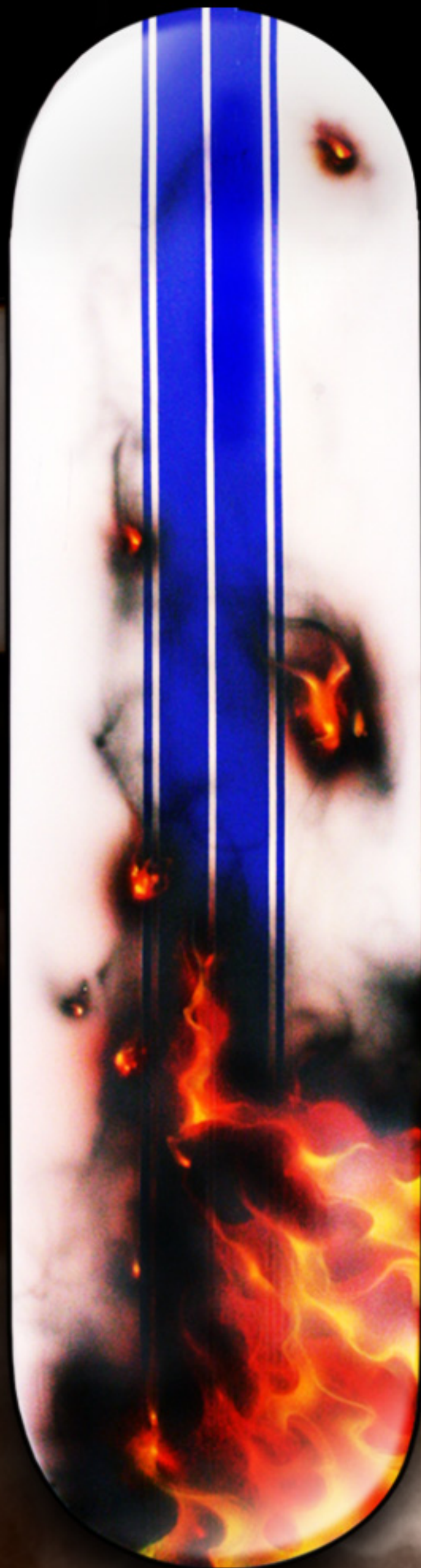# Air Sick
PRESENTS

CUSTOM PAINTING A SKATE DECK

PAINTED BY
SEAN CAHILL

Custom Skate Decks make great projects for airbrush artists of any level. Blank decks can be purchased at a reasonable price, and can be painted over and over by simply giving them a quick sanding, providing a never-ending canvas. Although you could slap some trucks & wheels on your finished board and hit the streets, a custom painted skateboard also makes a great display piece to throw up on the wall of your studio or shop.

In this AIRSICK Step-by-Step we are going be creating a relatively minimal, yet highly-impactful design. By simply using a clean racing stripe and a bit of realistic fire, we are going to transform a $10 skateboard deck into an amazing work of art.

LETS ROLL...

STEP 1

Before starting with the design, the skate deck has been properly sanded, primed and base coated with House of Kolor Base White (BC26). Proper prep will ensure that there are no issues with peeling paint after masking. With the board properly measured out, we proceed to tape off a simple racing stripe design (STEPS 1 & 2).

STEP 2

STEP 3

We bigin to paint the stripes using PBC37 (Pearl Base Coat) Majik Blue from House Of Kolor.

STEP 4

Build up your color with a multiple light passes. You do not want the paint to build up to quickly. This could lead to issues when the masking is pulled away from the skate deck.

