

AIRLESS TIPS

A small part with great importance



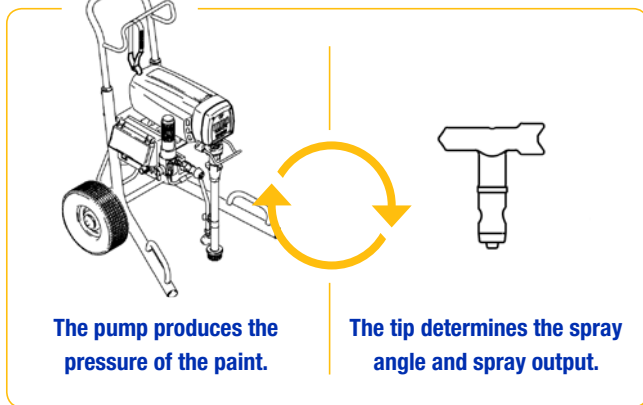
In this brochure you will discover **why choosing the right tip** is so essential, **how to choose the right tip** for your application and how to get the best out of your tips.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHOOSING THE RIGHT TIP

This may only be a small part of your sprayer, but your tip is of vital importance. We will explain to you briefly and concisely why this is true.

What is the purpose of a tip?

An airless paint sprayer pushes the paint under high pressure (up to 350 bar) through the small orifice of the tip. The tip tells the pump how hard it must work in order to maintain the required pressure. The tip ensures that the paint atomises under a certain fan width and flow rate – an effect similar to placing your thumb on the end of a garden hose.



Why is the choice of a tip so important?

The correct tip ensures less overspray and therefore better control and finish. Consequently, not only will you use less paint, but you will be spending less time on the job.

The right tip:

- Increases your performance
- Improves the quality of your work
- Keeps your costs under control



Why are there so many different tips and sizes?

You can compare this to choosing the right bit for your drill. There are bits designed for wood, others are made for metal or concrete. Every bit is available in various sizes. If you use the wrong bit for the wrong surface, you won't get the result you want. The same applies to airless tips.



WHAT DOES A TIP TELL YOU? CRACKING THE CODE!

Not all tips look the same. There's a good reason for that. Discover below how various tips differ from one another.

The colour tells you which application you can use the tip for

There are four types of tips. Each type is used for a specific application. Each type has its own colour, so you'll be immediately able to recognise them.

- guarantees the best possible finish under lowest pressure for fine finish and wall paints
- for painting walls, suitable for paint spraying in general
- for thin plastering and less fluid materials
- for marking roads

The first number indicates the fan width of the tip

The first number stands for the width of the spray distribution (the fan width). It matches the angle you are spraying at. If the number is 5, then you are spraying at an angle of 50°. Multiply that number by 5 and you have a fan width if you hold the pistol 30 cm from the surface.

$$5 \times 5 = 25 \text{ fan width}$$

The last two numbers indicate the spray orifice of the tip

The last two numbers of the tip show the size of the spray orifice, indicated in one thousands of an inch. The higher the number, the greater the flow with which you can spray. For example, a '517' tip enables a greater flow than a '515' tip.

'17' matches an orifice of 0.017 inch or 0.43 mm.



You have to take these three factors into consideration when choosing a tip. On pages 4 and 5, we'll go into this in greater detail.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TIP IN 3 STEPS

Choosing the right tip is done in three steps. First, you determine which application you need the tip for (that is, which material you'll be spraying) and then the fan width and flow rate you need.

STEP 1

Which application do you need the tip for?

Tips were developed for specific applications. Materials used for a fine finish (such as staining or varnishing) require a tip with a smaller orifice. For heavier materials (such as latex), the orifice must be larger. Based on the colour of the tip, you will know immediately which tip is suitable for your application.



