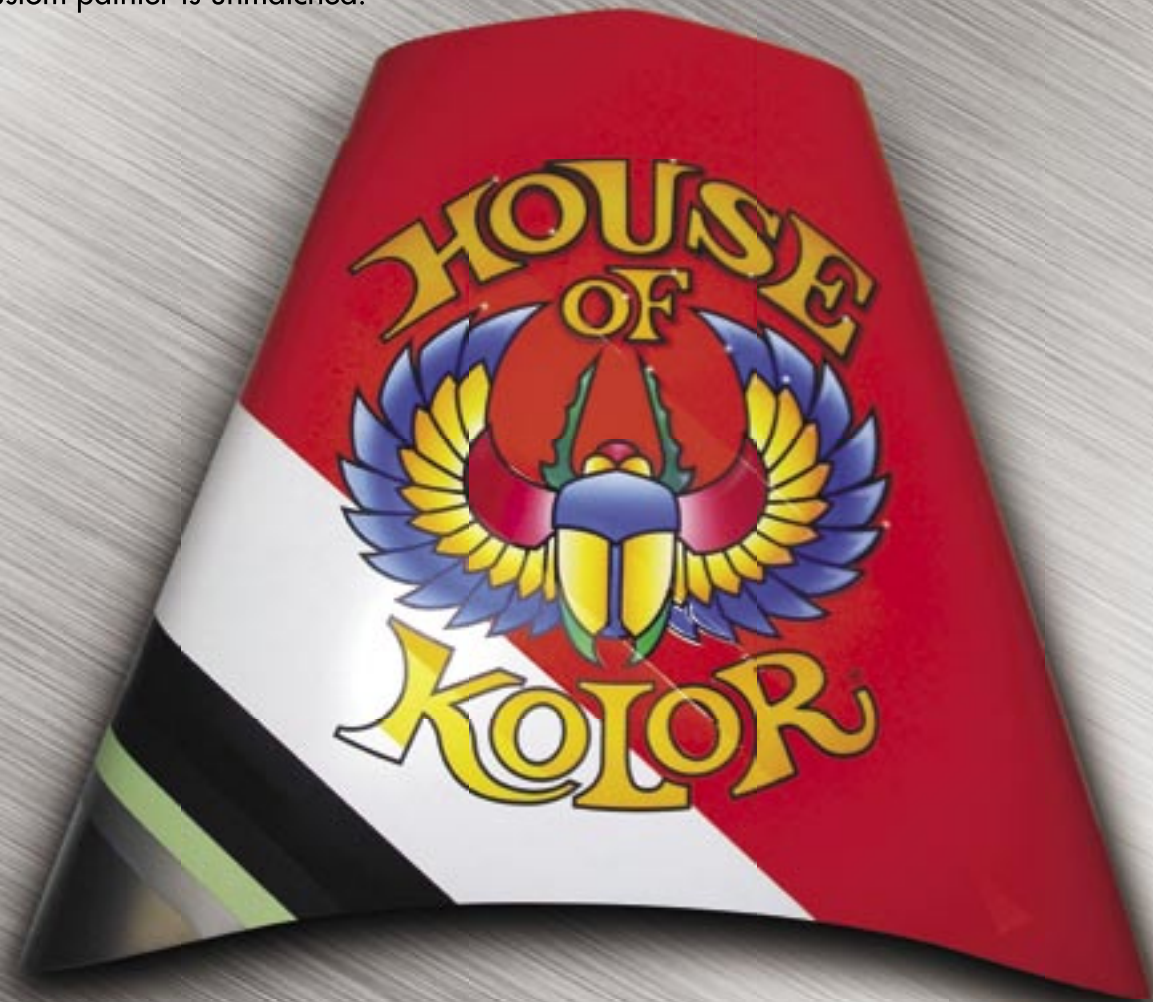


When you add up the total number of coatings (since each layer consists of multiple coatings), you're at about 25 total coats on this hood. That's a lot of work. Guess what, though – using House of Kolor® made the project go much more quickly. The products cover in fewer steps and also dry faster. Our kustom-grade Direct-to-Metal primers reduce steps, and proper usage of our kustom-grade sealer as a color coat saves both steps and material. Our kustom-grade Klears are important as well. Not only do they have to withstand the build-up, but they have to protect the colors from UV rays, since the types of pigments in kustom paints are highly sensitive to light and might fade if not protected. There are a lot of good reasons to stick with House of Kolor® all the way from substrate to topcoat clear, and these are just a few of the big ones.

