

Maintaining tools and equipment

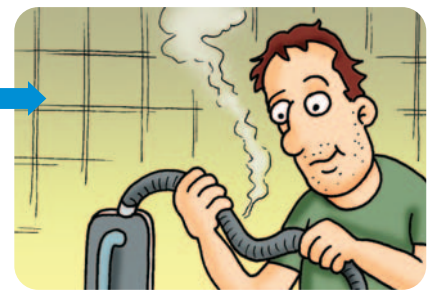
Focus

Most manuals have a section on faults and what to do about them. There is usually a table that lists common problems and some suggestions as to the causes. It may also give advice about how to solve them.

To read a table you follow the numbered steps shown below.

Problem	Possible fault	Remedy
<p>1 Look down the problem column to find the problem.</p> <p>Unit fails to boil</p> <p>2 Look through the list of possible faults. Check them one at a time.</p>	<p>The unit has probably not been left for long enough to cool.</p>	<p>Refer to section on safety cut-out.</p> <p>Check fuse in plug is sound.</p> <p>Check the fuse in the plug is rated at 13 amps.</p> <p>If using an extension lead, check that it is rated at a minimum of 10 amps and fully unwound.</p>
<p>Unit leaks steam from pressure relief valve</p>	<p>Blockage in the hose</p>	<p>Unplug unit. Wait for two minutes. When hose is cool, remove and check for blockage.</p>

Just my luck.
It's leaking!



It is important to track across the columns correctly: from the **problem** to the **fault**, from the **fault** to the **remedy**. You can also track back the other way to see what kind of problems will occur if you allow faults to develop.

Troubleshooting table

Defect	Possible fault	Prevention
BITTINESS Pieces of dust or grit on the surface of a coating	Using paint which has not been strained. Applying paint to dusty areas. Using dirty equipment and utensils.	Remove skin and strain the paint into a clean kettle. Remove all dirt and dust with tack-rag or vacuum cleaner before painting. Clean all brushes, rollers and utensils before use.
DRY SPRAY Spray paint coating dries to a rough gritty finish	High air pressure causes the paint to bounce back and settle elsewhere on the partly dried coating. The gun is moved too fast across the surface: the paint may be too thin to form a continuous coating. The gun is used too far away from the surface.	Use pressure at a level which allows the paint to adhere in a cohesive coating. Move the gun at a speed to produce a wet coating. Use the gun closer to the surface.
GRINNING The previous surface colour shows through the finished coat	Attempting too wide a colour change at one application, e.g. white over black. Overbrushing or uneven application. Paint too thin. Applying finish over wrong colour undercoat.	Apply additional undercoats. Apply more generously and evenly. Thin only to manufacturer's instructions. Undercoat should be slightly paler than finish.
MISSES OR HOLIDAYS Patches where the paint has not been applied	Careless application. Working under artificial or inadequate lighting conditions. In textured surface, often caused by using wrong method or type of application. Colour of undercoat too close to colour of finish.	Apply paint carefully and methodically. Provide adequate lighting. Use most suitable method of application, e.g. on rough-cast, pebbledash, use a long pile roller or spray. Use suitable coloured undercoat under the finish.
ORANGE PEEL Sprayed coating that dries to a textured finish resembling the skin of an orange	Paint too thick, preventing it from flowing out. Poor paint atomisation because of low air pressure. Holding the gun too close to the work.	Thin the paint according to manufacturer's instructions. Increase air pressure. Adjust the position of the gun to about 150–200 mm from the surface.
RETARDED DRYING The paint remains tacky after a prolonged drying period	Grease or wax polish not removed from surface. Insufficient air and light, e.g. inside cupboards, door and window frames, basements. Use of an excess of universal tinters to produce strong colours from a pale base. Use of incorrect solvent such as paraffin.	Remove all trace of grease and wax. Allow adequate ventilation during drying. When colour matching, the base colour should be as near as possible to the required shade. Avoid using excess of universal tinters. Use correct solvent only.

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Task

Task 1

Use the Troubleshooting table from the Source material to track down the following faults. Make a note of what you think is wrong and how it can be put right.

Tip

There are several possible faults for each problem. Decide which you think is most likely.

1



What's wrong? _____

What's the cure? _____

2

This is looking more like orange peel than a paint surface. I checked the air pressure on the sprayer and thinned the paint. What's caused it?



What's wrong? _____

What's the cure? _____

3



What's wrong with this? Why is the black grinning through? I admit I didn't use an undercoat but I'm sure the paint isn't too thin and I know I'm not overbrushing.

What's wrong? _____

What's the cure? _____

4



Is it me or am I missing patches?

What's wrong? _____

What's the cure? _____

5

I painted it yesterday and it's still not dry.



What's wrong? _____

What's the cure? _____