

Airbrush Basics

1. How it mixes paint and air
2. How the flow is controlled
3. The paint feed

Airbrush Basics

1. How it mixes paint and air

- Internal
- External

2. How the flow is controlled

- Single Action
- Dual Action

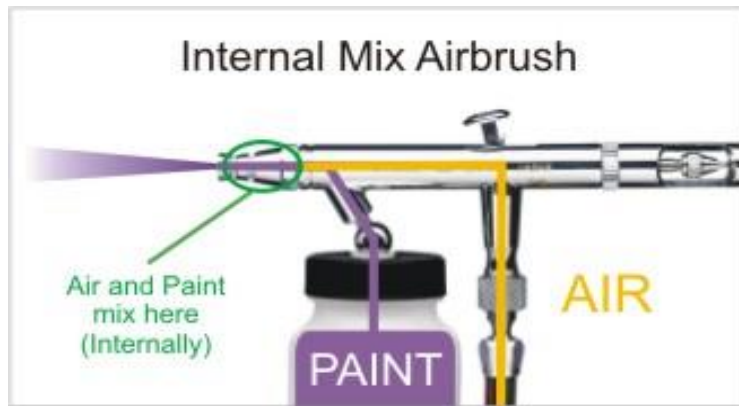
3. The paint feed

- Gravity Feed
- External Feed

Mixing Paint w/ Air

Airbrushes spray dots, like pixels on a computer or TV screen.

Two ways of mixing paint with air to produce atomized paint / dye



1. Internal Mix

Air and color mixed inside the brush and is sprayed from one nozzle

Produces higher resolution because it sprays finer dots.



2. External Mix

Air and color come from two nozzles and mixed at tip of brush

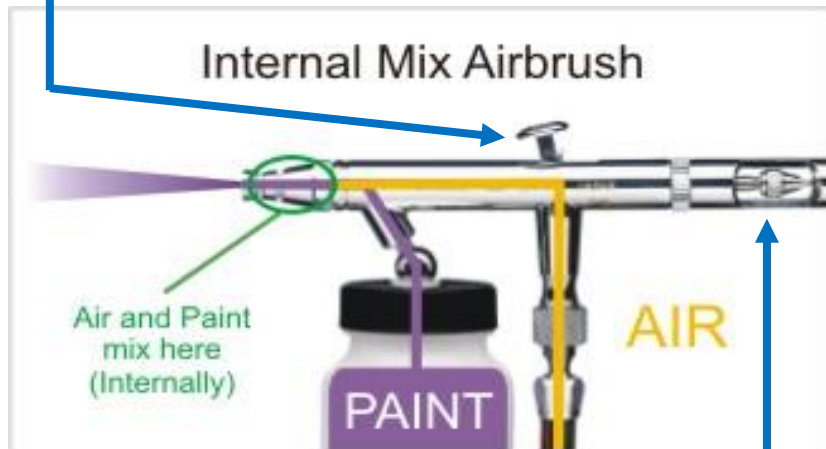
External mix creates a larger/coarser dot pattern.

Mixing Paint w/ Air

To adjust grain of spray, control the volume of air

Smoother spray, increase air flow

Coarser spray, decrease air flow



To control the volume of paint flow

Rotate the tip clockwise to increase,
counter clockwise to decrease

Internal Mix Airbrush

- More expensive than external
- More difficult to keep clean
- Creates finer spray
- Detail and fine line work possible
- Best with higher viscosity liquids

Mixing Paint w/ Air

To adjust grain of spray, control the volume of air

Smoother spray, increase air flow
Coarser spray, decrease air flow



To control the volume of paint flow

Rotate the tip clockwise to increase,
counter clockwise to decrease

External Mix Airbrush

- Cheaper, more basic, easier to keep clean
- External mix creates a larger/coarser dot pattern.
- Grainier spray than an internal-mix brush because paint and air come from two nozzles
- Fine-line work difficult, if not impossible
- Allows heavier viscosity paint than an internal-mix brush

