

SHIMMER PEARLS



TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

Kirker's line of effect additives includes the SP-Series Shimmer Pearls. These dry stir-in pearls are remarkably easy to integrate into or use in combination with Kirker's different color, clear and candy systems. They vastly expand the range of possible colors and give painters a handy tool for creating unique new shades and custom effects.

SHIMMER PEARLS

Create a silky smooth appearance with beautiful luster and soft color shifts using Kirker's SP-Series Shimmer Pearls. These rich colors deliver bright results with a beautiful interference effect. Shimmer Pearls can be used to enhance existing factory-packs and/or SPECTRA Series candy colors, or dropped into clear and applied over different ground coats to create entirely new hues. There are 12 different Shimmer Pearls to choose from:

SP100 Creamsicle Pearl
SP114 Lemonade Pearl
SP118 Frappuccino Pearl
SP130 Granny Smith Pearl
SP132 Mojito Mint Pearl
SP140 Glacier Blue Pearl

SP142 Cyprus Blue Pearl
SP144 Cayman Blue Pearl
SP146 Super Blue Pearl
SP150 Watermelon Sorbet Pearl
SP153 Amethyst Pearl
SP160 Graphite Pearl

PHYSICALS:

Appearance: Fine powder (appearance varies by color)
Particle Size: 10-60 microns
Package Measure: 6 ounce plastic jar
Package Weight: 50 grams (net weight)



DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Shimmer Pearls may be used in a wide range of concentrations; add as little or as much as desired to achieve varying results. Users are encouraged to experiment and reminded to always spray test panels before applying directly to a vehicle. Pearl concentration, ground coat color, application pattern and other factors will impact the end result.

Creating a Midcoat Color

This is the most common use for Shimmer Pearls; Stir dry pearl into a urethane clearcoat and spray over a properly prepared ground coat. Any clear will work as a mixing base, however Kirker's EC310 Midcoat Clear was designed specifically for this use and will make the job easier.

- Ground coats may be freshly painted or, if the surface is in good condition, may also be a factory finish or other previously-applied paint job. If using a cured paint film as a ground coat, be sure to sufficiently clean, sand and reclean the entire surface according to the paint or clearcoat's directions for use.
- Ground coats need not be solid colors (metallic and pearl finishes can also be used), however a ground coat should be the same over the entire vehicle to ensure consistent appearance.
- No matter how much pearl is used, it is unrealistic to expect the pearl additive color alone to provide full hiding (coverage). Uneven ground coats may create the illusion of shadows when the vehicle is viewed in direct sunlight.
- In general, Shimmer Pearls sprayed over a Pure White ground coat will create a much lighter color with softer interference effects (especially when the pearl is used sparingly) while a Super Jet Black or other dark ground coat will yield a deeper, bolder effect, more true to the actual color of the dry pearl additive.
- Fastest coverage will be achieved when applying pearl midcoat over a similar-colored ground coat.

Modifying An Existing Color

Some users will prefer to use Shimmer Pearls to alter an existing factory-packaged color. SP-Series pearls can be mixed into ULTRA-GLO single-stage urethane topcoats or BLACK DIAMOND low-VOC urethane basecoats, however not all colors will be suitable for this type application. To understand why some factory-packaged colors make better choices than others, users should be relatively familiar with automotive paints, and specifically, with the concept of opacity.

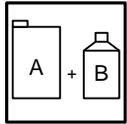
Solid colors (Pure White, Viper Red and Pacific Blue, for example), are made with opaque tints to deliver quick coverage. By contrast, metallic and pearl colors (such as Sour Apple Green Metallic, Ultra Blue Pearl and Black Sapphire Metallic) are made with translucent tints that allow the effect particles to be visible within the film. Aluminum (metallic) and pearl particles also help to increase opacity, but primarily are used for their glittery effect appearance. Factory-packaged metallic and pearl colors will generally take more coats to achieve full coverage compared with solid colors. Because solid colors are opaque, they will not make good mixing bases for Shimmer Pearls, though they may be ideal choices for use as a ground coat, depending on the specific effect additive being used.

