram 1 to prevent the fluid from spilling out. Larger cups are good for larger areas of spray whilst smaller cups require smaller areas of spray

work.

DIFFERENT CUP SIZES



NEEDLE/NOZZLE SIZE

The needle/nozzle size can affect the

width of spray as well . **The larger the diameter, the more coarse and wider**

the spray pattern will be. If the needle and nozzle size is smaller, then the spray pattern will be more fine and detailed.

0.3mm or 0.35mm are ideal for makeup

work as you can achieve a diverse range of spray patterns from smaller to wider.

Needle size	Nozzle size	Needle Cap	
0.2mm ultra fine	0.2mm 	0.2mm 	Great for nail art airbrushing
0.3mm fine	0.3mm 	0.3mm 	Great for makeup, cake decorating
0.35mm medium	0.35mm 	0.35mm 	Great for makeup, and spray tanning

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Types of Handles

You will come across **different types of handles**, here we will go into detail about them.

Cutaway handle

Having a cutaway allows you to **access the chucking nut to adjust the needle without removing the entire handle**, making it more time-efficient and easier when performing on the job.

Preset handle for a Double Action Gun

A double action gun with a preset handle **presets the trigger and needle to stop at a limit**. This affects and determines the range of spray allowing you to gain

precise control of paint flow in order **to prevent over spraying when pulling**

the trigger, this is achieved when turning the knob at the end of the handle.



Preset handle for a Single

Action Gun

On a single-action airbrush, there is already a **preset setting in place**, meaning you will only get one preset volume of spray, but you can also pull the needle manually in or out of the nozzle to vary the paint spray.

Airbrush

Terminology You

Should Know

Cfm

Cubic feet per minute - A measurement of air flow rate velocity. This term refers to the air compressor. E.g. .30cfm, .37cfm, .33cfm.

P.S.I (Pounds per square

inch) A measurement of air pressure. E.g. 1-8 psi, 1-35

psi. It is the pressure

resulting force applied to an area of one square inch.

Air Regulator

The device used to **adjust the air pressure** (psi) up or down.

BAR

The bar is a measurement unit of pressure, equal to 1,000,000 dynes per square centimeter (bares).

1 Bar is equivalent to 14.5 p.s.i

A compressor that is:

PSI BAR

12 p.s.i = 0.83 Bar E.g. OF USE

PRESSURE Spraying foundation Low pressure

14.5 p.s.i = 1 Bar

21 p.s.i = 1.45 Bar

30-35p.s.i = 2-2.4 Bar

Bronzer

Mall hobby figures Body spray tanning

60 p.s.i = 4.1 Bar T-shirt painting **100 p.s.i =6.8 Bar** People who spray paint automobiles Low pressure Medium pressure High Pressure

=Faster spray

+higher volume High-Med

Pressure

Highest pressure

Moisture Filter

A device to **remove water from air**

found in an oil-less compressor.

Oil Filter

A device to **remove oil from the air**

compressor found in an oil type

Compressor.

PSI and CFM comes in all different measures. For makeup application, it requires a very low psi **(between 0 -15) since it is pointed at your client's face.**

Rule of thumb: If a higher and larger

volume of spray area is required, then a higher psi and cfm (power) is required, which is true for the reverse as well.

How many psi is there in 1 bar? The

answer is 14.5

Viscosity

How thin or thick the makeup is. The more thin the makeup is, the less viscous it is.

Needle Cap

The **needle cap prevents the needle**

from bending or getting damaged, it is also a protective cap to **avoid the needle being in contact** with your client's skin.

Air Sources

(Compressors)

So now that you understand the types of

airbrush guns out there, and the ways the fluid is fed into the airbrush, let's talk about the **different types of air sources**.

What Is An Air Source?

A device or unit that is capable of

producing pressurized air is known as air source. The airbrush gun must be attached to the air source for it to

function. To determine which air source is right for you, think about the length of continuous time that is required and the amount of area you will need to work on.

If you only require 15 minutes or less of continuous use, or are only spraying smaller areas of work such as a face

application, then a **portable air**

compressor is best for you as it will provide consistent low air pressure for the best control and management of transparency in a makeup application.

Some air sources are large and are

designed to be used for industrial

purposes such as the piston compressor,

and using a portable compressor would not be ideal as it will overheat and

require more power. **Some are smaller, and are designed for more delicate**

types of work such as doing makeup,
which will require less power.

Here Are The Different Types Of Air Sources

Air sources can refer to a propellant can or a carbonic gas tank. When applying makeup, we refer to it as the airbrush compressor.



Portable Compressors

(Silent Airbrush

Compressors Ideal for

Makeup artists or home

user)

Known as the smallest airbrush compressor around, the portable

compressors are **much more compact**
and fashionable compared to earlier models, yet they are powerful enough to
do smaller volumes of airbrush spray
work in a time frame of approx. 15
minutes per hour. **This is not suitable for doing larger volumes of work**
which is required when airbrushing a
ceiling or automobile.



The **air pressure from the compressor**
can be adjusted by either an air
regulator (simple terms: a dialing
knob) or a push button adjuster to the desired cfm (air speed). It is also recognized
for being the “silent”
compressor for its low noise level.
Compressors can also be **battery**

operated for people that require more mobility.

Piston Compressor

These compressors are stronger and

have more power than the airbrush

compressors. They produce more air which is required for **spraying larger areas such as body tanning** or painting and can work continuously for **long**

periods of time.

In saying this, the air needs to be

restricted with an air regulator before it reaches the air hose as you don't want the water getting into the hose.



The air regulator usually comes with an **attached moisture filter** which captures the moisture that is developed inside the

compressor before it reaches the air hose. When you're spraying, moisture

will build up in your tank, so it is

important that you **drain it after each use as the** tank could begin to get rusty in a month's time span.

Bottom Line

For larger areas of airbrush work (e.g.

spray tanning) look in to **larger fluid reservoirs and compressors with**

higher psi's (1-60 p.s.i) as they are **stronger and produce more air**. For smaller areas of work (e.g. face

makeup). Look in to smaller cup

reservoirs with lower psi compressors

(1-18p.s.i).

Understanding

Your Airbrushing

Gun

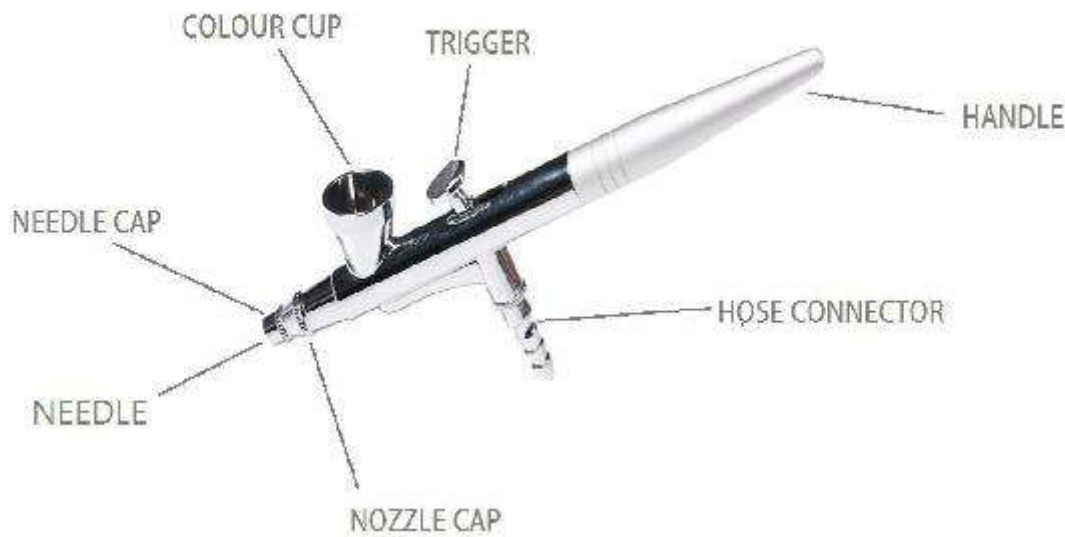
It is important to understand your

equipment, and be familiar with the

terminology of your airbrush gun, here

are the basics...

AIRBRUSH GUN: THE BASICS



1. Color cup – Where the makeup gets **drawn into the system**. Paints and fluids are also held in the jar or bottle known as the gravity, side or bottom

feed.

2. Trigger – Where you **control and activate the release of the makeup spray**.

3. Handle – **Protective cover** for the inside mechanism, also to access the chucking nut and needle.

4. Hose connector – Connects the hose to the compressor, thus **supplying air to your spray equipment**.

5. Needle – The needle **serves two functions**.

The needle always acts as a **liquid flow limiter at the end of the paint system**.