When you are happy with the color and coverage of your racing stripes, and you are sure that the paint has properly set, you can begin to remove your masking. Take your time with this step and peel away the making carefully. With the masking removed (STEP 6), we get ready to begin the realistic fire stage of the project. We will be using the AIRSICK "ARSON Real Fire Stencils" for this project, along with a few different colors of paint from House of Kolor.
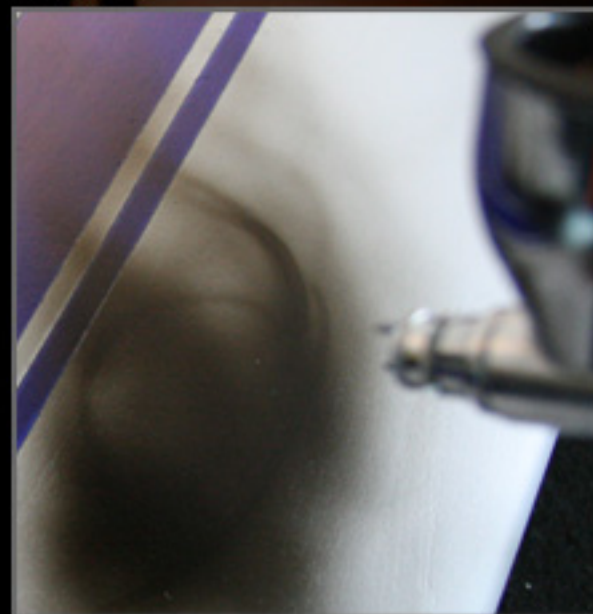
STEP 6

STEP 7

STEP 8

STEP 9

Realistic fire can be a little tricky when working with a light colored background. We begin with a smoky or charred base to paint our fire on top of (STEPS 7,8,9). This will ensure that there is enough contrast to sell the illusion of realistic flames. Try to envision where you think the fire would be burning along the surface. This will give your flames movement, depth and a higher level of realism.

We add a few smaller areas of smoke near the top of the skate board. These will provide the base for the embers flying off of the flame licks (STEP 10).

FINISHED SMOKE/CHARRED BASE

STEP 10

STEP 11

Using Molly Orange (SG103) we begin to build shapes and construct the bottom most layer of the realistic fire.

Start with your flame layout very loose, making sure to stay within the black smoky boarders. There is no need to use the stencils at this beginning point, just construct your initial flames using loose freehand strokes (STEP 11).

STEP 12

STEP 13

STEP 14

Still using freehand airbrushing, we begin to build up depth, as well as the beginning of highlights throughout the fire (STEP 12). Add some small flame licks and dots to the smaller areas near the top. These will be the glowing embers flying away from the fire (STEPS 13 & 14). You can see (in STEP 16) that before the stencil stage begins, we have already defined the edges of the flames. Next we will use the stencils to further define the flames and create some harder edges.
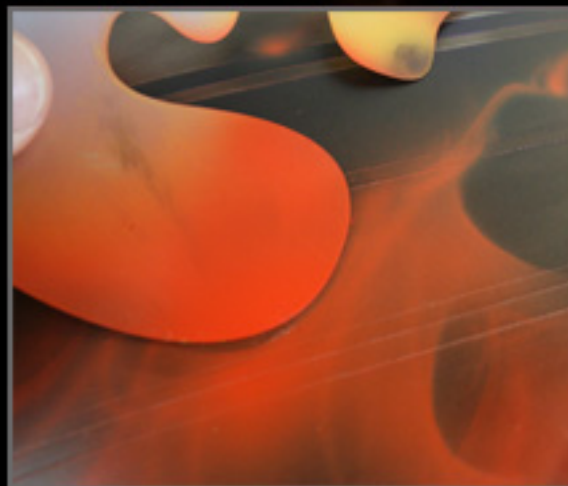
STEP 15

STEP 16

STEP 17

The AIRSICK "ARSON SET" contains an assortment of various sized French curves. By matching up the right sized curve to our fire, we can begin to make the edges harder and add more definition to the flames.

Be careful not to overdo this stage. Heavy stencil use will take away from the naturally random nature of fire. Just use the stencils to add subtle enhancements and tighter edges to your freehand work.

