



AUTO-AIR
COLORS

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*Chevy Silverado Marbelizing How-To
with Russ Gerner*

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Russ Gerner of Paint Master Art Studio in Las Vegas, NV takes a 2004 Chevy Silverado SEMA feature vehicle from mild to wild. This How-To features creating a two-tone candied pearl-blue to black fade and marbleizing using 4444 Flair Red/Blue for incredible tribal graphics.



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Preparation: The existing finish is scuffed with 800 grit wet & dry sand-paper. Water-based paint adheres well to existing finishes in good condition. After scuffing, clean with a solvent-based degreaser.



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Preparation: Rope is wedged between the window molding to prevent direct contact when the paint and clear is later applied which may cause peeling. Another method is to use tape specially made for taping into window moldings.



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4002 Sealer Dark reduced 10% per volume with 4011 Flash Reducer is applied over the prepared surface. An adequate recoat time for each coat to dry is allowed. Heat is not used in the curing process at any point during this paintjob. The spray gun featured is a Sata 2000 RP with a 1.2m tip operated at 40 PSI.



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4587 Sparklescent Nightmare Blue is applied as a mid-coat over a base of 4340 Midnight Metallic Blue base for a candied-pearl blue. Each color is reduced 10% with 4011 flash Reducer. Apply Sparklescent Colors in very light coats, allowing finish to build gradually.



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4401 Gem Sapphire, 4504 Hot Rod Sparkle Blue & 4524 Cosmic Blue are mixed together for a spectacular tri-coat pearl mix. The mix is reduced 10% with 4011 Flash Reducer. The Gem Sapphire keys well with the Nightmare Blue mid-coat as its one of the pearls used in the color. The Hot Rod & Cosmic Sparkle Blue creates a stronger primary blue on the direct view while the Gem Sapphire increases the Nightmare Blue's royal blue side-cast.



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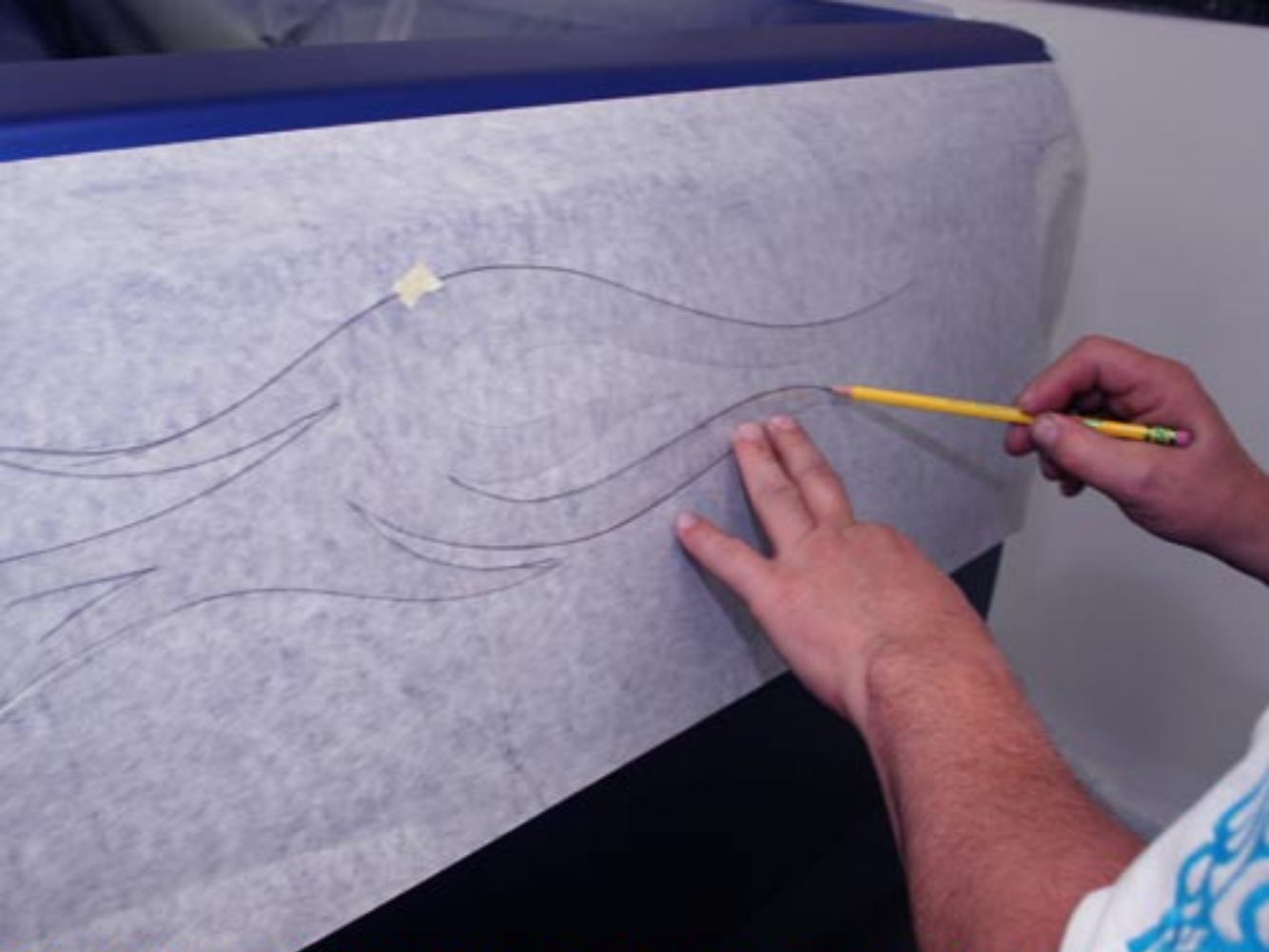
The bottom half of the truck is given a black fade into blue top using 4220 Deep Black reduced with 4011 Flash Reducer. Towards the faded transition into the blue top color, 4004 Transparent Base is mixed 1:1 with the Deep Black for transparency. Angling the spray gun down allows the fade to be made with the outer edge of the fan pattern, having less material at the fade point which prevents excess build-up of material and helps prevent overspray.