It's there to only allow certain amounts of liquid through.

Its second function on an airbrush is to direct the spray using your tip as a guide. Your detail ability comes from the pointy part of the needle.

6. Needle cap – Protective cap for the needle. The needle cap protects the needle's tip from contacting any surface.

Most hard surfaces will bend and damage the needle.

7. Nozzle cap – Is simply the protective cap for the nozzle.

Most airbrushes are adaptable to **three different tips: fine, medium, and heavy** to enable different **size/volume sprays** and to airbrush materials of **varying**

viscosity (thick or thin).

When the **tip is changed in an internal-mix airbrush**, the needle must also be changed to **correspond** (fine, medium or heavy).

Let's take a closer look at the

Needle/Nozzle size Chart....



Needle/Nozzle Size

Chart

Needle Size Description

0.4 mm to 0.5 mm Largest size to
consider (for paint with more
viscosity/thicker paint)

For continuous flat spray patterns
requiring larger spray patterns (eg;
airbrushing automobiles, ceilings)

0.3 mm to 0.35 mm High-end of
detailing range of needles (suitable for makeup)

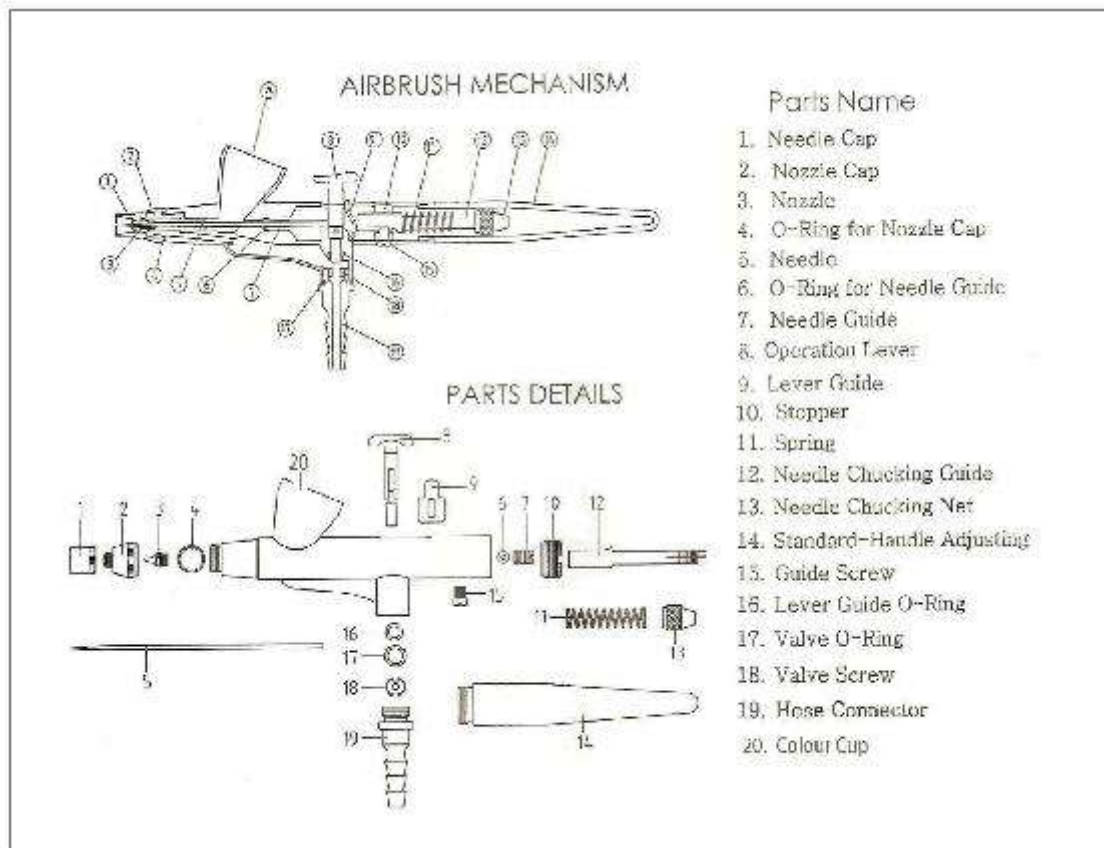
0.2 mm to 0.25 mm Fine spray patterns
(suitable for thinner paint)

Perfect for more advanced artists 0.15 mm and smaller The best spray
pattern details Most expensive type of
airbrushing needles

Here Is The

Airbrush In Closer

Detail:



In beauty applications, the needle cap
protects the **client from contact with the needle**.

Tip: A **spare needle** is recommended as it can easily bend if it has been mishandled especially if it is a fine sized needle, and I can tell you that this isn't fun when it happens in the middle of a
bridal makeover! Yikes!

Which Airbrush

Kit Is Best For

Makeup?

Generally **face makeup application**

does not require a huge deal of

detailed work, you also want it to be **portable and silent**.

If you're using it for personal use or for bridal makeup, buying a **small portable compressor is sufficient to carry the work out**, as it has enough power to withstand at least 15 minutes of

continuous work.

As for the gun, a single action is perfect if you're only using it for foundation,

blush or bronzer. But if you're looking in to **doing eyeliner, contouring,**

eyeshadow and more precision type

work such as special FX makeup, I

recommend a dual action gun and a gravity feed with a 2cc cup or 18ml cup

size, which is enough volume to spray

makeup on one face.

If you're doing body makeup spray, I

suggest you buy a bottle or jar feed

reservoir as it requires more volume of

spray for larger areas and using a piston compressor in the Iwata series.

The **needle and nozzle size diameter should be 0.3mm or 0.35mm**, these are ideal for doing makeup as it will give

you enough volume of spray and still

allow you to do precision work.

When you're searching for a kit, **you will come across the specifications**, it might not make sense at first, but once you

understand it, you'll know what you're looking for.

Let's see this outlined in the **guide** below.



Airbrush

Specifications

Specification example of a makeup airbrush kit (single action gun) explained in detail.

Specifications

Air Pressure: 15 Psi

Output per min: more than 16L/min





Weight: 0.56KG

Power: 10W

Air regulator/Gears: 5 settings high to low

Feed Type: Gravity Feed

Control: Single action

Nozzle Dia.: 0.3, 0.35mm

Length of the air brush: 140mm

Cup capacity: 2CC (2cc (cubic centimetre) 1 cc = 1 ml so therefore 2CC is 2 mls (milliliters) Nozzle spanner

Description

P.S.I (Pounds per square inch) is the measurement of air pressure. The ideal air . The ideal air 15. Anything

over this is too strong to spray directly on the face, and will spray out too much makeup too quickly.

How much fluid can be **sprayed per**

litre by the minute.

Weight of compressor.

Motor strength.(This is strong enough to withstand at least 15 mins of continuous use)

The control of air pressure up to 15 Psi.

The lowest pressure is ideal for

spraying smaller areas of work like blush, **while high pressure is ideal for larger areas like foundation.**

How the makeup is fed into the system. It is pulled down into the **cup by gravity.**

The single act of **pulling back on the trigger to spray a mix of makeup and air.**

Result: Giving a preset volume of spray

which limits the control of width and

transparency (light to dark contrast of color)

This can be used for **basic continuous spray patterns not requiring fine thin line patterns**, therefore doing

foundation, blush, and bronzing is ideal.

The needle and nozzle size diameter can

make a **difference in the width of the spray pattern. For makeup face**

application, a medium makeup face

application, a medium 0.35mm) is ideal

for doing smaller to wider areas of

spray patterns.

The length of **your airbrush gun**

The amount of ml's of fluid your color

cup can hold. **For face makeup, 2 mls is plenty.** For the safe **removal and refitting of nozzles.**

Water dropper. The tool used to **transfer water to your color cup.**

Airbrushing

Equipment

Maintenance

Cleaning and Assembly The

Quick version

One of the main reasons why your

airbrush gun **splatters or doesn't spray is usually due to the tip of the needle becoming clogged with makeup build**

up (Tip dry). Makeup builds up on the needle's tip so

What You Need



Add solution

it necessary to clean after each use.

**Short version of how to clean your
single action gun.**

You Need:

1. **Cleaning Agent** (Brands include Elementwo, Dinair)

2: Chux Wipes or tissues.