STEP 18

STEP 19

STEP 20

We continue using the "ARSON" stencils throughout the flames (STEPS 18, 19, 20), as well as the embers (STEP 21). This layer of orange will be the bottom most layer of fire, so we want to be sure that it is full and rich. Realistic Fire Effects are much more effective when they are achieved through several layers built upon each other. So take your time to ensure that you are happy with the look of each layer before moving on to the next. Here is the finished shot of our first layer of fire (STEP 22).

STEP 21

STEP 22

STEP 23

To really push the first layer of flames back, we add a dusting of House of Kolor (KK11) Candy Apple Red (STEP 23).

We switch back to Molly Orange (STEP 24,25,26). This step will be a mix of freehand skills, and a little more stencil use than last time. This is because we want to add a little more definition to each layer of fire as we are building up.

STEP 24

STEP 25

STEP 27 is a great reference photo to use if you are following along directly with this tutorial. Although, everyone's fire will be a little different, you can see that the we are already creating a lot of depth after only two layers of flames.

STEP 27

STEP 26

The next step is a dusting of Tangerine Kandy (KK08). This will tint the flame licks an even deeper orange. Make sure you wipe off all excess overspray with a tack cloth between coats to prevent build up.

Then using chrome yellow (SG102), go back through and brighten up the brightest brights in the design. (STEPS 28 & 29).
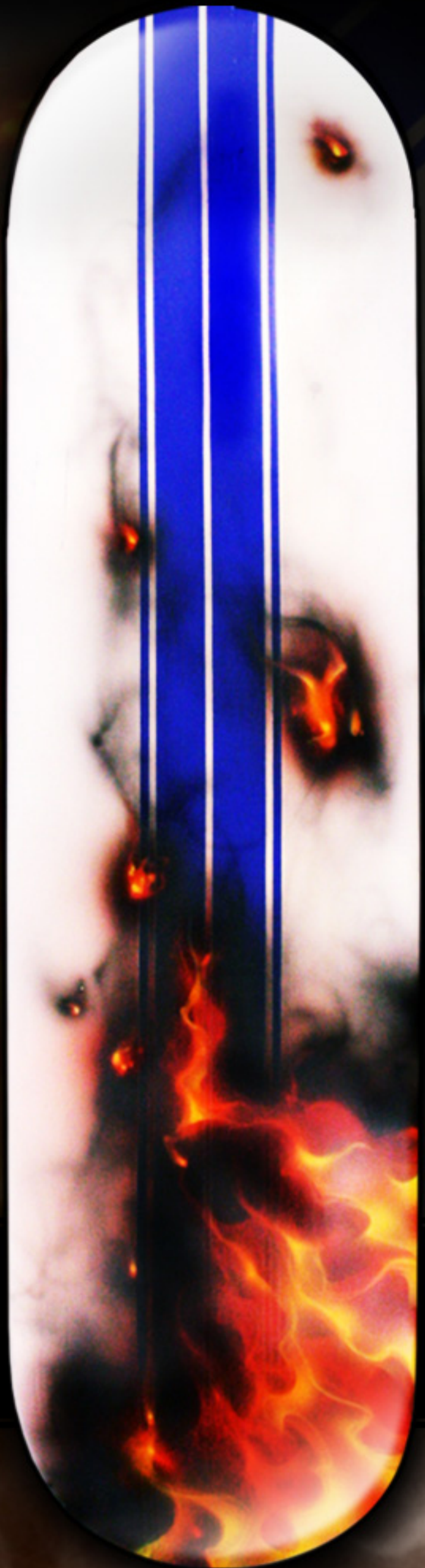
STEP 29

STEP 28

STEP 30

The final step really pulls all of your hard work together. After you have brightened the design using the Chrome Yellow, spray a coat of Pagan (Gold KK12) over your flames to give the fire a nice warm appearance (STEP 30). This step will dramatically intensify the flames. All your deck needs now if a nice layer of clear-coat. Be sure to check out the final page for the completed product shot.

