

PART 2

BASE COATING A GUITAR

After properly scuff-sanding our guitar body, it's time to spray the base coat. In this section we will show you some tricks that will make the base-coating a quick and easy process.

Just like airbrushing, spraying a smooth base-coat requires practice and dedication, but in no time at all you will build the confidence and control to lay down a perfect base every time.

MATERIALS NEEDED

SPRAY GUN
TACK CLOTH
PAINT FILTER
PAINT

STEP 13



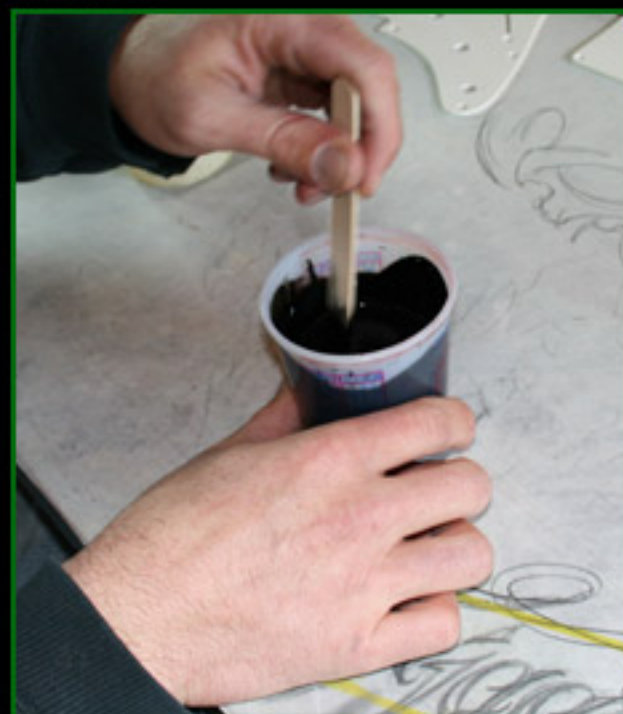
STEP 14



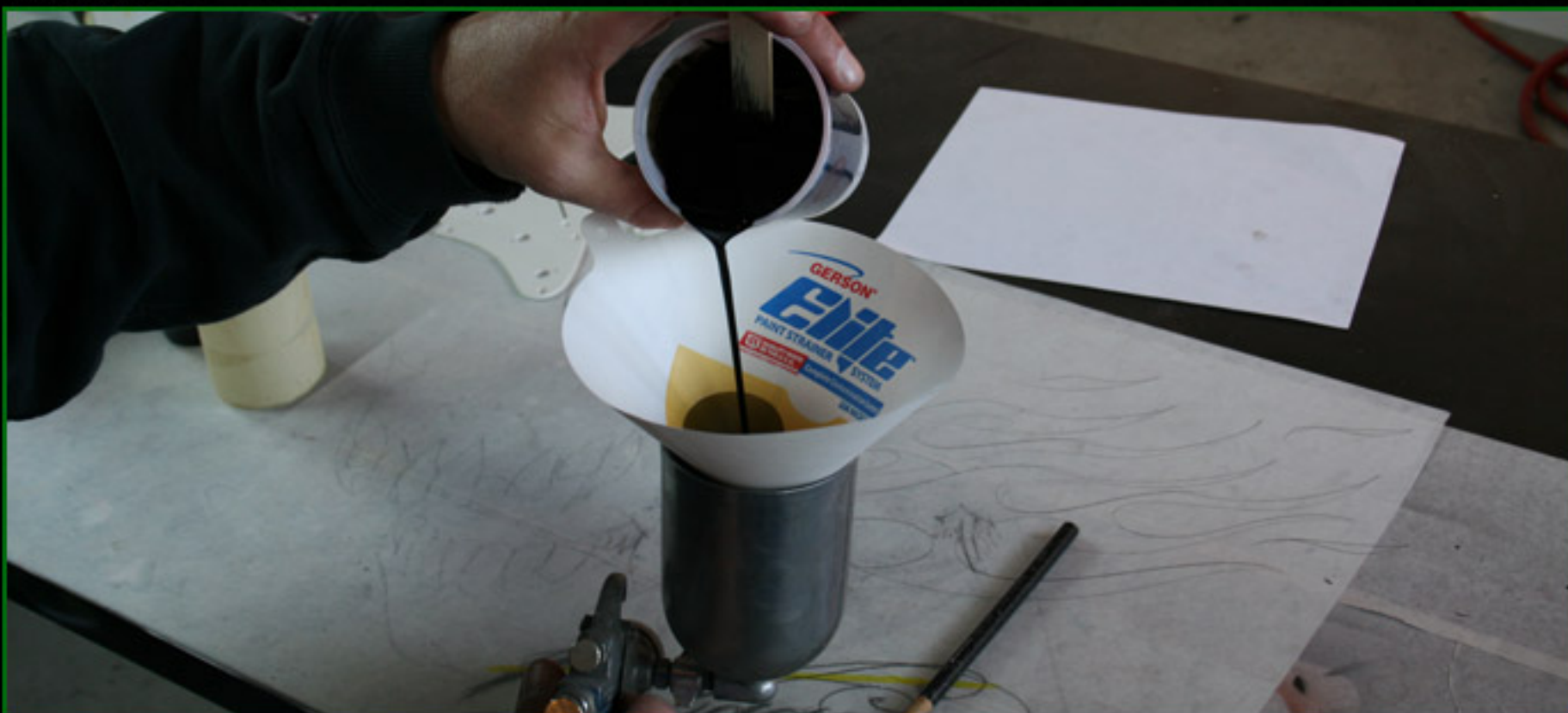
Be sure to carefully follow the manufactures recommendations for proper mixing ratios for the type of paint that you are using. Here we are using House of Kolor black, so we mix the paint and reducer to proper specs (STEPS 13 & 14).