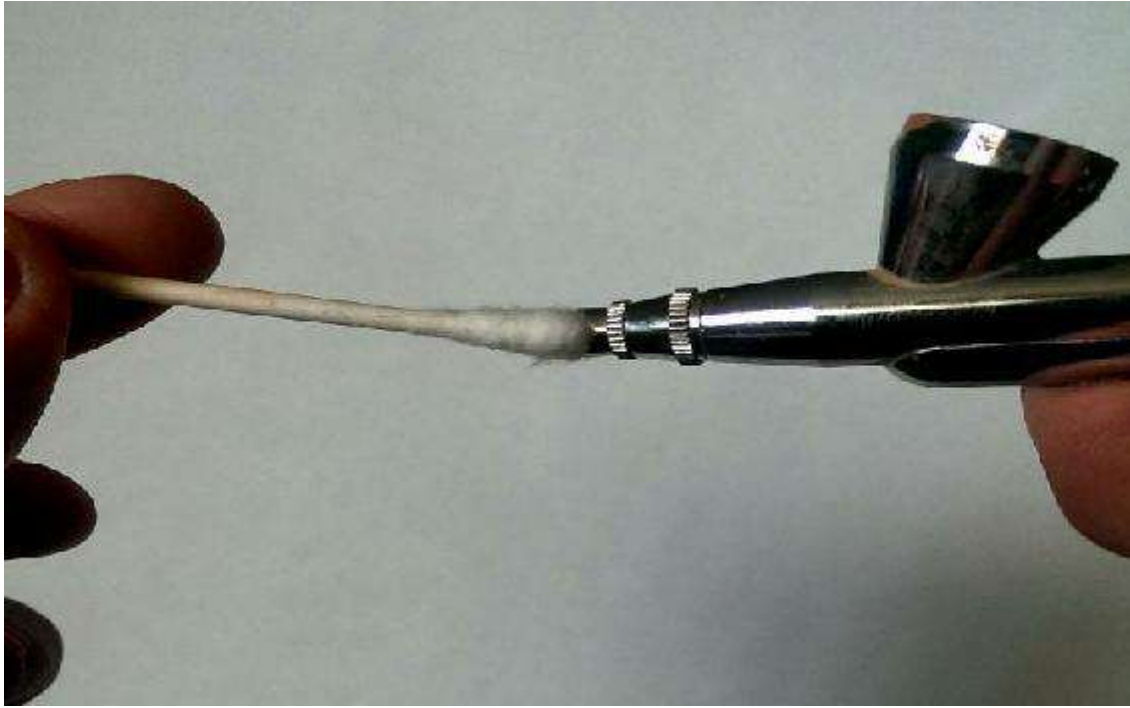
3: Q-Tips

Add cleansing solution to your Q-tip,

gently insert your Qtip inside the needle cap and spin it around until it is clear of makeup color. Be sure to pull the trigger back first to avoid damaging the needle.

Insert and spin Q-tip





1. Unscrew the needle cap and gently wipe off any makeup surrounding the needle tip, screw needle cap back on,

then clean inside the color cup with a Q-tip.

Unscrew Needle Cap Wipe

Needle Tip Clean Color Cup



2. Add solution inside the color cup, turn your compressor on, press tissue against needle cap, pull trigger back to make the solution bubble a few times, then spray the remaining out onto the

tissue until it sprays clear.

3. Use a Q-tip or twist your Chux inside your color cup, by spinning it around a

few times until the inside of your cup is clear of makeup.



Twist Chux

View Video:

Cup Should Be Clear



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXMwauPLjiA&list=UUbXZeQdA23wT5I1oqYS)

[v=qXMwauPLjiA&list=UUbXZeQdA23wT5I1oqYS](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXMwauPLjiA&list=UUbXZeQdA23wT5I1oqYS)

PDHg

The Thorough Version



4. Do the same as above, but **continue to unscrew the handle then the chucking nut and gently pull** the needle out.

5. Add **solution to the chux** and wipe excess makeup off the needle tip until **clear of makeup**.

6. **Push needle all the way back in.**

Screw the chucking nut and handle back

in. Now spray using water. It should

sound clean as a whistle.

Airbrush P.S.I

Setting

It's **important that you have the right p.s.i setting on your compressor** which is controlled by the **air regulator (the air pressure adjuster found either**

through a dialing knob or push button operation). Here is a quick guideline below:

Rule of thumb: Larger areas require more drops of makeup, smaller spray areas require the least amount of drops..

Let's check it out....



Area Psi Estimated Drops Distance

Foundation (largest area) Between 8-10 Psi

Blush 3-6 Psi 6-12 drops 12 cm away 2-3 drops 8cm away

Eye liner (smallest area) 3 Psi **Bronzing** 8-12 Psi

2 drops

6 drops 1cm away

10cm away **Highlighting** 3 Psi 3 drops 8cm away **Contouring** 6 Psi **techniques**

Tanning body 21-60 Psi 3 drops

A filled bottle – Jar 8cm away

Attachment is ideal for larger areas of

spray.

16cm- 20cm away

Airbrush Makeup

Products

Airbrush water-based

makeup is made up of 3 key

ingredients:

Pigment Pigment is dry coloring

powder.

Solvent - A substance, usually a liquid, capable of dissolving another substance.

Binder - Binder acts like the glue, it's

what groups the pigments together to stick on to the surface.



Airbrush makeup comes in

a wide range of choices to

suit your desired results,

here are the different types

in detail... Water-based

This is **composed of finely ground**

pigments dissipated in water. It is the

least toxic of all airbrush makeup and safer to use. **Low viscosity (liquid is not very thick, and flows easily).**

Consistency: Very thin, excellent for the most natural look, usually comes alcohol and fragrance free, **ideal for everyday makeup, or sensitive skin**, due to its water-based consistency. The makeup

can be



easily cleaned off with just water itself, though a cleaning agent should still be used **to thoroughly cleanse your gun.**

(Brands that are water-based include
Elementtwo and Kett Cosmetics)

Polymer-water-based

A mix of water, polymers and pigment.

When airbrushed on the skin, the polymer dries leaving a continuous coating on the skin. (Brands that are polymer-water-based include Dinair and Kryolan)

Polymer-alcohol-based

A mix of alcohol, polymers and pigment, when airbrushed on the skin, the alcohol dries leaving a continuous coating on the skin. (Brands that are polymer-alcohol-based include Graftobian and Kett Cosmetics)

Alcohol-based

Has a heavy consistency. **Alcohol-based formulas are designed for creating fake tattoos or heavy camouflaging for longer lasting wear.** Caution: strong smell and can make you cough. Brands that are alcohol-based include Dinair and Makeup forever)

Silicone-based

Consistency: Though slightly heavier than the water-based, **silicone-based**

makeup is heat-resistant, long-lasting and sweat-proof so it's resistant to **fading**. It's also ideal for wedding makeup. The natural properties of silicone are what gives it that youthful radiance, mimicking a healthy and youthful glow.

(Brands that are silicone-based include
Elementtwo and Temptu)



Certain Fluids

Will Affect The

Spray

**What will typically clog a
makeup airbrush gun?**

- 1. Using inappropriate products like colored paint and every day makeup.**
- 2. Shimmers found in highlighters and bronzers.**
- 3. Metallics that have larger particles.**
- 4. Old airbrush makeup that are beginning to get clumpy.**

5. Airbrush makeup that are darker in color such as ebony, tan, and bronze, as they tend to be more granule than

airbrush colours for fair to medium skin tones.

I have tried **many airbrushing makeup**

products, and through my experience, **all these can contribute to a clogged**

needle tip, so make sure it get's a good clean after each use.

Now you've learned how your airbrush gun can get clogged, let's get to the most exciting part, learning how to begin

airbrushing!

Airbrush Beginner

Exercises

IMPORTANT

After each use, make sure the **airbrush is clean** using a cleaning agent to ensure a **smooth spray**. When changing in

between makeup colors, use the **cleaner or water to clean the previous color out**.

What You Need?



There are 3 simple things you need to get started!

1. Your airbrushing gun 2. Airbrush compressor

3. Paper

4. Cleaning agent

5. Water

6. Airbrush makeup

7. Chux wipes or tissues

Make sure your airbrushing kit is all

connected and plugged up properly,
before you begin.

Holding Your

Airbrush Gun

1. Based on a dual action gun, though a single action can still be operated this way but with more simple results, Hold

your **airbrush gun** as if you were

holding a pen. Your index finger should be on the trigger, with your thumb and

middle finger wrapped around the hose

connector.

2. Turn your compressor on and **set it on the lowest air pressure setting** for a slow release of makeup.

3. Be **12cm away** from the surface.

4. Pull the **trigger 2/3rds back.**

5. Feel the **difference in air pressure** by experimenting with the pull of the trigger and air regulator.

6. **1/3rd releases a smaller volume** of makeup, **whilst 3/3rds will spray out a faster** rate of makeup and volume.



