

DID YOU KNOW?



Hints and tips from the Technical Department

TINTED UNDERCOATS

Tinted undercoats are occasionally recommended.

There are two main reasons for this.

1. With a white topcoat, a tinted undercoat makes it easier to avoid misses, and ensure the correct thickness is applied.
2. With strong coloured topcoats, especially reds, yellows and blues that do not cover as well as white or earthy shades, tinting the undercoat helps improve opacity.

The best colour to tint an undercoat is a pale neutral grey, as this complements the topcoat colour.

It is not recommended that the undercoat is tinted to the same shade as the topcoat, as this rarely gives a good match, and with reds in particular, results in a pink undercoat that is actually harder to cover than white.

The maximum amount of tinter that should be added to an undercoat (either enamel or acrylic) is

- For **pale colours** 10 mls "B" per litre.
- For **dark colours** 20 mls "B" per litre

Exceeding this figure can result in a loss of the undercoat's desirable properties, such as sandability, hold out, durability and speed of dry.