

## **DIRECTIONS TO TOUCH UP PAINT SCRATCHES**

### **Materials Required**

- ❑ CI touch-up paint
- ❑ Sandpaper – series of grits from fine to finer
- ❑ Primer - 1 can sandable gray primer
- ❑ Drop cloth or plastic to protect surrounding work area from overspray
- ❑ Cardboard to shield area on parts not needing touch up
- ❑ Paper towels to wipe off water after wet-sanding

### **General information**

- Spray-on paint has more thinner (or reducer) in the mix. This can cause the paint to lift in the application area. It is better in most cases to use canned paint and brush on.
- Practice on less visible area first.
- Keep area to be repaired as small as you can.
- Thin coats should be applied. Lifting or other problems can occur when trying to cover with too thick a coat of paint.
- Using a fan on the newly painted area is useful in order to prevent runs. If electric fan is used, keep in mind that paint spray is extremely flammable and fan needs to be out of the immediate area while spraying.

### **Preparing areas to be fixed**

- Cut small pieces of sandpaper (1 ½" x 1 ½") and soak in water.
- Wet sand all areas to be painted using a series of sandpaper.
  - The higher the grit number, the finer the paper.
  - Start with a lower grit and work up to highest.
- Try not to sand all the way through the paint or you will need to prime.

### **Priming**

- Primer needs to cover any bare metal. Attempting to top coat over bare metal will result in unsatisfactory results.
- You can use a spray can and spray onto something in order to collect the primer into a puddle – then you can brush it on.
- If brushed on, sand out brush marks.
- Brushing on the primer has the advantage of containing primer to a smaller damaged area.

### **Mixing paint**

Pigments settle and stick to the bottom of the can. If paint is not mixed completely the color and the sheen will not be correct. Shake according to directions on the aerosol can

### **Steps:**

1. Spot sand and feather the small repair area using 100 grit sand paper.
2. If scratch does not go all the way down to steel, do not sand all the way through.
3. If steel is exposed you should prime it, dry according to primer directions, and sand out the brush marks before you topcoat.
4. Do not thin paint. Carefully brush on paint, let dry. This should be sufficient for most areas.
5. For critical and highly visible touch-up areas, you can feather out brush marks and bring back the shine so it is nearly impossible to tell it was touched up.
6. To feather out and bring back the shine, paint should dry for 24 hours. Use a series of fine sand paper. Start with as fine as you can as long as it will even out brush marks: from 600 at start, then 800, then 1000 grit.
7. Keep changing grit to finer and finer grit until it blends in, possibly ending up using 2000 grit.
8. Should you decide to spray paint, use a "window" method to reduce overspray to unaffected areas