

# Workbench Guide

Many of you have, over the past 4 years, mentioned various aspects of the hobby that you felt needed clarification. With this in mind the Workbench Guide has been created and in it we will endeavour to pass on guides and information about specific subjects, processes and products that we use in our hobby today.

**W**e start the series with a guide to paint and thinner compatibility. We have tried to make this as comprehensive as we can, but sadly some paint brands were either not available to us here in the UK, or we were unable to procure samples in time. We may well add to this Guide in the future, and if we do we will update it and republish it accordingly.

## KEY

- ✗ - Not suitable as a thinner for this paint type
- ✓ - Suitable thinner for brush and airbrush application, up to 90% thinner to paint ratio
- - Slight separate of paint and thinner, so not suitable for airbrush application

Water & Screen Wash ratio = 50/50

Type	White Spirit	Cellulose	Isopropanol	Distilled Water	Water+ Screen Wash	Xtracolor Thinners
Aeromaster Warbird Color Acrylic	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
Eagle Strike Aircraft Color	✗	✗	●	✓	✓	✗
Polly Scale	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
Vallejo Model Air	✗	✗	●	✓	✓	✗
LifeColor	✗	✗	✗	●	✓	✗
Gunze-Sangyo (GS) Mr Aqueous Color	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Tamiya Color	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗
Xtracrylix	✗	●	●	✓	✓	✗
Citadel Colour	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
Airfix Enamel	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Humbrol Authentics Colour	✓	●	✗	✗	✗	●
Humbrol Super Enamel	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
Aeromaster Warbird Color Enamel	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Polly Scale Enamel	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Revell Color	✗	●	✗	✗	✗	✗
White Ensign Models Colour Coats	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
Phoenix Precision	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
Xtracolour	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓
Gunze-Sangyo (GS) Mr Color	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗



**DOWNLOAD** We appreciate that this type of information is invaluable at your workbench, so as not to require you to deface your prized copy of MAI, the chart seen below will be available to download from our website as a PDF file.

#### TEST PARAMETERS

All of the listed paints were mixed in a clean glass container with a specific amount of the prescribed thinner. The reaction to this thinner was then judged as compatible if the paint mixed evenly with the thinner and remained fluid. All such mixes are marked with a tick. Any thinner that mixed, but which showed signs of some separation of the paint and thinner are not considered as recommended and are thus marked •. All those thinner/paint combinations that had a serious adverse reaction (e.g. clumping etc.) or failed to mix at all are marked with a cross.



Xtracrylix Thinners	GS Hobby Color Thinners	Lifecolor Acrylic Thinners	Tamiya X-20A Thinners	Revell Color Mix	Humbrol Enamel Thinners	GS Mr Color Thinners
✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
•	•	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
•	•	•	•	✗	✗	✗
✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
✓	✓	•	✓	✗	✗	✓
✗	✓	•	✓	✗	✗	✓
✓	•	✗	•	✗	✗	✗
✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	•
✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	•	✗
✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓
✗	✗	✗	✗	•	✓	✓
✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	•
✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓

Lifecolor (Acrylic)



Phoenix Precision (Enamel)

Polly Scale (Enamel)



Revell Color (Lacquer)



Tamiya Color (Acrylic)

Vallejo Model Air (Acrylic)



Xtracrylix (Acrylic)



Xtracolor (Enamel)



WEM Colourcoats (Enamel)