Trigger Distance Guide

1/3 (one third)

2/3 (two thirds)

3/3 (three thirds)



Control of spray

Getting used to the control of your

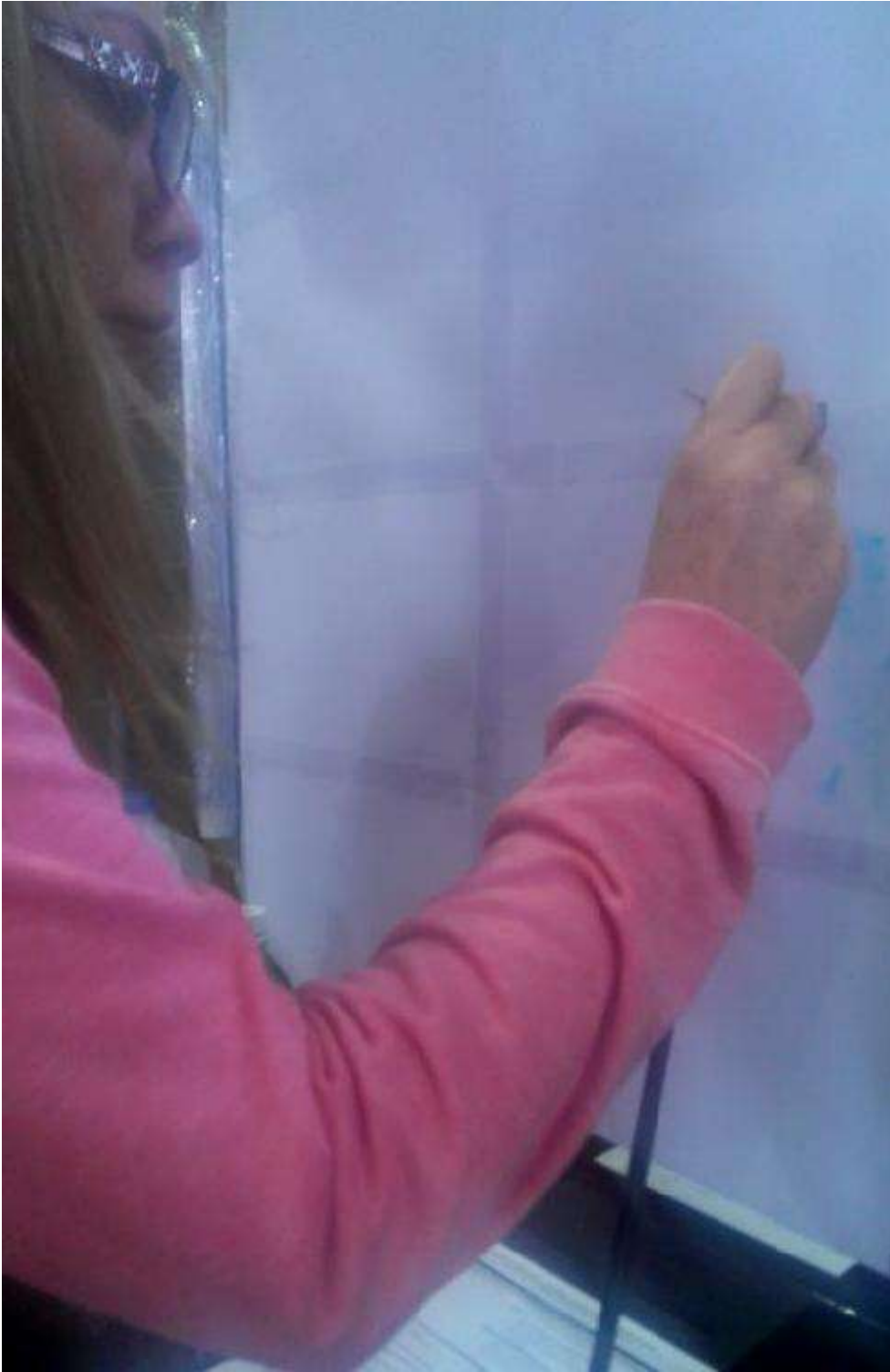
airbrush gun can vary, **it depends on**

how often you practice and how fast

you can adapt to it. Some people can take up to 3 to 14 days. **Practise on**

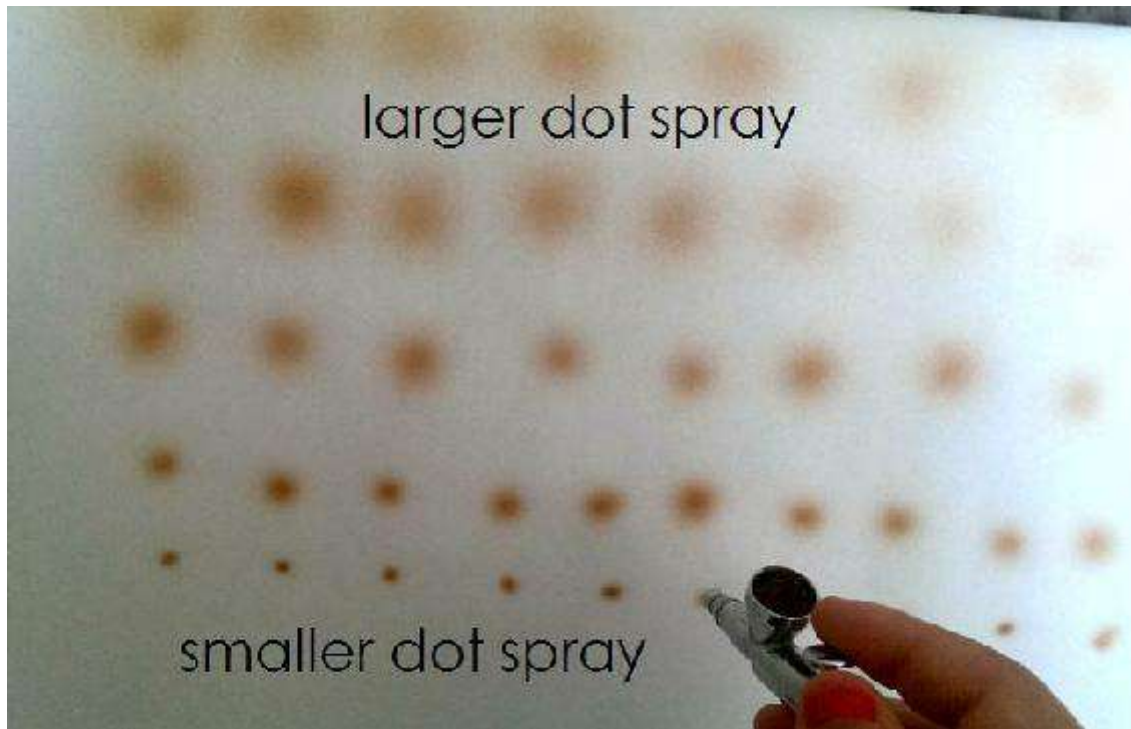
paper first so you can see how the

makeup is being sprayed. Here are some great techniques to get you started practicing your control of the spray and **don't be afraid to make mistakes**, have fun. Get paper and get ready!



Spray Fine Line and Dots Find **white paper** and begin to practice by **spraying little small and larger dots on the surface**, You can achieve this by going closer or further away to the surface .

Repeat this until you begin to feel pretty confident about it. **The trick is to keep your hand moving at a steady pace.**



Wide and thin Line

Spraying

Now begin to practice thin fine lines, do this by going closer to the surface of the paper and pulling your trigger 1/3rd