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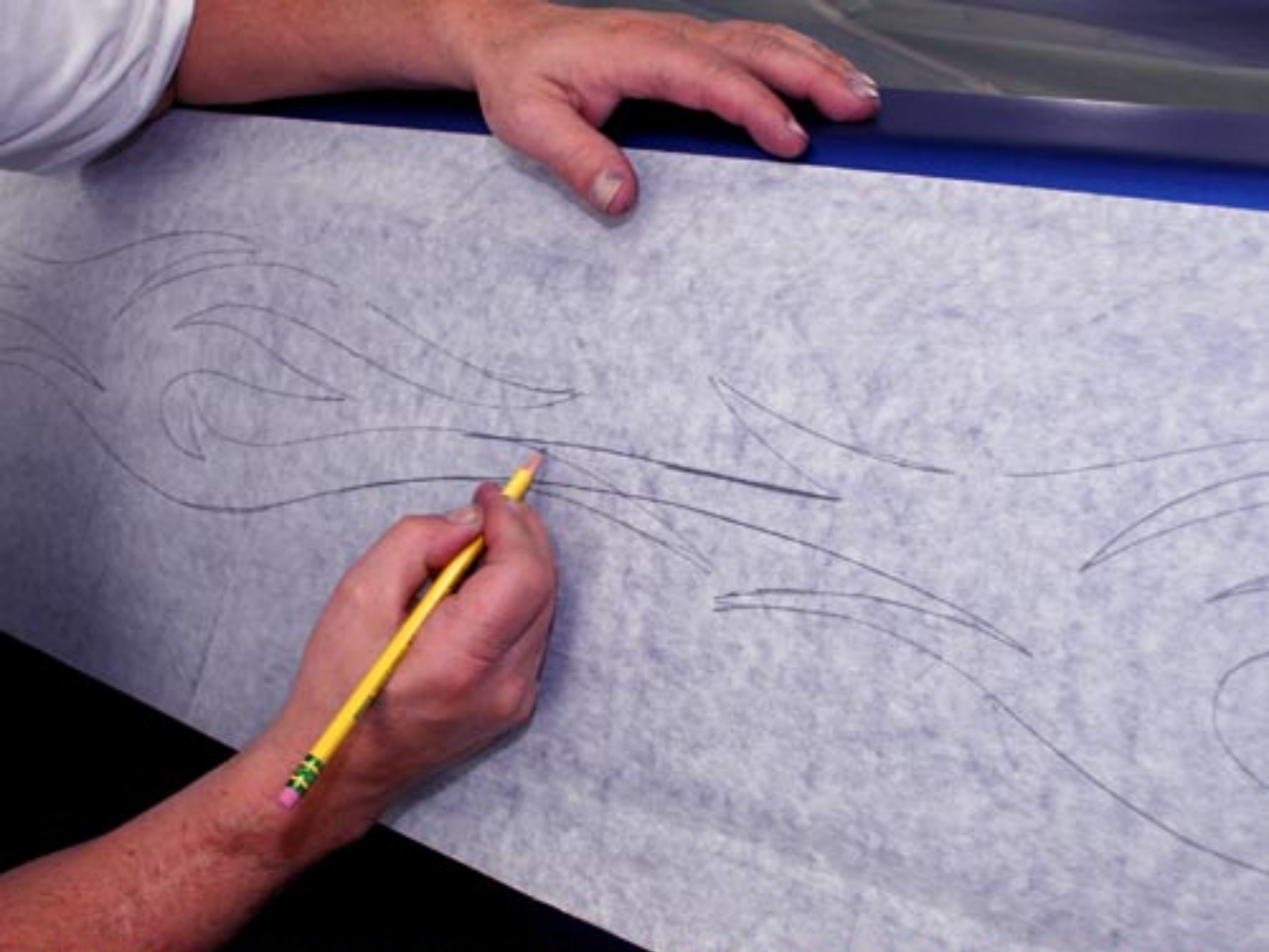
The base is allowed to cure by drying overnight prior to masking. Stickey Mickey's high-tack masking tape is applied over the base along the area where the tribal stencils will be. Using a high tack tape prevents possible under-spray from lifting along edges of the cut away design which may occur with low-tack tape.