Airbrush Basics

1. How it mixes paint and air

- Internal
- External

2. How the flow is controlled

- Single Action
- Dual Action

3. The paint feed

- Gravity Feed
- External Feed

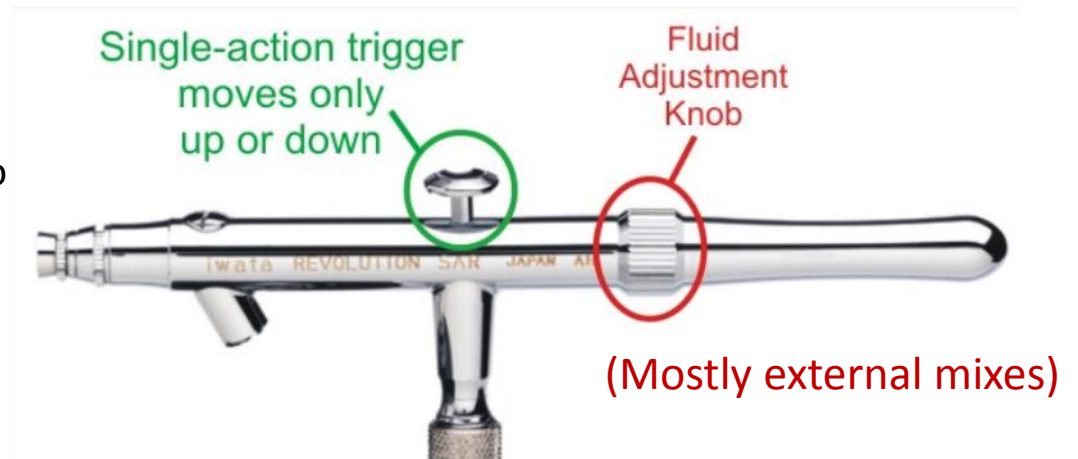
Airbrush Types

Airbrushes spray dots, like pixels on a computer or TV screen.

1. Single Action

Push down trigger which actuates air flow and you adjust paint pattern by turning dial which adjusts from fine to wide.

Single action generally is cheaper and easier to use because of less moving parts.

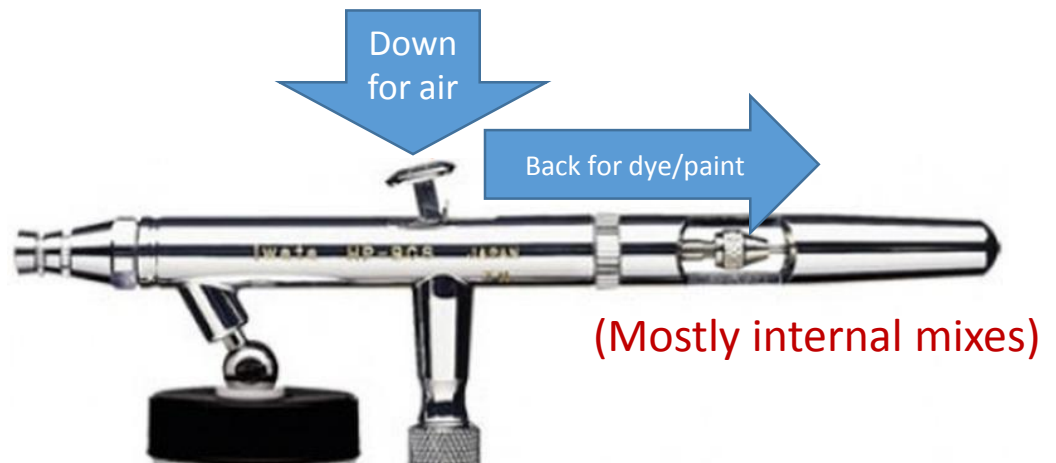


2. Dual or Double Action

First action is push down trigger for air flow.

Second action is to pull back on trigger which controls paint flow.

Double action is good when you want variable paint lines.



Airbrush Basics

1. How it mixes paint and air

- Internal
- External

2. How the flow is controlled

- Single Action
- Dual Action

3. The paint feed

- Gravity Feed
- External Feed

The Paint Feed

Paint Feed refers to where color enters the airbrush.

