

# It's All About the NUMBERS.....

By Judy Badgley

Have you ever noticed the differences in paint shades when the H/O's are all together at a meet? This can be attributed to many different factors. I would like to share with you some observations as well as some paint codes and formulas.

Over time paint fades. It makes a difference on the amount of direct sun the car gets. People will compare an original faded paint color to a nice shiny paint and vow the new one is not the same as original. If you are referencing engine paint colors, the amount of heat from a running engine changes the color from what it looked like when it was first installed.

Another factor that affects paint color is the person that applies the paint. How they mix the

paint, how close they are to the object when they paint or how heavy they spray the paint when they apply it. It also makes a difference as to how many coats they apply. Several thin coats will look different from 1 or 2 heavier coats of paint. All of these things affect the actual final product.

Your location and weather conditions will also create differences. If you are in the dry Southwest applying paint and you use the same exact paint in the humidity of the Northeast, it will look different!

The final point I will bring up is the paint itself. Converting the old original paint formulas to the newer paints will change the colors. The products used to make the original paints

(remember lead) are not always available anymore. The original paint codes for the body colors of our H/O's are lacquer paints. Very few painters use lacquer. Through the last 20+ years, paint has evolved and is getting better all the time. The original codes do not always have an exact transfer. Today's paint of preference is base coat/clear coat. You can have an "exact" paint color match with the base coat and when you apply the clear coat it changes the shade. Not only the shade of the color, it changes the brightness. The new base coat/clear coat cars are much shinier than the original cars.

With all of this information, here are the paint formulas for the Hurst/Olds cars.

YEAR	CODE / BODY and STRIPES	WHEELS	ENGINE
1968	Z -Peruvian Silver Dupont 4907L Ebony Black stripe Dupont 88L	Argent Gray RM A5278	Red Inmont Q51R038 RM 2U-5732R
1969	50 -Cameo White Dupont 5033L Firefrost Gold stripe Dupont 69H/O Gold	Argent Gray RM A5278	Red Inmont Q51R038 RM 2U-5732R
1972	11 -Cameo White Dupont 5033L Stripes are a decal kit	Gold Ditzler 24149	Olds Blue PPG DQE2083 Inmont E51BD046
1973	11 -Cameo White Dupont 5338L 19 -Ebony Black Dupont 99L Stripes are a decal kit	Gold Ditzler 24149 Black Ditzler 9300	Olds Blue PPG DQE2083 or Inmont E51BD046
1974	11 -Cameo White Dupont 5338L 19 -Ebony Black Dupont 99L Stripes are a decal kit	Gold Ditzler 24149	350/GoldInmont Q51N048 455/Olds Blue PPG DQE2083 or Inmont E51BD046
1975	11 -Cameo White Dupont 5338L 19 -Ebony Black Dupont 99L Stripes are a decal kit	Gold Ditzler 24149	350 or 455 Olds Blue PPG DQE2083 or Inmont E51BD046
1979	11 -Cameo White Dupont 5338L 19 -Ebony Black Dupont 99L Stripes are a decal kit	Gold Ditzler 24450	GM Blue PPG 15159
1983	19 -Black Dupont 99L 16 -Bright Silver Dupont B8140L Stripes are a decal kit	Argent Gray Dupont D8236	Black PPG 99A

1984	17 –Silver 19 –Black Stripes are a decal kit	Dupont B8467L Dupont 99L	Argent Gray Dupont D8236	Black PPG 99A
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The above codes are several different brands. The factory used several suppliers through the years. RM, PPG, Inmont, Siebert and Glidden were all used for engine paints. The body paint codes I have provided are all Dupont brand. Any major automotive paint store should be able to get you paint from these codes. The stripes are available from a couple of companies, but

Phoenix Graphics is a supporter of our Club. The engine paints are difficult to get through a paint store, but another of our sponsors, Fusick Automotive has engine paint.

As an additional “FYI”, the H/O’s were all built in Lansing, Michigan. Lansing has a unique assembly plant. The car bodies are built and painted at Fisher Body located about 1 mile from the main assembly plant. The bodies are then transported to the final

assembly plant.

At that point all of the mechanical and interior

parts are installed. After that assembly, the front end assembly, which was painted at the main plant, is then assembled onto the car. Remember what I said about matching paint? The best example is if you look closely at an original 83 and 84 H/O. The front end is noticeably a different shade, especially those 84’s. Silver is hard to match! The lower edge that has the rock guard is another giveaway. The body has a more coarse grain to it. Also remember the original paint is “baked” at the factory. Does your paint booth have the same system, probably not!!!!

Now you are well-armed with paint information. Next time you are at a car show, enjoy the cars you are looking at and the one you drove. Don’t worry about “original”, not the same, etc. Just enjoy.

I have an addition to the paint formulas The 1979 Hurst/Olds has gold paint as well as the stripe kit. The formula for the gold body paint is: Ditzler brand DDL24430 or Dupont 45869L. You may want to add this information to the chart above