Interior paint jobs
and residential projects



Choose a green tip
for optimal finish under
the lowest pressure

Interior and exterior paint jobs
in homes and in commercial and
industrial projects



Choose the blue airless tip
for maximum productivity and
where overspray is not an issue

Interior and exterior paint jobs
with high production and airless
plaster applications



Choose a brown tip
for heavy-duty work

Marking parking spaces, roads
and warehouse floors, pedestrian
crossings and sport fields



Choose a yellow tip
for airless marking



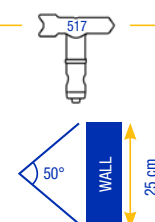
For your convenience, on page 6 you will find an overview of the most common tip sizes per material.

STEP 2

How wide do you want your fan width?

The fan width is determined by the angle when spraying 30 cm from the surface. The wider the spray distribution, the faster you paint larger surfaces, but the consumption of paint is greater. With a smaller distribution, you work more slowly, but you use less paint and you have more control. Determine your fan width and divide that number by 5. That will tell you what the first number of your tip should be.

For example, if the fan width is 25 cm, then the first number of the figure must be 5 (=5x5). The number 5 matches a spray angle of 50°. By the way, if you want a fan width of 35 cm, then the first number must be a 7 (7x5=35). The angle in this case is 70°.



STEP 3

What is the maximum flow rate of the sprayer?

The size of the tip orifice determines the quantity of paint sprayed by the tip. The maximum flow rate of your sprayer must always be greater than that of your tip. The actual flow rate depends on the spray pressure and the type of paint used: a higher pressure results in a greater flow rate and heavier paint types reduce the flow rate.

In the table below, choose the flow rate of your tip and check whether the flow rate is appropriate for your machine. Never use a tip size greater than your machine can handle. Your machine must be able to pump at a minimal flow rate.

		FINE FINISH APPLICATIONS					PROFESSIONAL AIRLESS APPLICATIONS								HEAVY DUTY APPLICATIONS								
Inches	l/min (in paint)	0.007	0.009	0.011	0.013	0.015	0.017	0.019	0.021	0.023	0.025	0.027	0.029	0.031	0.033	0.035	0.037	0.039	0.041	0.043	0.045	0.047	0.051
		0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.8	2.2	2.5	3.0	3.4	3.9	4.4	5	5.6	6.2	6.8	7.5	8.2	9	10.67
RANGE	MODEL																						
	GX™ 21																						
	GX™ FF																						
	CLASSIC																						
	390																						
	ST MAX™																						
	395																						
	CLASSIC S/STMAX																						
	495																						
	STMAX/FINISHPRO																						
	595																						
	ULTRA™ MAX II																						
	695																						
	795																						
	1095																						
	MARK																						
	IV (only with paint)																						
	V with paint																						
	V with plaster																						
	VII with paint																						
	VII with plaster																						
	X with paint*																						
	X with plaster*																						
	GMAX™																						
	3900																						
	5900 HD																						
	7900																						
	DUTYMAX																						
	200 - 300																						
	BIG RIGS																						
	2075 - 5030																						
	ROOFING																						
	1015																						

* max. tip size 0.051"

TIP SIZES PER APPLICATION AND MATERIAL

The table below will help you choose the right tip for specific applications and materials.



Brush and roll quality Fine Finish paints	008 - 010
Varnish	010 - 014
Stain	012 - 014
Oil based paint Urethanes	012 - 014
Latex	015 - 019
Acrylic paints	015 - 019
Silicate paints	015 - 019
Emulsions	017 - 021
Silicone	021 - 025
Multi-colours	023 - 025
Block fillers	023 - 025
High production projects	025 - 031

Block fillers	027 - 031
Fire-retardant materials	029 - 035
Airless plasters	029 - 041
Elastomerics	027 - 033
Mastics	041 - 047
Epoxies	043 - 061
Asphalt with fibres	047 - 053
Asphalt	031 - 071
Silicate/mineral	027 - 033

Paint for airless markings	013 - 055
Top-quality outdoor paint	015 - 021



Ask your dealer or Graco representative for advice about which tip is most suitable for your situation and for more information about all the available tip sizes per tip series.