Gravity Feed

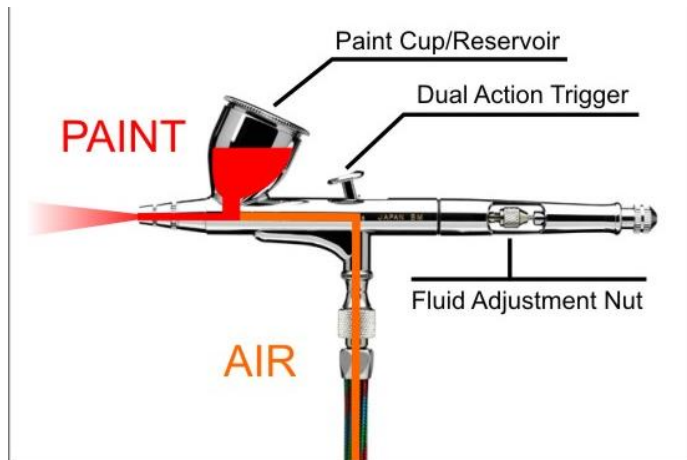


Illustration is an internal mix, gravity brush because nozzle is single.

Gravity Feeds are generally smaller color amount requirements



Illustration is an external mix, because air and paint come from two sources.

- Bottom feed bottle
- Side feed bottle
- Large color application bottle
- Generally needs higher psi (18 to 20psi)

The Paint Feed

Gravity Feed

Gravity feed is generally 8-12psi.

Gravity pulls paint into tool so control becomes much greater.

Gravity feed also drastically reduces paint waste. Only need a few drops of paint sometimes.

Bottom Feed

Bottom feed is generally 18-20psi.

Solvent base vs. water base will spray at different psi.

force us to work at a faster pace do to high psi and giving less control over the tool.

Bottom feed airbrushes will clog more due to pressure, this is called "tip dry".



Airbrush Basics

1. Costs

2. Reference and Learning

Starter Costs

From Amazon



Paasche

PAASCHE H AIRBRUSH SET w/Quiet AIR BRUSH COMPRESSOR

★★★★☆ ▾ 62 customer reviews

| 28 answered questions

Price: **\$129.96** ✓prime

- Paasche Model H Single-Action Airbrush with one Metal Color Cup and two Bottle Assemblies
- Comes with one 6' Air Hose with 2 Aircaps and a "22 Airbrush Lessons" Booklet
- The new TC 20 delivers more air volume (CFM) and pressure (PSI) than any airbrush demands
- Our TC-20 compressor comes with a full one year warranty and your assurance of the quality

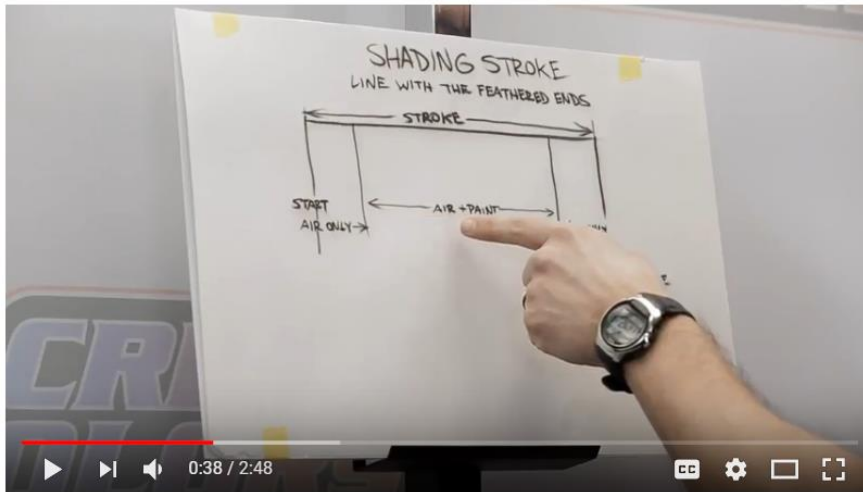
New (2) from \$129.96 ✓prime

Report incorrect product information.

Packaging may reveal contents. Choose **Conceal Package** at checkout.

References

Airbrush Instructional Videos on YouTube



Airbrush Basics Air On Off, Shading Stroke Tutorial by Alan Pastrana

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sh95ge0Gk38>



Recommended Airbrush Compressors

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C_VIN8zu5ds

References

Using your shop compressor for airbrushing



Connect an airbrush to your shop compressor

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pKs1Bh_dB4A

You can use your shop compressor to run an airbrush but need to parts to step down pressure (130 psi down to 12-30psi) and adaptors for smaller hose sizes (1/8" or 1/4" depending on airbrush).

PRACTICE
&
TEST