back, keeping your hand going at a

steady pace. You should be creating a smooth thin finer line without any blob

spots. This happens when you hold it in

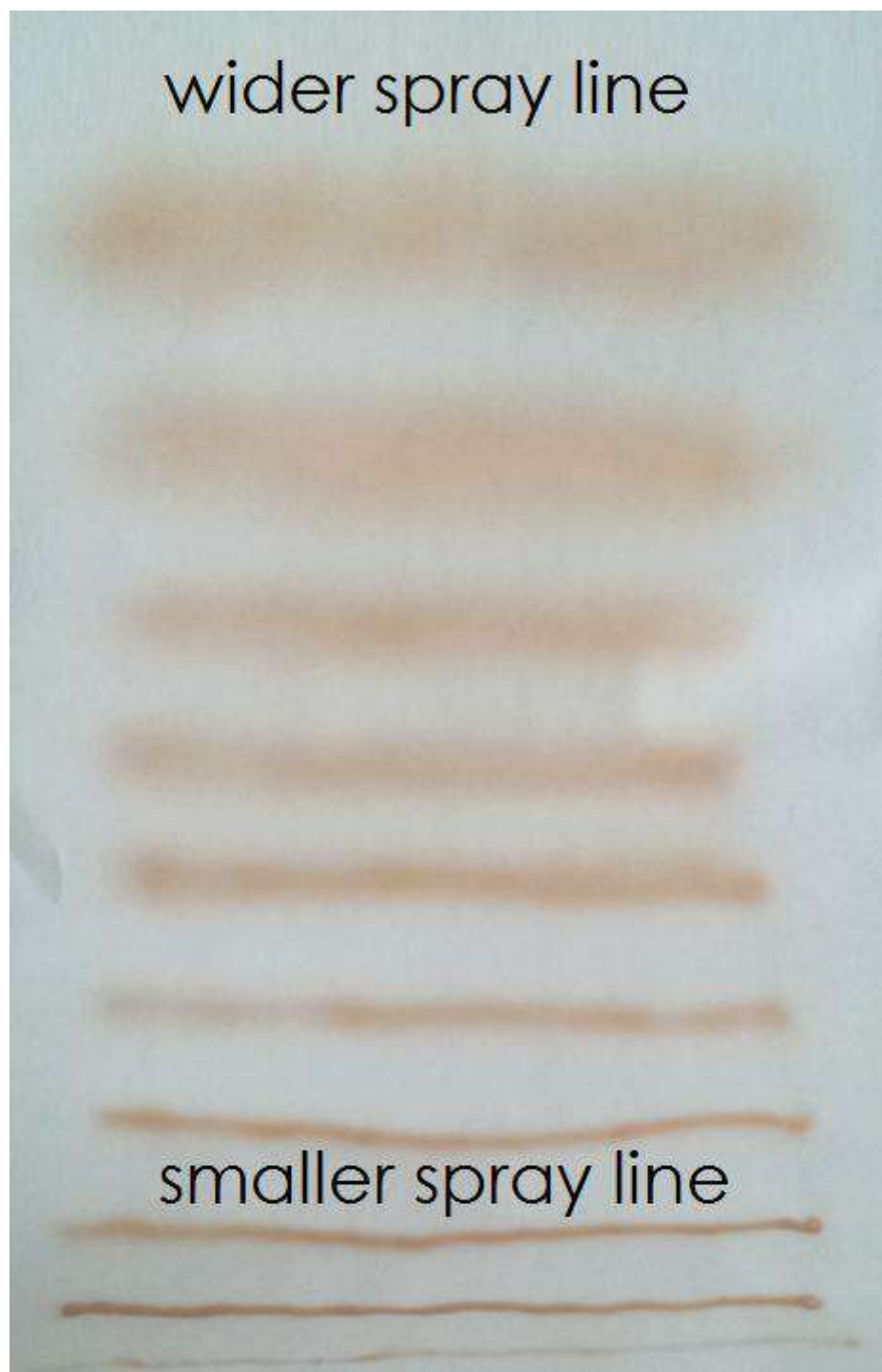
one spot for too long.

Once you feel you have mastered this,

try spraying **wider lines and**

background spray. Your **distance from the surface** should be **12 cm away now** and the trigger should now be adjusted

to 3/3rds back to release more fluid.



Soft Gradations (Vignettes)

In order to **create the appearance of**

super smooth skin, this requires a **soft, gradation known as “vignettes.”** This has a **soft smooth effect, has loss of clarity towards the corners and sides of an image with no trace of harsh**

lines.

Aim towards creating **smooth gradual**

layers of spray. This is achieved by

spraying back and forth slowly from left to right, overlapping each layer and airing it out in between, and about 7 cm away from the surface. It should

look soft like the **appearance of cloudy fog.**

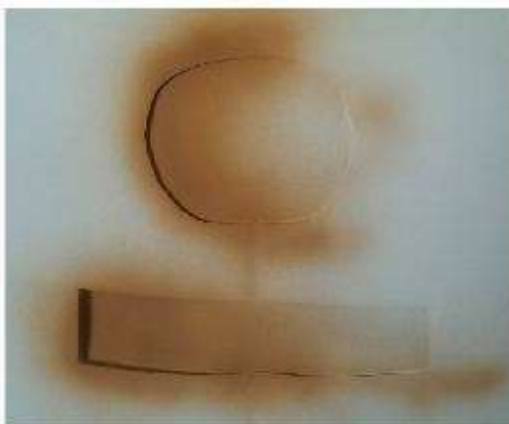
Once you feel confident with this, you

can now move on to practicing **contrast intensity.** This is where you will create a **build up of light to dark contrasts of spray,** referred to as the **“Transparency (light) to Opacity (Dark)” of colour**

intensity.

Practise this technique below as this is **a key tip in creating the ultimate illusion of 3d dimensional airbrush makeup.**

3. Result after 3 layers



4. Peel off paper template to see the result.



Once you master this, you can use this technique to create a well sculptured 3d effect consisting of **highlights, contouring and bronzing** through the gradation of opaque's (dark intensity) and transparent contrasts (almost clear).

Stenciling

Techniques &

Tattoos

Stencils and friskets are known for giving noticeable sharp focused lines around the corners and edges of the frame or border. This can be achieved by **spraying through a stencil or frisket**.

A frisket usually has a **non-adhesive**

back which you have to tape or hold down, and is only used once, Artists will generally cut out the shapes they want with a sharp razor blade

#Tip: If using a frisket, make sure you hold this down with masking tape, not sticky tape, as the masking tape will not remove the makeup off from underneath like sticky tape will.

FRISKET

USE TAPE OR FINGERS TO HOLD IT DOWN
NON-ADHESIVE BACK



STENCIL

(REUSABLE AND
SELF-ADHESIVE BACK)



Stencils are designed to assist in

difficult-to-apply areas like around the eyes (i.e. eyeliners). It is usually **reusable and will have a self-adhesive back.** They also are used to achieve **defined shapes, patterns, outlines and borders** commonly used by **face**

painters or creative makeup artists.

Some people **airbrush tattoos for a living**, whilst it is great fun and easy to do, there are a few things you should be aware of.

Don't overspray too many layers and

too much simultaneously otherwise you will get a smeared tattoo with a lot of

bleeding on the outline which you can

see in the first example below.

Don't use **creams, moisturizers or oils prior** as this will smudge the tattoo.

Some stencils already have a self-

adhering back, but if it doesn't, use a

spray adhesive which you can buy at

any crafts store. Apply the adhesive on the back of the stencil and stick it on your skin.



Here's how to create a long-lasting tattoo:

1. Make sure the skin is **clean of dirt and oil** by removing it with rubbing alcohol.
2. Stick the **stencil on your desired area**.
3. **Shake the ink bottle** well and **add 2-3 drops**.
4. Spray one even **thin layer before airing it out**.
5. Set the first layer with loose **powder to draw** any excess moisture out.
6. Repeat **this process 2 more times**.
7. **Dust it one more time** to ensure its longevity.
8. Job is complete. That wasn't too hard, was it? Give yourself a pat on the back!

View Video Link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IojsatwFQuw&list=UUbXZeqdA23wT5I1oqYSPDHg)

[v=IojsatwFQuw&list=UUbXZeqdA23wT5I1oqYSPDHg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IojsatwFQuw&list=UUbXZeqdA23wT5I1oqYSPDHg)

Application

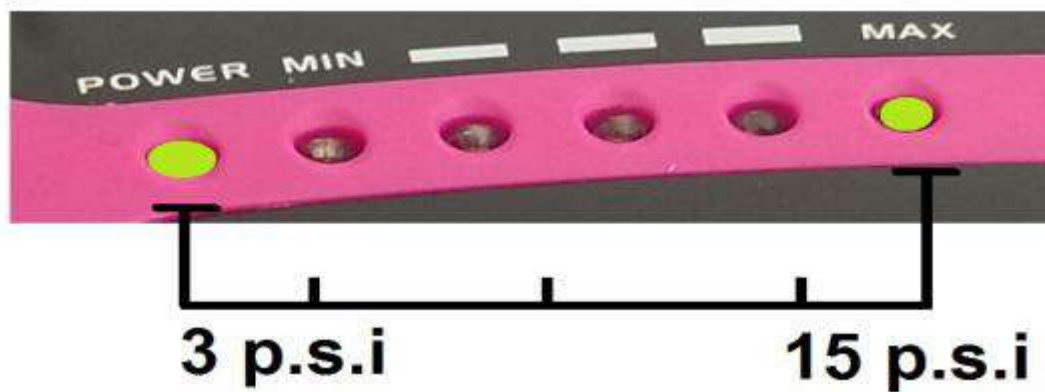
Techniques

Airbrushing Foundation

Your aim is to make it as **smooth as possible and the key is how you overlap each spray gradation**.

Your compressor should be **set at 8-12**

Psi for foundation and your gun should be at **least 10 cm away**



from the surface.

Go slow, steady, keep moving your

wrist in slow circular motion starting from the **forehead** working **clockwise**.

The **width of spray** should be **similar of that in the picture below** and the same transparency should be applied as well.

