

APPLICATION TIPS



Color Fill Wood with Powder Paint

Introduction

“Color can speak to the soul in a thousand different ways.” – Oscar Wilde

A dash of color is a great way to increase the beauty and value of many of the products you engrave. Color adds the perfect finishing touch to almost any item and helps distinguish your engraving services from the competition.

Color can be added to engraved items made of wood, glass, Corian®, acrylic, marble and many other materials. In this tip sheet you will learn how to add color to wood. We hope you will find the process to be rewarding and enjoyable.

Sincerely,

The Universal Laser Systems Training Staff

Filling Wood with Powder Coat Paint

Section 1: Preparing the Artwork

1.1: Import the design shown in Graphic 1 into CorelDRAW.

Note: If you do not have access to the file, you can create your own design in CorelDRAW or the Windows® based graphic software of your choice.

Section 2: Preparing the Material

2.1: For this project we used a 4 inch x 6 inch piece of maple wood with a lacquer clear coat.

2.2: Engrave the wood using the power and speed settings appropriate for your laser system and the material.

2.3: After the engraving is finished, remove any smoke residue from the surface with a soft cloth dampened with water.

Section 3: Powder Coat Paint Filling the Wood

3.1: Apply a matte black powder coat paint fill into the engraved areas of the wood with a paint brush as shown in Graphic 2.

Note: Powder coat paint is a dry paint powder made from finely ground solid resins. The natural oils in wood allow the powder to adhere without the need for any further treatment.

Note: You can get matte black powder coat paint from most paint manufacturers or online from Harbor Freight at www.harborfreight.com/.

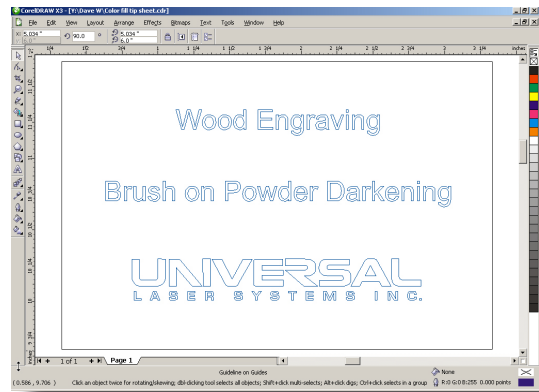
3.2: Wipe away any excess powder from the plaque with a cloth. Done!

3.3: The finished powder-filled plaque is shown in Graphic 3.

Section 4: Enhancing the Powder Coat Paint Finish

4.1: If you want a darker and more glossy black fill, treat the wood with Old English® furniture oil. Wipe away any excess oil with a soft, clean cloth and apply the powder as described in steps 3.1 and 3.2.

Note: Old English furniture oil is available in most grocery and hardware stores. It does not contain any wax or silicones and will give the surface of the wood a rich natural glow.



(GRAPHIC 1)



(GRAPHIC 2)



(GRAPHIC 3)

4.2: Although not necessary, you can spray a clear coat on the plaque to seal in the black powder if you wish.

Caution: Be sure to use the same type of clear coat that was used on the plaque. Mixing lacquer and polyurethane may cause a reaction that can turn the wood white.