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Technique

At least 80% of all tech questions are about texture – how do I get this or that texture?

Textures are a combination of several factors.

1. The mix of the product.
2. How long the window is between mix time and spray time.
3. **Gun pressure.**
4. Technique.

Of the big 4 texturing tips, gun pressure is the easiest way to change texture. Basically, here is how the gun works. The trigger controls the amount of material being sprayed, while the air atomizes it at the tip. Air runs down the air shaft to the tip, where 7 holes (or jets, depending on who you talk to) break the material up. The more air you feed the gun, the better it will break up the material. Personally, I feel that the air should never be run at less than 30 psi. I tell most of our dealers they should run at least 40 psi, with 60 psi being the easiest and fastest pattern to control. Keep in mind that the better the pattern, the faster you move material. With the summer quickly approaching, it is important to move the material through the gun in a timely fashion.

With all that being said, let's talk about the original topic: gun pressure and texture. The air amount will determine the drop size. At 100 psi you will have a paint mist, whereas, running the gun at 20 psi will give you a large splatter coat. Remember though, the more air you feed the gun, the better coverage per pass you will have. This is because the drop size is reduced with the addition of more air. So what does this do for texture? Basically, the higher the air, the finer the texture. If you are looking for a sandy or grit like look for a liner, then your final pass (or texture pass) will need to be at high pressure (at the least, 50-60 psi). If you are looking for more of a large orange peel look, then 30-40 psi would be right for you. Remember though, if you are looking for the gritty look, let the bed dry 10-20 minutes before you spray your texture pass (at higher pressure) over it. The orange peel look is much easier because the material is already "programmed" to do that. This means it naturally has an orange peel texture to it. The

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amount of air will determine the size of the orange peel. The less air, the larger the orange peel will be!

We have one more thing to discuss in the world of texture, and that is technique. That will be a "Book" by the time it's done. Be looking for that next month. Till then I hope you are enjoying the summer and the ball games that you are running to aren't tapping your gas tank to dry. As always, feel free to give me a call anytime, or shoot me an email. I'm always happy to help!!!

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