It's important that you practise this

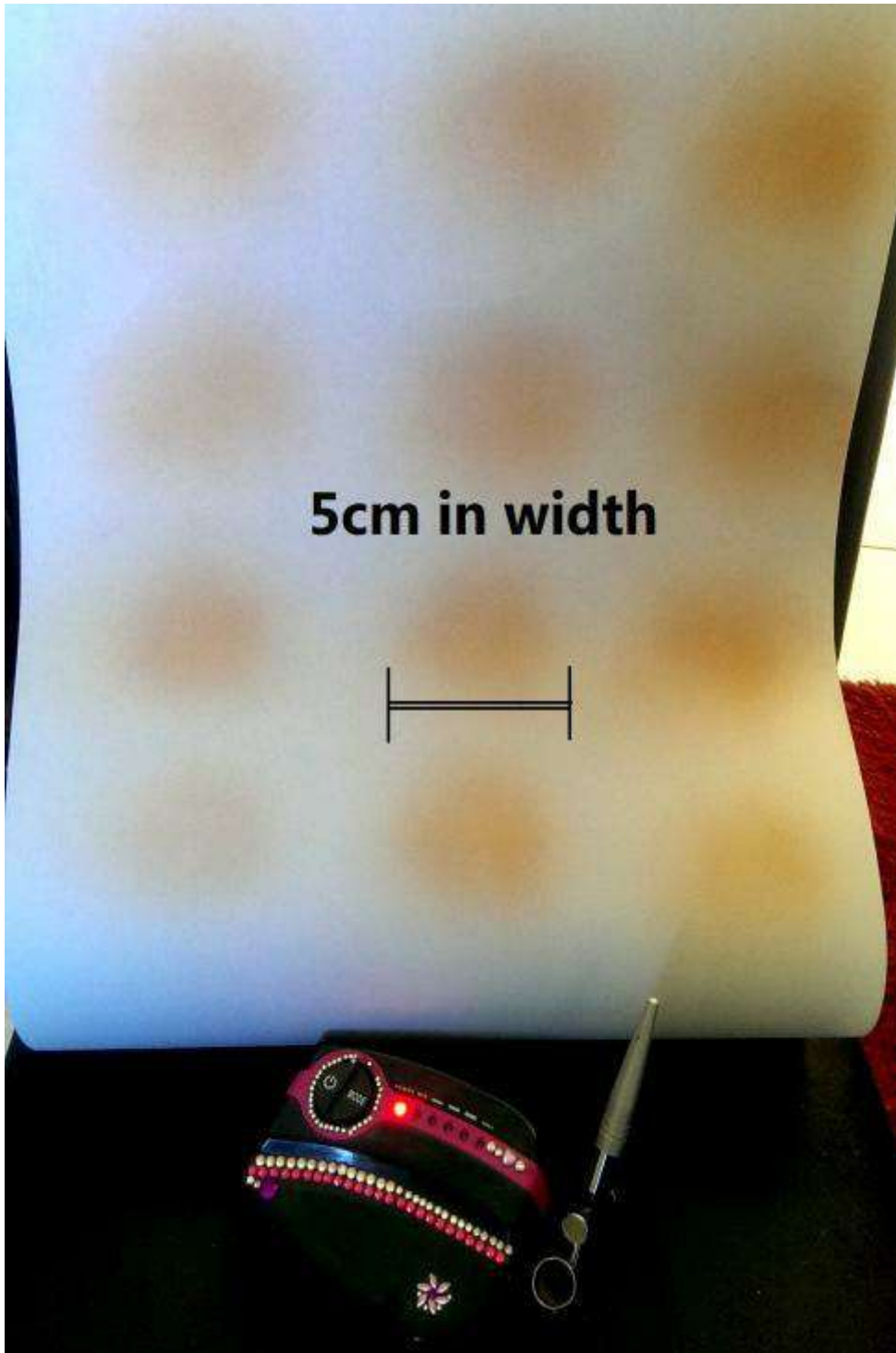
exercise on paper first so you can see

where it is going and what effect it is

creating.

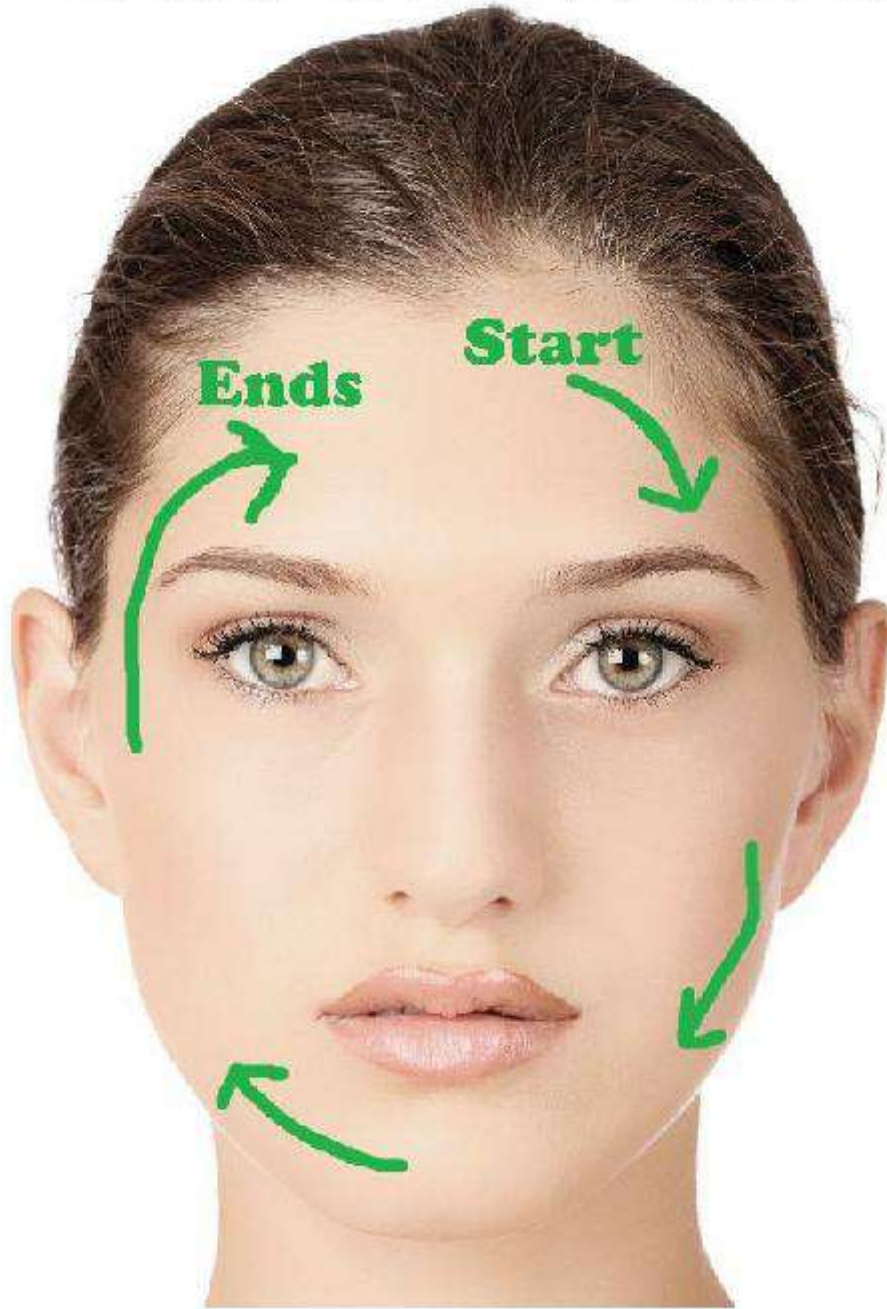
*Take note of your **width of spray and intensity of spray**. The intensity should be of a **foggy effect**.

Practise on Paper



Start from the forehead working clockwise

Clockwise



What You Shouldn't Do: Don't spray too close (3 cm to surface) to your models face, Spray 12 cm away and you'll achieve a much more flawless result.

Don't spray into the eyes, nose or

mouth, **ask your client to hold their breath** and count down the seconds (3, 2, 1,) when you spray around this area

so they know **how long they need to**

hold their breath for.

Don't do **fast scribbly lines, always**

use SLOW circular hand motions.

Try not to spray into the **hairline as it will color this area**, use a headband or a

tissue to cover these areas, if this occurs, **just use a wet wipe/tissue to wipe off the color off the hairline.**

Make sure the **cleaning agent is**

sprayed out completely before adding

any airbrush makeup inside your color cup.

Avoid spraying too much under the

eyes as it can create crease lines, if this happens, quickly stipple this out

before the airbrush sets.