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4830 Rikki Rock Tribal Design stencil is used as a template to trace over the tape.



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Connect the stencil's ends to create a flowing band down the truck's body.



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After tracing, cut the design using a sharp razor and peel away the tape, exposing the tribal design. Be careful not to cut so deep as to penetrate into the base paint as this may cause the paint to peel.



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The tribal graphic's design starts with a base of Sealer Dark for the color-shift, marbled pattern.



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Creating marbled effects with Auto Air is simply done by pouring the paint onto a waxed surface, allowing the paint to bead up. Saran wrap is then scrunched up for a random pattern, dabbed into the paint and transferred by rubbing. Tape strips across the saran wrap create form allowing for an easier transfer onto the stenciled design.



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Marbleizing additives are not required and any color can be marbleized. Here, 4444 Flair Color-Shift Blue/Red is used as its red-shade blue and cool-red key well with the royal blue Nightmare Blue base color.



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*Be careful not to catch your hands along the
saran wrap or push too hard during the transfer.
Using the back of your hands helps.*



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*Lift the saran wrap being careful not to
have it slide or fall down.*



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4004 Transparent Base is added 4:1 with the marble color and applied in 3 to 4 very light coats over the marble effect to create 2 varying tones for additional depth. The reduced marble color applied over the dark base creates an illusion which hides the marble effect on extreme side views, allowing the effect to become more pronounced as the direct view is seen. This is a great technique!



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One Shot striping enamel is used for pinstriping the tribal graphics. Urethane and enamel striping paint can be applied direct onto Auto Air Colors. To ensure compatibility, some of the clear's catalyst and reducer is mixed directly into the One Shot. The clear is applied about 2 hours after the now-catalyzed One Shot is applied.



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After thoroughly curing, the paint is top coated with a catalyzed urethane clear to complete the finish. A tack coat is first applied followed by a generous flash time prior to applying wetted coats. Use a high or medium temperature reducer, not a low temperature reducer as its quick accelerator may cause the clear to shrink too quickly, preventing proper adhesion with Auto Air. Avoid over-reducing clear on first application as excess reducer may not properly flash from Auto Air. Over-reducing is best for subsequent clear applications applied for a "flow coat".



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After curing, the clear is cut with 1200 paper using a water-fed sander, then buffed & polished. The end result is a spectacular, head-turning finish.



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