

## DISCLAIMER:

Primacoustic cannot guarantee that the published surface burning characteristics, fire resistance ratings, acoustical performance, dimensional stability/sag, or light reflectance will remain the same after painting.

Primacoustic has designed these panels to be painted and will make recommendations for the type of paint and techniques that may be used. Primacoustic cannot be responsible for the finished appearance of the panel after the panel has been painted or printed.

## Paint Type

Any latex paint can be used; however, the sheen of the paint will greatly affect the absorption properties of the panels. Primacoustic recommends **no greater** sheen than eggshell and the thinnest coating of paint possible should be used in order that the panels remain as acoustically effective as possible.

With computerized color matching systems now available, it is recommended that a sample of the panel to be color matched be taken to the paint store.

## Spray Painting Method-Recommended

When painting acoustical materials, the painter should be very careful that he does not close up the acoustical surfaces; perforations and fissures. It is through these openings in the surface that sound waves enter the body of the acoustical material and are absorbed. Care should be taken that these perforations are not clogged. Paint properly applied will only reduce a panel's NRC rating by .05 to .10.

Testing was done with a 3.5hp compressor and consumer sprayer. A dedicated paint sprayer is recommended and is available at most rent it centers. It is likely that the paint will be too thick for even spraying when using a consumer grade compressor/sprayer. Follow the paint manufacturer's recommendations for thinning paint.

When spray painting, apply the paint with a stream perpendicular to the surface of the panel, moving the gun back and forth to achieve a uniform coating. Under normal conditions, one coat should be sufficient, however, this will vary by color.

Spray painting will result in a more uniform coating on embossed or irregular surfaces. For best results, panels should be removed from the wall or ceiling, laid flat for painting, and allowed to dry thoroughly while still flat. This method eliminates the costly operations of masking walls and covering furniture. A thoroughly dried panel is strongly recommended before installation.

## Method:

1. In a well-ventilated space, lay panels flat and use air compressor to blow the panels' surface clean.
2. Attach paint sprayer as per sprayer instructions.
3. Fill the reservoir with pre-thinned paint (typically ½ cup water to 1 US Gallon Paint is suggested).

4. Open Paint and Air controls to desired levels (50%/30% is the suggested starting point) and ensure the sprayer is set to handle thick paint.
5. Turn on compressor and adjust the output to desired air-pressure. The actual air-pressure required can depend on the sprayer but a 60 PSI starting point is suggested for an initial test calibration.
6. Test spray on cardboard or other disposable material to ensure paint flow is correct and splatter is minimal. Move to the next step once desired results have been obtained.
7. Paint the panel edges first as over spray will occur. (Edges may be roller painted with minimal acoustical impact.) Let the paint dry before proceeding.
8. Aim the spray gun 7-9 inches above panel and depress trigger moving the gun from side to side in 1 second bursts.
9. Re-spray as needed to achieve desired coverage. Several very light coats are better than 1 heavy coat. Each coat will influence the acoustical absorption properties of the panel.

#### **Printing Graphics on Primacoustic Broadway Paintable Panels**

Any image in any file format can be printed onto the Broadway Paintable Panel. Check with your local printer for their preferred format.

As with any graphic printing project, the resolution of the image is crucial to the finished look of the panel. 100 dpi is considered the minimum resolution for an uneven surface with up to 600 dpi for reproducing photographs. Consult with the printer.

The panels can be printed on using a flatbed, inkjet printer. These are available at many professional print facilities. Important considerations are the thickness and size of the panel can be accommodated by the printer.

**Important note-** Be sure to instruct the printing company: **DO NOT FLOOD** the panel before printing.