- SP-Series pearls are an easy-to-use, low-cost way to "tint" factory-pack colors. For example, stirring a bit of SP114 Lemonade Pearl into Mandarin Pearl would lighten the color, make it more yellow, and increase the paint's pearlescent shimmer effect. As another example, Light Sapphire Blue Metallic could be made a bit more vivid and slightly darker by adding some SP140 Glacier Blue Pearl.
- Just like picking suitable ground coat colors, the shade value and hue of both the factory-pack paint and the SP-Series pearl additive should be considered. Complementary colors will work best in most cases. High contrast combinations (like SP146 Super Blue Pearl mixed into Mocha Frost Pearl Metallic) will look unnatural.
- Users will probably want to add a lower concentration of Shimmer Pearls when adding them into an existing factory-packaged color rather than using them to create a midcoat.
- Slowly mix in pearl in small increments, testing along the way, until the desired color/effect is achieved.



SURFACE PREPARATION:

Always refer to the Technical Data Sheet for whatever coating the Shimmer Pearl effect additive is being used with for appropriate directions on surface prep, as well as mixing and application instructions.



MIXING:

Shimmer Pearls can be added to already-activated, ready-to-spray mixtures, but for optimum consistency, and to ensure repeatable results, users are advised to stir pearl effect additive into clear, SSU topcoat or Low-VOC Basecoat before activating and preparing to spray.

For best results, use a mixing wand attachment driven by a hand held power drill. Begin with the mixing blades fully submerged in the coating. Slowly increase power until the material is mixing under force with a visible vortex around the shaft of the mixing wand. Shake or spoon pearl from the jar directly into the vortex and continue mixing for at least one minute, or as long as it takes for the pearl additive to appear uniform throughout the can.

EC310 Midcoat Clear is packaged in a round gallon can and a round quart can, both $\frac{3}{4}$ full, to allow room for mixing at high speed. If mixing smaller quantities, pour EC310 Midcoat Clear (or other mixing base), into graduated plastic mixing cups. Marked cups will make it easier to continue mixing activator and/or reducer as needed.

Be sure to agitate containers frequently to ensure effect particles are suspended evenly.

How much to use?

Each jar = 50 grams of pearl additive, or roughly 24 level teaspoons. That's enough to add to one sprayable gallon of EC310 midcoat clear or other clear mixing base.

TO MAKE	ADD THIS MUCH PEARL	TO THIS MUCH RTS CLEAR
1 gallon	50 grams or 24 level teaspoons	1 gallon (128 ounces)
$\frac{1}{2}$ gallon	25 grams or 12 level teaspoons	$\frac{1}{2}$ gallon (64 ounces)
1 quart	12.5 grams or 6 level teaspoons	1 quart (32 ounces)
1 pint	6.25 grams or 3 level teaspoons	1 pint (16 ounces)

Use caution when adding pearl. The amount of pearl can always be increased, but users will not be able to decrease the concentration without adding back more clear mixing base or factory-packaged color.

It is better to use pearl additive sparingly and build up extra coats than it is to load too much pearl into each coat.

To ensure repeatable results, keep a record with specific details including which pearls were used, amount of pearl used, type of clear base and/or mixing color, color of ground coat, number of coats applied, etc.



APPLICATION:

When spraying Shimmer Pearls as midcoats, apply even, consistent coats.

Many light coats are better than fewer heavy coats. Apply until the desired effect is achieved.

Follow application directions for the specific system (EC310 Midcoat Clear, SPECTRA Series Candy, etc). This includes recommended flash times between coats, and dry time after the final coat.

Apply a clear or candy topcoat over the pearl coat to bury the particles and provide a surface to polish. Do not expect to be able to cut and buff directly over pearl midcoat without damaging and altering appearance of pearl particles.



HEALTH / SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

THIS PRODUCT IS INTENDED FOR USE BY PROFESSIONALS ONLY.

USE THIS PRODUCT ONLY WITH ADEQUATE VENTILATION: Wear appropriate, properly fitted fresh-air-supplied NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator (TC-19C or equivalent) as directed by the manufacturer. Protect hands with impervious nitrile gloves. Always wear eye and face protection. Individuals with lung or breathing problems should neither use nor be exposed to this product, its vapors or spray mist. READ ALL WARNINGS ON ALL LABELS BEFORE USING.

This product is designed to be mixed with other components. Mixture will have hazards of all components. Before opening the packages, read all warning labels. Follow all precautions. See Safety Data Sheet for additional health and safety information.

WARRANTY:

All recommendations for the use of Kirker products are based on tests and experience believed to be reliable. Since the methods of use, conditions of application, and the application itself are beyond our control, product warranty is restricted to replacement of material only. No other warranty, written or oral, is expressed or implied.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:



89 Taft Avenue, Newburgh, NY 12550
Toll free: 800-307-7951
Fax: 845-562-8986
www.KirkerAutomotive.com
info@kirkerautomotive.com

030718