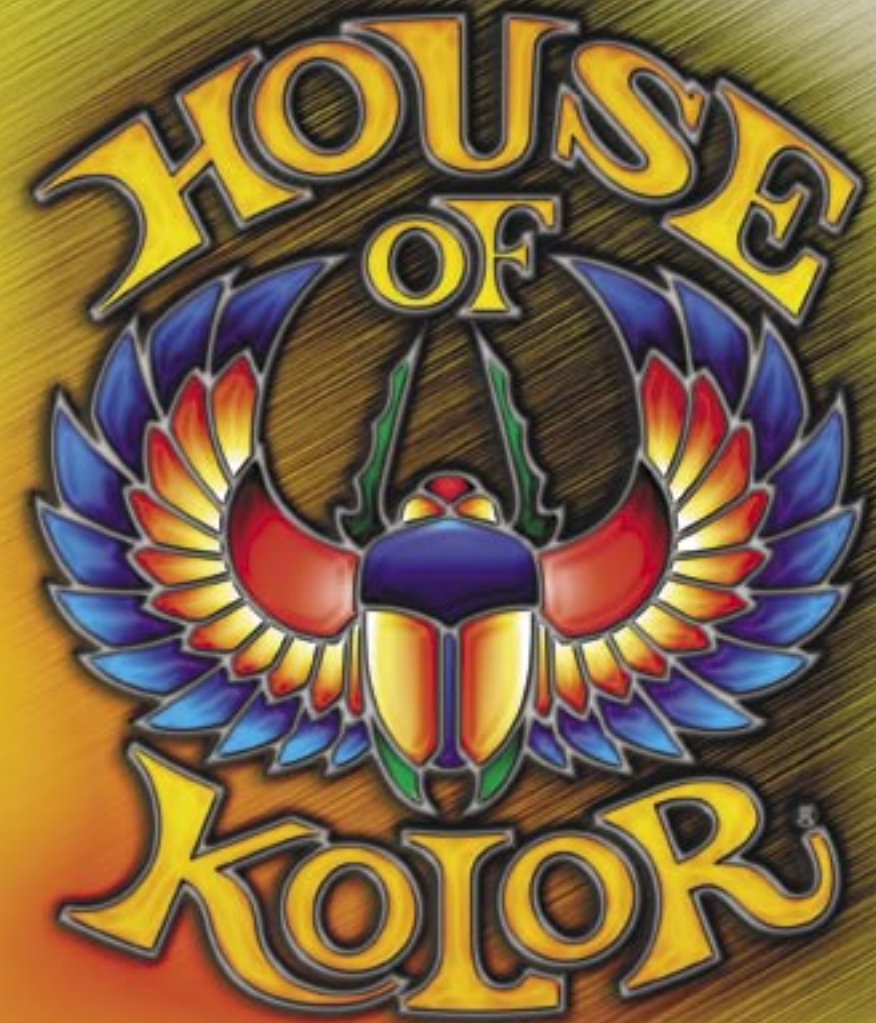
Did you know that *the paint products comprise only a very small percentage of the total cost of a custom paint job?* It isn't so surprising once you see all the work and steps that go into this kind of project. Now, ask yourself this – if you were going to pay for something that is uniquely yours and that takes this amount of time and effort to create, would you substitute non-kustom grade products that will fail? That's exactly why Jon designed the system the way he did.

Not to mention...

House of Kolor® provides a number of excellent training courses for all levels of painters. The person who painted the Stepdown Hood also teaches courses ranging from the fundamentals of kustom painting for the novice painter, to more advanced sessions for experienced painters. By supplying the best products, providing outstanding training programs, and helping painters of all levels to achieve the outcomes they've always wanted, House of Kolor's® dedication to the kustom painter is unmatched.