With the proper amounts of paint and reducer mixed, we stir the paint (STEP 15) and then run it through a paint filter (STEP 16) to properly remove any larger particles or debris that could potentially give us problems by clogging our spray gun.

STEP 15



STEP 16



STEP 17



There are several methods that can be used to easily hang your guitar to apply your base coat. Here (STEP 17), we have decided to suspend the guitar body by 2 heavy wires. This will allow us to access all angles of the guitar, and the 2 wires can be held together (STEP 18), to prevent the guitar from spinning under the pressure of the spray gun.

STEP 18



STEP 19



Before beginning the painting, we want to once more ensure that all loose particles have been removed from the guitar body.

STEP 20



Skipping this final preparation step could lead to potential flaws in the final paint job, so we ensure that every inch of the guitar has been properly wiped down with a tack rag

STEP 21



With our guitar ready, and our paint mixed, we begin to spray the base coat (STEP 21). By working in long and smooth passes, we paint from the bottom of the guitar upward. We are keeping the passes of paint light. This will allow us to build up a nice even coat of paint over several layers, and reduce the risk of any paint drips. By overlapping the paint strokes by about 50%, you will achieve a smooth, even coat of paint.

STEP 22



STEP 23



STEP 24



By holding the 2 wires, the guitar remains very still during the painting process (STEP 22). After completing the first coat to the front of the guitar, we move on to the first coat on the back (STEP 25). Once again, by keeping your passes smooth and consistent, you will achieve a smooth & solid base coat.

STEP 25



STEP 26



STEP 27



STEP 28



Be sure to inspect all angles of the guitar body, as it can be easy to miss spots along the way. Here we have finished our second coat of paint, and take some extra care with ensuring that the sides, top and bottom of the guitar body have consistent coverage (STEPS 23, 24 & 25).

Seeing that the guitar has sufficient paint coverage, we leave it to dry, and move on to painting the pick guard

STEP 29



STEP 30



STEP 31



If you decide that you wish to paint the pick guard as well, here is a great system that makes the painting process quick and easy. We hang the pick guard through the two top holes with wire, and attach a wire through the two opposite side holes at the bottom (STEP 23). This will allow us to pull down on the bottom wire, and the tension will keep the pick guard from moving while the paint is sprayed.