PRINTER
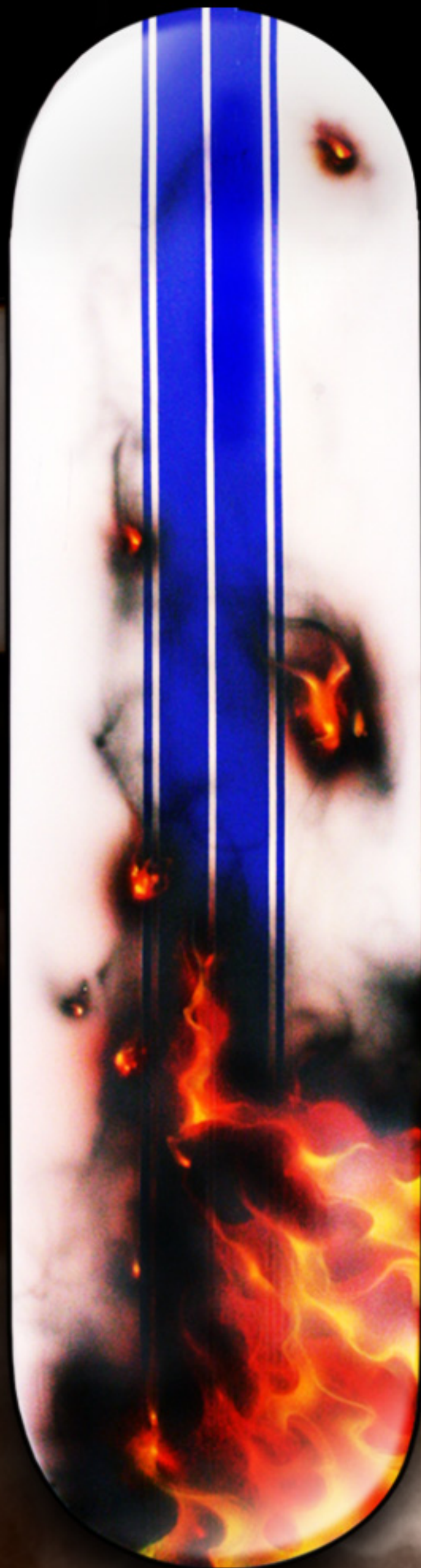FRIENDLY

AirSick

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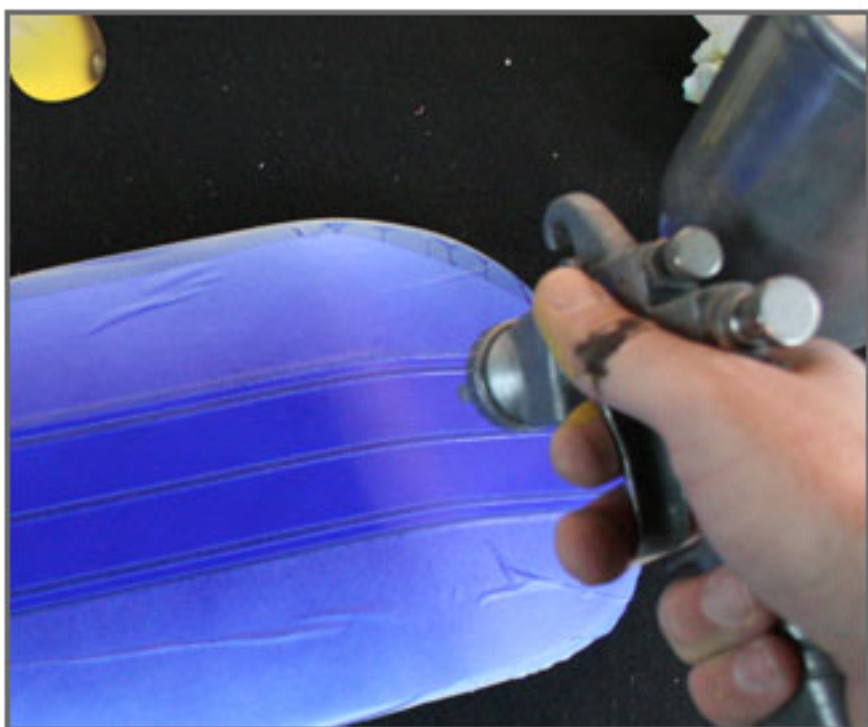
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