Stains	Lacquers	Enamels	Enamels (Airless)	Urethanes	Acrylics	Emulsions	Latex	Block Fillers	Intumescents	Texture & high viscosity material for spray applications
FFLP-XXX			(FF)LP / PAA*-XXX						LP** / HDA-XXX	
108	110	110/112	112	115						
208	210	210/212	212/214	215	217	219	221	225	227	231
308	310	310/312	312/314	313/315	317	319	321	323	325	327
410	410	410/412	412/414	415	417	419	421	423	425	427
510	510	510/512	512/514	515/516	517	519	521	523	525	527
				615/616	617	619	621	623	625	627
								723	725	729
										731
						819	821	827	831	833
WA-XXXX								1221	1223	1225
								1227	1229	1231
								1233	1235	1237
								1239		

NEW
1st digit x 5 = fan width*

WORN
time to change!

5 cm	3 cm
10 cm	7 cm
15 cm	10 cm
20 cm	15 cm
25 cm	20 cm
30 cm	25 cm
35 cm	30 cm
40 cm	35 cm
60 cm	55 cm

* Even numbers are (FF)LP. Odd numbers are PAA.
** Bold sizes are also available as Low Pressure LP tips.

*at 30 cm spraying distance

GET THE MOST OUT OF YOUR TIPS

Based on the general information from the previous pages, you can choose the tip best suited for your application. We will provide you with some additional tips & tricks for this.

Adjusting to the right tip

By experimenting with various tips, you become experienced and can easily decide which tip is the best one for your application.

TOO MUCH PAINT?

0.017" = 1.2 litres/minute

517

515

1) Use a smaller tip orifice
15 instead of 17

717

2) Increase the spray angle
7 instead of 5

NOT ENOUGH PAINT?

0.017" = 1.17 litres/minute

517

519

1) Use a larger tip orifice
19 instead of 17

317

2) Decrease the spray angle
3 instead of 5

Replacing the tips on time

By remembering the comparison between tips and drilling bits, you'll also be able to understand how tip wear & tear can affect your work. Have you ever tried to drill into concrete with a worn-out bit? If you have, then you must know that it takes longer to drill a hole, that it takes more effort and that the result looks less professional.

This is also the case if you continue to spray with a worn-out tip. What is more, by using a worn-out tip, it's quite possible that you'll exceed the sprayer's maximum flow rate. At the end of the day, the worn-out tip will cost you more than a new one.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A TIP GETS WORN OUT?

Piston work pressure and abrasive material are the two main causes of worn-out tips.

The fan width decreases:
More spray movements are necessary
= more work

Greater tip orifice:
More paint comes out of the piston
= more costs for materials

twice as much work + 30% more paint for the same surface

NEW 30 cm 28 cm 23 cm 14 cm WORN-OUT

SMARTTIP

Discover the latest generation of Fine Finish Tips



Graco is always innovating, so you can tackle your tasks even more efficiently. The new RAC X™ LP* Tips are a perfect example of this. They offer the same basic advantages as the 'old' FFA or PAA RAC X™ Tips, but when using the new RAC X™ LP* Tips, you spray with 30 to 50% less pressure. Tips with lower pressure provide additional advantages.

* FFLP and LP



BETTER FINISH

The paint atomises easier without creating stripes on the side of the tip fan. You have better control of the layer thickness and it is easier to eliminate 'runners'.

LESS OVERSPRAY

The softer and more controllable spray fan ensures less overspray. This prevents you from using too much paint.

HIGHER RELIABILITY

The RAC X™ FF LP Tips allow you to spray on all materials; the result is always tip-top. In addition, these tips perform a lot better at cold temperatures.

LONGER LIFESPAN

Less pressure also means less tension on the sprayer. Your pump and tip don't get worn out so fast, and therefore you can use them longer.



More information about our tips?
Surf to graco.com or drop by your Graco distributor

All written and visual data contained in this document are based on the latest product information available at the time of publication. Graco reserves the right to make changes at any time without notice.

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