Avoid spraying **more than 3 layers**

clockwise as this will begin to look too caked on.

Avoid applying thick creams, or heavy

primers, or anything that will not absorb into the skin well and will leave a film, as airbrushing on a heavily primed and

moisturized skin will not sit well throughout the day and may leave it

looking blotchy and can easily separate.

#Tip: For best results, make sure your skin or client's skin is well prepped (facial scrub, face mask, moisturized) the night before to give the ultimate flawless airbrushed look.

For super dry skin, ask your client to apply rosehip oil the night before after they have properly prepped their skin.

A great primer to use is by "Makeup Forever HD Primer" as it absorbs quickly (silicone based) & is lightweight in texture.

Application Steps:

- 1. Skin Prep**
- 2. Conceal lightly if need be**
- 3. Eye makeup if natural, but if dramatic, do this after you airbrush**
- 4. Apply Foundation**
- 5. Contour**
- 6. Eyes and eyebrows if it is a dramatic look**
- 7. Lips**
- 8. Finish touches**
- 9. Powder with powder puff if skin is**

oily.

Distance of spray will affect

your results

1. Don't spray too much or spray

many layers simultaneously, as it will look too **heavy and cakey** as the example below.





Spray one layer, then air it out, then do one more layer. If you like, you can powder on translucent/setting loose

powder with a powder puff rather than a brush to give it even more of a super smooth finish.

Airbrushing Contour

Contouring can really **help slim and define cheekbones** and give more

definition to the each side of the bridge of your nose, this technique is commonly used in the typical asian appearance to

make the nose appear more european.



To contour, you can **purchase contour colors by Temptu** or use an airbrush foundation **three shades darker** than your foundation color.

You'll Need: **3 drops, making sure**

your compressor is set on the lowest 6

psi. Grab tissue or something flat to use to create a contour line. (I used a soft plastic cd cover case)

CONTOURING



1. Be 8cm away from the face
2. Begin creating a soft circle
3. Using tissue or a plastic sheet as a guide, create a cone shaped pattern to the circle.



Watch Here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EITWydCKswU&list=UUbXZeQdA23wT5I1oqYSPDHg)

[v=EITWydCKswU&list=UUbXZeQdA23wT5I1oqYSPDHg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EITWydCKswU&list=UUbXZeQdA23wT5I1oqYSPDHg)

Airbrushing Blush

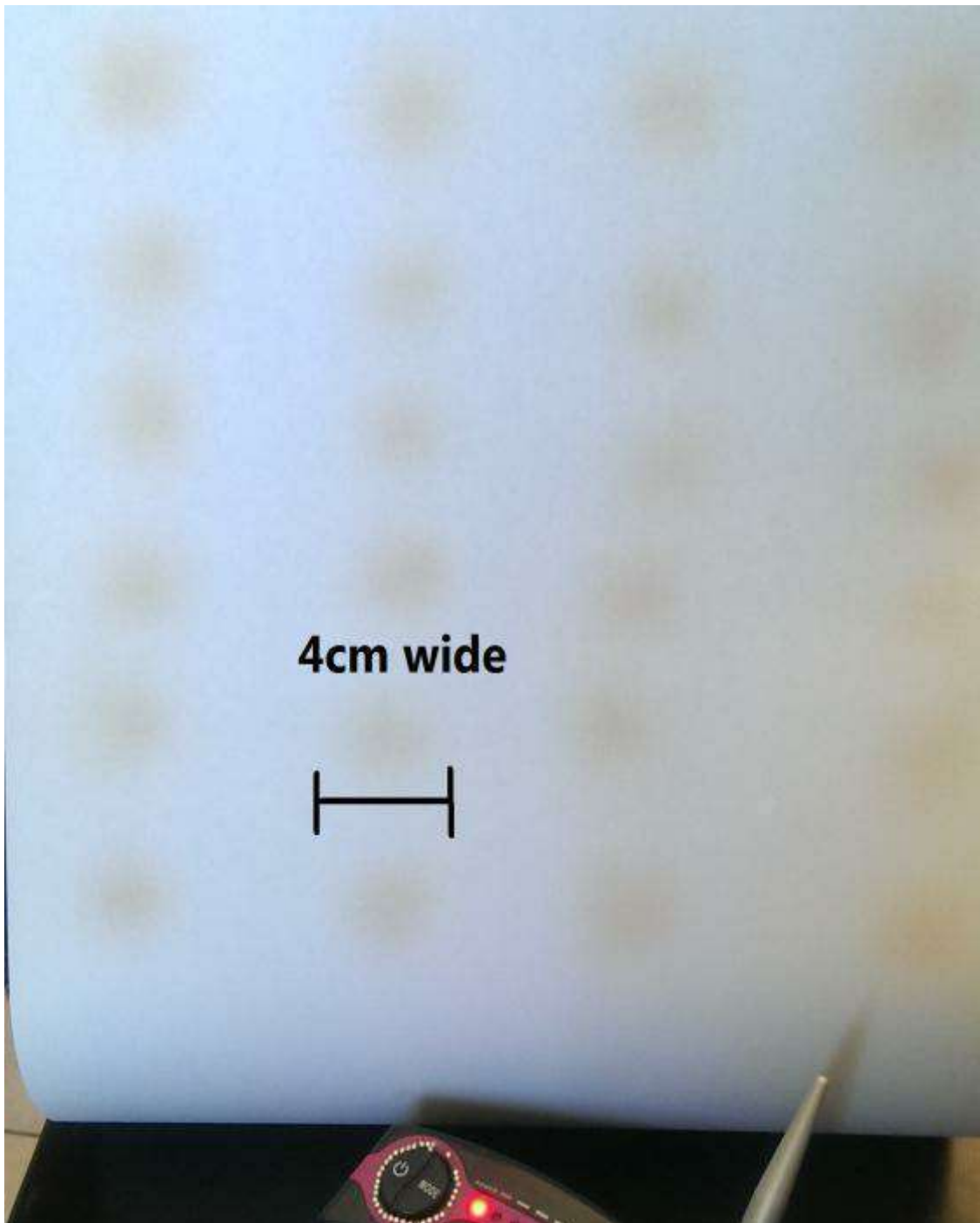
Before you **begin airbrushing blush**, practice **small round circular spray patterns on a sheet**. Your aim is to achieve the **right width of spray (roughly 4 cm)** and correct

transparency of spray (Aim to have it more transparent than too opaque).

For a single action gun, **spray 6 cm**

away from the surface, set it on 6 Psi and pull your trigger back slightly, your hand movement should be moving up

diagonally starting from point 1 to 2 as the diagram. **Below is an example.**



When applying blush on a client, **add 3**

drops to your color cup, pull your **trigger 1/3rd back** and do **2 slow smaller circular** movements starting from the **inside working upwards**

towards the ear.

Airbrushing Highlighter

Airbrush **Highlighters** will usually

come in either a gold or pink based

tone. Gold's are great for more warmer skin tones, **whilst pink is more**

complimentary for people of cooler

skin tones.

They are great for adding **dimension to the skin, and giving a youthful**

healthy skin glow.

I must admit, the airbrush makeup can

clog more often than foundations

as the **shimmer granules are larger**, so be sure to **really shake the bottle** to



really **break up** the pigments.

All you'll need is 2 drops, apply highlighter with the lowest p.s.i (3)

pressure on your forehead, below your

brow bone, upper/lower cheeks,

bridge of your nose, under your brow

bone and chin.

Airbrushing Bronzer

Airbrushing bronzer **works wonders**, this can make your **face appear**

slimmer, and healthy-giving a

harmonious contrast of highlights and bronzer.