STEP 32



STEP 33



STEP 34



The pick guard is painted in the same steps as the guitar body, with smooth and even paint strokes. Be sure to check the paint coverage on the edges as you go (STEP 27). With the pick guard finished, we leave it hanging to dry, and get ready to move on to the really fun stuff!

STEP 35



STEP 36



**PRINTER
FRIENDLY**



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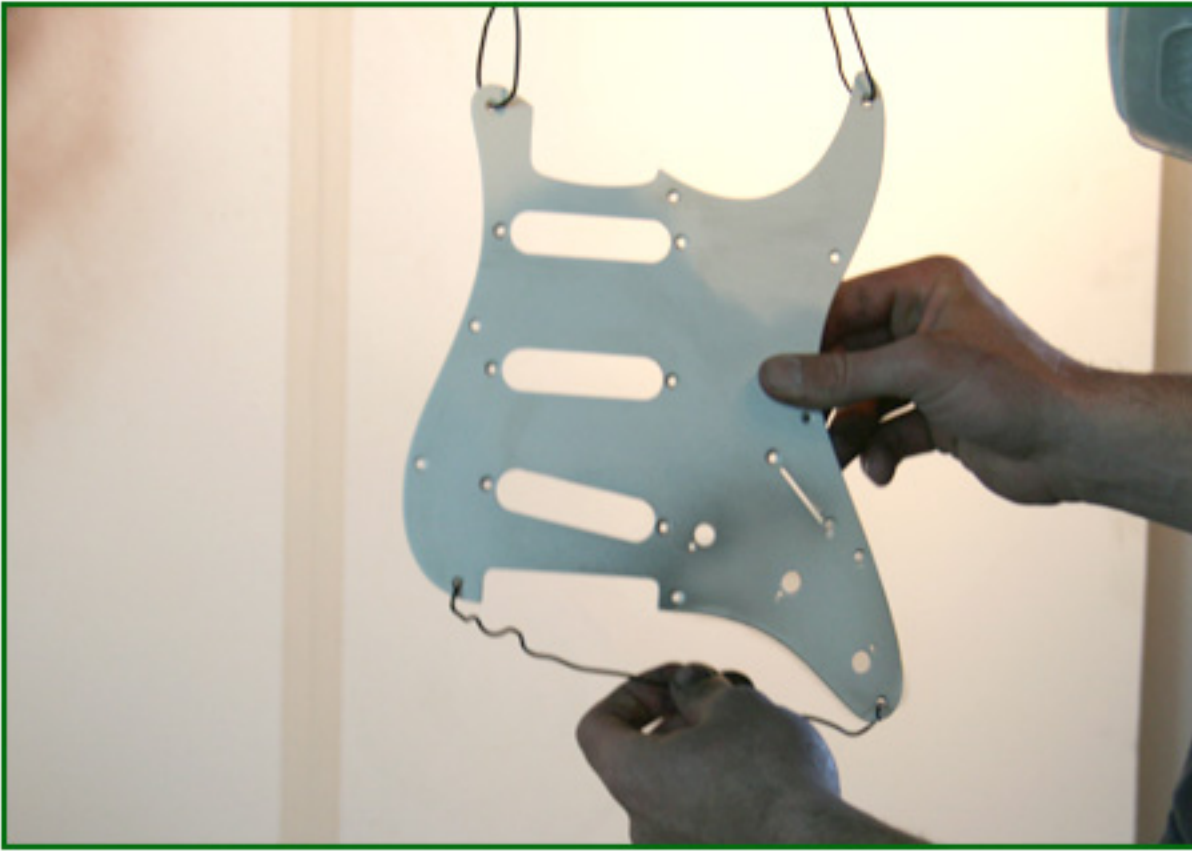
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