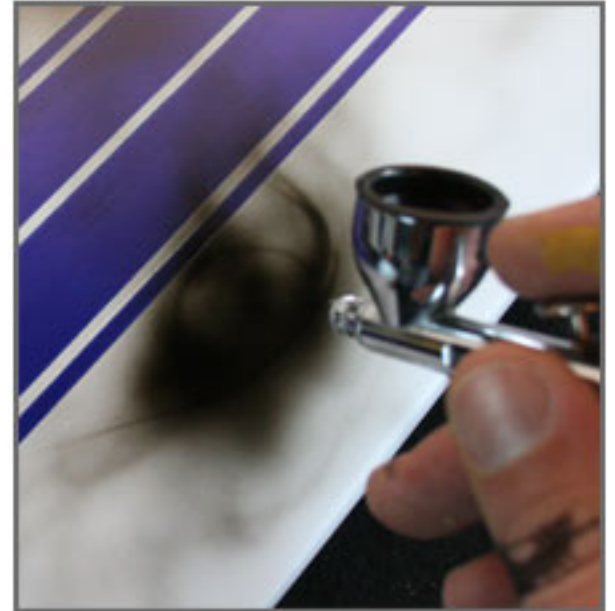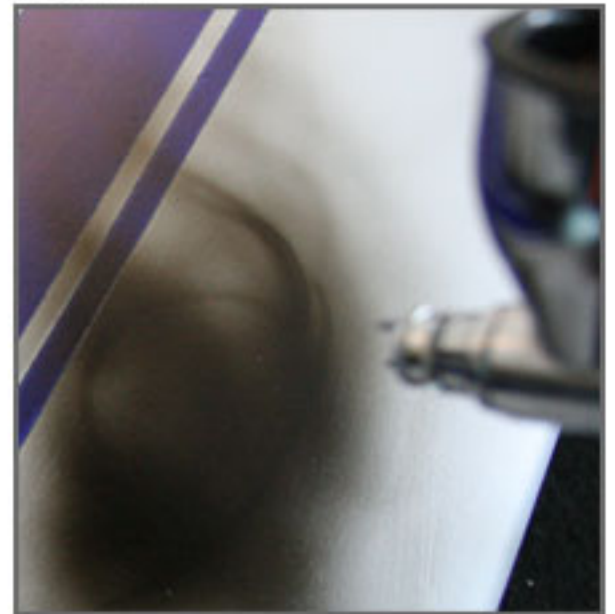
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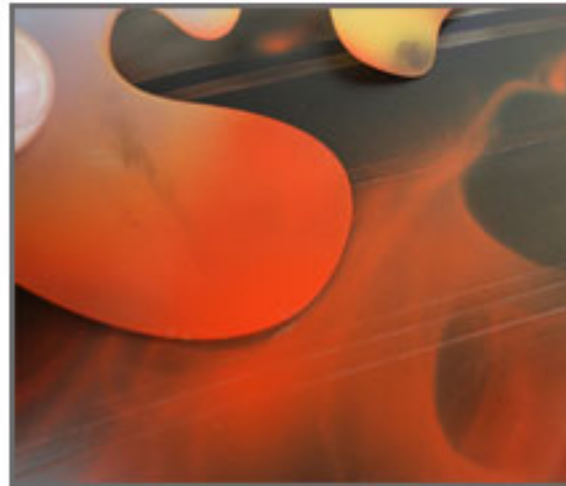
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www.AirSickStencils.com