

## Top 10 Foil Finishing Tips

1. **Preparation** foils should be prepared for painting by lightly sanding with 240 grit.
2. **Thin coats** apply a couple of thin coats this will begin to show any pin holes or imperfections, these can then be filled. You do not want too much paint as this will affect the foil sections and thickness.
3. **Durapox primer** is the best product we have found so far to paint foils it has great adhesion to the carbon and is flexible. It can be re polished.
4. **Re coat** once the first coat has been filled and faired with 240 then 400 grit the foils can be re sprayed with a 'top coat'.
5. **Timings** Durapox will harden over time so do the majority of the sanding while the paint is cured but still a bit soft. Within 24-36 hrs at normal temperatures.
6. **Tools for the job** Buy the best wet and dry paper you can get (we prefer 3M) you are going to spend hours sanding so cheap abrasives are a false economy. You will need a variety of sanding blocks see the photo. Hard blocks can be used for larger concave areas, flexible foam blocks are required for the convex and detailed areas of the foils.



7. **Matt or polish** While there is a lot of debate about this we have found the most practical finish is a polished one, Matt wet and finishes maybe quick in certain water conditions it's almost impossible to keep them clean as dirt and grit stains the surface.

8. **Renew any sika flex** on the main foil, then leave this for 2-3 days before lightly sanding with 1000 and 1500grit before step 9.
9. **Leave Durapox** to harder for a few days before you do a final polish
10. **Patience** it will take around 15-20 hours to finish a set of foils properly, so give yourself plenty of time.

