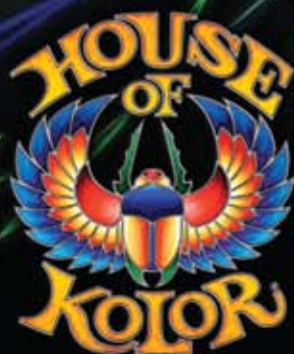


HOUSE OF KOLOR®

The Secrets Behind FA01 Flattening Agent Revealed.

by Craig Fraser



PHOTOCHEMICALLY REACTIVE

CREATING A FLAT FINISH WITH FA01

By Craig Fraser

For this demo, I am taking one of House of Kolor's speed shapes, and painting up a graphic design that will then be cleared using the House of Kolor Flattening Agent FA01. Instead of going with a traditional Ol' School graphic, I decided to throw in a few recognizable designs, with a bit of a new twist. Hybrids are always more interesting than just traditional designs.

1. We started out by sanding the speed shape and primed it with KD2000 Direct to Metal Primer. I used BC25 Black Basecoat to begin, and Brandon Lambie clearcoated/sanded with UFC35 Kosmic Acrylic Flo-Klear. I then begin to layout the design for the main Maltese Cross Graphic. The 1/8" tape is used to create a center reference point, and then the rest of the cross is laid out symmetrically.



2. Using 3/4" 3M™ Crepe tape, I mask off the rest of the speed shape in preparation to painting.

3. To create the machine turned effect, I used a 1" rollock disk attached to an air grinder. A red Scotchbrite® pad was then hot glued onto the disk to give the delicate turning, without damaging the underlying paint.





4. With the Machine turning finished, I spray the MC01 Aluminum Effect Kosmic Krome® over the Maltese Cross with my Iwata® TH-3 Fan pattern airbrush. Three (3) light coats are used to get the full aluminum effect.

5. After giving the Kosmic Krome® an hour to fully cure, I spray a protective coat of SG100 Intercoat Clear over the area so that I can mask off the Cross without fear of delamination, or tape tracking.



6. With the secondary graphic masked off, I take the same TH-3 gun, and spray in some of the MBC01 Black Diamond Metajuls™. While very sparkly under normal clear, the flat clear should give these Metajuls™ a killer look.

7. While the Kosmic Krome® leaves a very small edge, the Metajuls™, and SG100 topcoat did give a bit of edge. To counteract that I use an edge shaver gizmo that Jon Kosmoski gave me to play with. This thing removes the edge amazingly, and can save the traditional leveling clear step that adds mil thickness, and cost to any graphic job.



8. With the low edges, the graphics can now be properly pinstriped with little, if any fear of peaking, or separating when cleared later. The Maltese Cross is striped using the House of Kolor® U15 Lavender striping paint, with just a bit of KU150 mixed with the reducer.

9. The second striping color is the U32 Lime Green, mixed with a bit of U06 Lemon Yellow to create a very bright effect. You can see how this color really punches from the background, and contrasts with the lavender nicely.



10. The same U32 Lime Green, and U15 Lavender are used to create a little decorative Von Dutch Striping on the outside edge of the car. The outlining and decorative border striping is done using a Mack Series #10 triple O sword striper.

11. With the artwork done, a leveling coat of UFC clear is applied, then after sanding the flattened clear. The flattened clear is created by mixing two separate component batches. The first batch is a 1:1 mix of RU311 reducer, and the FA01 flattening agent. This is mixed well, then set aside. The second batch is the UFC, or UC35 clear. It is mixed 2:1 Clear:KU150 Catalyst. These two batches are then mixed together at 1:1. 2-3 medium-wet coats are applied for coverage, then allowed to dry. The flat clear is then applied by Dion Giuliano.



As you can see the final effect is a very kewl flattened clear that is not only UV protected, satin black, but very durable. The micro-glass component of the FA01 actually rises to the surface of the clear when drying, giving the clear that final flat look. Another benefit is that the glass increases the scratch resistance, and over all hardness of the final clear. This clear is so durable, I have actually used it to clearcoat AirSoft™ rifles, and pistol components.

Paint to live, live to paint.

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