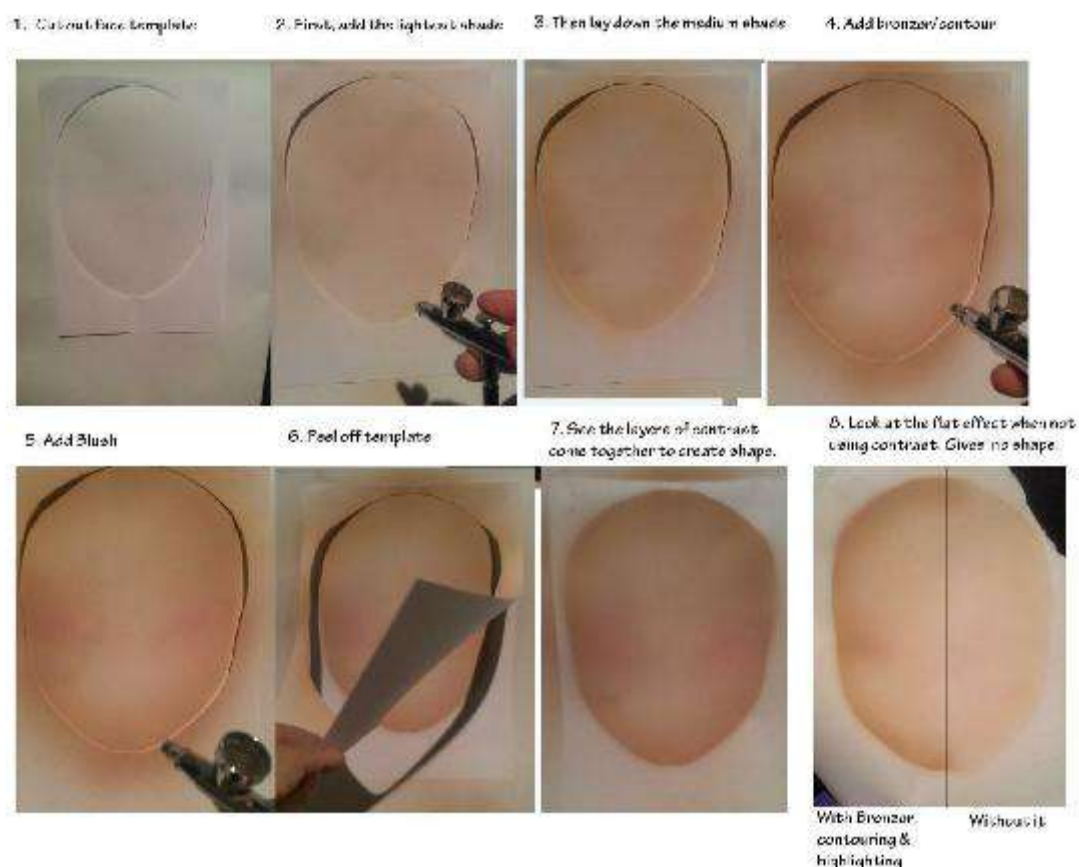
You want to apply this **over the frame of your face and along the cheek**

**bones and the sides of the bridge of
your nose.**

Practice highlight and bronzer first on paper . Cut out a shape of a face using paper,
then lay it on another piece of paper and airbrush the highlighter

(lighter layer first, then medium, then

darker (bronzer) shade last).



Troubleshooting

Why Isn't My Airbrush

Spraying Any Makeup Out?

It doesn't matter what brand it is, **if it's not cleaned properly, it will clog, it's usually the tip of the needle that you'll need to clean, but here are more**

reasons why..

4 reasons why it won't

spray:

You **poured generic makeup in the cup so it clogged.**

You **haven't cleaned the needle tip**

and gun properly so it clogged.

The **makeup fluid is too viscous**

(thick) to pass through the needle so it clogged. Experiment

with other makeup brands, some brands

will clog less than others based on it's compatibility. The **needle is bent**

The airbrush gun is either faulty or a

really bad cheap make.

View Video Link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAErC4jAhHU&index=9&list=UUbXZeqdA23wT5I1oqYSPDH)

[v=xAErC4jAhHU&index=9&list=UUbXZeqdA23wT5I1oqYSPDH](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAErC4jAhHU&index=9&list=UUbXZeqdA23wT5I1oqYSPDH)

g

How Do I Clean In Between Colors?

Here's one great thing If your airbrush

makeup is water-based, you **can just**

use water to clean in between color changes, you do this by the technique of **back bubbling (where you press tissue against the tip and pull the trigger**

back until the water bubbles)

following by spraying out the remaining

residue until it is clear of color.

For other airbrush makeup that **aren't water based**, used a cleaning agent that is **alcohol based** such as Dinair.

**Where do I buy the
makeup?**

You can purchase airbrush makeup
through some of these Australian and
American Sites.

1. www.designermakeuptools.com
2. www.dinair.com.au
3. www.camerareadycosmetics.com
4. <https://www.scottysmakeup.com.au>

**What types of makeup is
there?**

Water based: Consistency: Very thin,
excellent for the **most natural look or sensitive skin**.

Polymer-water-based: A mix of water, polymers and pigment, when airbrushed
on the skin the
**polymer dries leaving a continuous
coating on the skin.**

Alcohol based: Consistency: Heavy.
Alcohol based formulas designed for

creating fake tattoos

or heavy camouflaging. (Smells Strong, can make you cough)

Silicone-based: Consistency: Slightly heavy, long lasting sweat proof, no fade, **ideal for the perfect bride.**

What Does a single action &

Double action Gun Mean?

A single action allows for only **one**
preset volume of spray once the
trigger is pulled all the way back.

Dual action (also known as double)

gives you a diverse spray pattern from wider to more precise lines by
depressing the trigger down and then
pulling 1-3rds back.

What's The Correct P.S.I To

Use For Makeup?

Between 1-12 PSI, no higher than this if it is just for more makeup.

- Makeup Foundation = 8-10 PSI

- Blush = 3-6 PSI

- Lips = 3 PSI

- Whole Body = 20-35 PSI

- **Rule of thumb, Smaller areas**

(cheeks, face, lips, eyes) requires

lower pressure larger areas (full

body, legs, arms for tanning) requires higher PSI

What Does P.S.I Stand For?

PSI (Pounds per Square Inch) which is volume and speed of the air pressure released by the airbrush gun.

Is It Easy To Use?

At first it is hard because you're not used to it, but once you get the hang of controlling the gun, it **becomes super easy, and makeup can be done in less than 3 minutes!**

If you're the type who gives up too

easy, then this is not for you. If you're the type who is willing to learn, and push your boundaries, then this is for you!

If you are super creative, then this is a bonus! It took me about one week to finally get the hang of it, now this is all i ever use for wedding makeup unless general liquid foundation is requested.

How Much Should I charge For Weddings?

Generally \$150 is the going rate, but they can range between \$100-\$250, It also depends on the amount time

required which can cost more, but at the end of the day, it's your **time per hour X**

\$__

How do I know which

makeup color will suit me?

Some online companies will have **trial sizes you can purchase in a 4 or 5 kit sample pack.** They come in **cool to warm tones.** I would **highly recommend purchasing these trial sizes first.** Just apply 3 stripes and the one that disappears or blends is your perfect colour match.



I have bought several types of airbrushing makeup, **but Elementtwo in the canvas range is my favourite,** it is silicone based, perfect for doing weddings as it is water resistant, long wearing AND feels super thin. It passes through the needle with a breeze, as the granules are fine enough to flow through!

It is also **fragrance free and a breeze to use..**

So Elementtwo is my pick! You can find

these trial packs with

www.designermakeuptools.com

Thinning your foundations

If you wish to use traditional makeup , only some are designed for your

airbrush, some of the brands that are

suitable for use in an airbrush is

“Makeup Forever HD, Mac Pro

performance HD and Revlon’s

Photoready Airbrush Effect” Makeup.

You **MUST** mix this with **DC-245 Fluid found on scotty’s website**. It will thin down the makeup in order for the

foundation to pass through the needle.

Add a few drops, the consistency similar to that of milk, and remember that the

darker the foundation colour, the thicker the solution will be. If it is too thin it will splatter, if it is too thick, it will

clog the needle tip.

What's the worst and best

thing about airbrushing?

Worst: Cleaning can be a pain, but you MUST clean it every time after each

use otherwise makeup will dry and

clog around the tip, don't be put off by it, there is the quick cleanse, and

thorough cleanse. Quick cleanse should be done after each use. Deep cleanse (pulling the gun apart) should be done at least once a week.

Best thing is how super smooth and

flawless makeup can look in a matter

of seconds in the most hygienic way, and can be taken to a whole new level where stencils are available and

creativity is now your playground.

Does it cover spots and

freckles well?

It sure does! Conceal first!! There are great techniques for covering spots

which you can watch here:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXKuU0iwwm8)

[v=kXKuU0iwwm8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kXKuU0iwwm8)

Which brand is good for my

skin type?

Refer to the chart below to help you find the most suitable makeup for your

skin type. For example, for oily skin, go the Matte types, for dry skin, go the glossy”, for normal skin, you could go semi matte.

Document Outline

- [Introduction To Airbrushing](#)
- [Terms For Airbrush Types](#)
- [Types of Handles](#)
- [Airbrush Terminology You Should Know](#)
- [Air Sources \(Compressors\)](#)
- [Understanding Your Airbrushing Gun.....](#)
- [Needle/Nozzle Size Chart.....](#)
- [Here Is The Airbrush In Closer Detail:.....](#)
- [Which Airbrush Kit Is Best For Makeup?.....](#)
- [Airbrush Specifications](#)
- [Airbrushing Equipment Maintenance.....](#)
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- [Certain Fluids Will Affect The Spray](#)
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- [Application Techniques](#)
- [Troubleshooting.....](#)