FROM THE BARRE
METAL
TO
the Kooolest Kolors
on the Planet



What would a true kustom paint job look like if you could see every component and every layer? House of Kolor® created our "Stepdown Hood" to not only show what goes on with the different products used, but also to show painters a few secrets about House of Kolor® that make painting graphics and lettering much easier. Starting with bare metal on the lower left of this Hot Rod hood, we left a progressive series of stripes to show what goes on underneath it all – every layer of clear, each sanding step, how the sealers are meant to be integrated into the final color scheme, and more. Plus, the storyboard gives some neat tricks for masking and isolation. After all was said and done, the resulting film build exceeded 15 mils, and believe it or not, the film build would be even greater if we used Kandies. It's important to note that using a competitor's primer, sealer, or clear product would probably cause this paint job to fail after a year or two. Plus, it's just another example of how great the House of Kolor® products look when applied properly.

To help understand how each color was applied, we numbered each "layer" starting with the substrate (bare metal).

(note: the numbers are layers of coating, not steps in the project)

(1) Bare metal (steel)
Sanded steel using 80g DA

(2) KP2CF Kwikure® Epoxy Primer - providing the ultimate in Direct-to-Metal adhesion and corrosion protection

(3) KS11 Ko-Seal® Kustom sealer (black) – Ko-Seal® is the foundation for a long-lasting kustom project and is easily worked into the color scheme. In this project, it serves as the outlines for the lettering and Scarab.

(4) SG100 Intercoat Klear over the KS11 – Intercoat Klear performs two functions here: first, it provides working time before applying the basecoat; second, you can sand it, providing a clean surface for masking of graphics.



After sanding the Intercoat Klear, the outlines of the lettering and the details in the Scarab were masked. (See photo to left) The outlines retained the black color of the sealer while the remainder was then basecoated and color-coated.

(5) BC26 Shimrin® White – This basecoat was used under all the colors. It provides a buffer between the black sealer and color coats.

Next was the lettering:

(6) The lettering was first painted in PBC30 Shimrin Sunrise Pearl.
(7) Then a second color (PBC31 Sunset Pearl) was used at the top and bottom ends of each letter to "fade" into the PBC30 in the middle. (The edges of the lettering were still masked at this point.)



And now to paint the Scarab:

6. The Scarab was also painted on top of the basecoat. The painter used some skills in creating the fading effects, but basically five Pearl Basecoat (PBC) colors were used: three for the wings and body, and two green colors for the finishing touches. A sixth color, consisting of SG100 tinted with KK11, provided reddish tips on the middle wings.

- (6) Inner Wings: PBC52 Cherry, with fading
- (6) Middle Wings: PBC30 Sunrise Pearl, with fading
- (7) Reddish tips of Middle Wings: tinted SG100 with KK11 Kandy Koncentrate to shift the PBC30 to red
- (6) Outer Wings: PBC36 True Blue, with fading
- (6) Nose and Tail: PBC38 Lifetime served as the base green on the nose and tail. (7) PBC41 Sherwood was sprayed over top to give the darker contrasting effect.



Creating the Euro Red "background":

With the logo complete, we "reverse isolated" the logo using the paper outline we had already cut out. The first time we isolated everything outside the logo; this time we isolated just the logo to spray everything else with a red color coat. This is a neat trick that makes detailing easier and more precise.

(6) With the logo "reverse isolated", we sprayed SG104 Euro Red over the white basecoat. That's great usage of color!



The finishing touches: airbrushing and klear coats

Removed all masking to reveal the black edging.

(8) Clearcoated with UC35 Kosmic Klear® (then sanded the clearcoat)

(9) Airbrushed highlights (BC26 White) and shadows (BC25 Black), using colors available in our new Airbrush Program.

(10) Finally, applied the final UFC35 "Flo Coat" for the final shine and protection from the elements.

Number of layers: 10
Final film build: 15+ mils

