

TIP SELECTION: UNDERSTAND THE NUMBERS



EXAMPLE: RAC X LTX517

The letters (LTX) represent the Graco tip style



- LTX = Latex
- WR = Wide RAC
- LP = Low Pressure
- FFLP = Fine Finish Low Pressure
- XHD = Extreme Heavy Duty

The three digits (517) represent tip size (fan and orifice) and indicate the amount of paint that flows through the tip.

The **first digit** is half of the fan width (#5 x 2 = 10 inch fan width)

517 The **last two digits** are the size of the tip orifice in thousandths of an inch

MATERIALS RECOMMENDED TO BE SPRAYED	ORIFICE SIZES (IN)
Oil-base stains, lacquers, and clear coats	0.009 - 0.013
Oil-base enamels and industrial enamels	0.013 - 0.015
Latex paint	0.015 - 0.019
Heavy latex and smooth elastomerics	0.021 - 0.025
Elastomerics and block fillers	0.025 - 0.039

Your actual flow rate will depend on your spraying pressure and the material you are using (high pressure equals more flow; heavier paints equals less flow).

The Fan Width

of a tip is defined by its spray angle when spraying at 30 cm distance from the surface. The angle is indicated with one number only:

- 5 in this case corresponds to an angle of 50°.
- To obtain the fan width, multiply the number of the angle by 5:
- $5 \times 5 = 25$ cm fan width



The Orifice Size

defines the amount of paint that will flow through the tip. It is indicated by the last two digits:

- 17 in this case corresponds to a hole size of 0.017 of an inch or 0.43 mm

Your actual flow rate will depend on your spraying pressure and the paint you are using: high pressure equals more flow; heavier paints equal less flow.



How to Choose the Right Tip?

Getting the most from your spray tip depends on several factors:

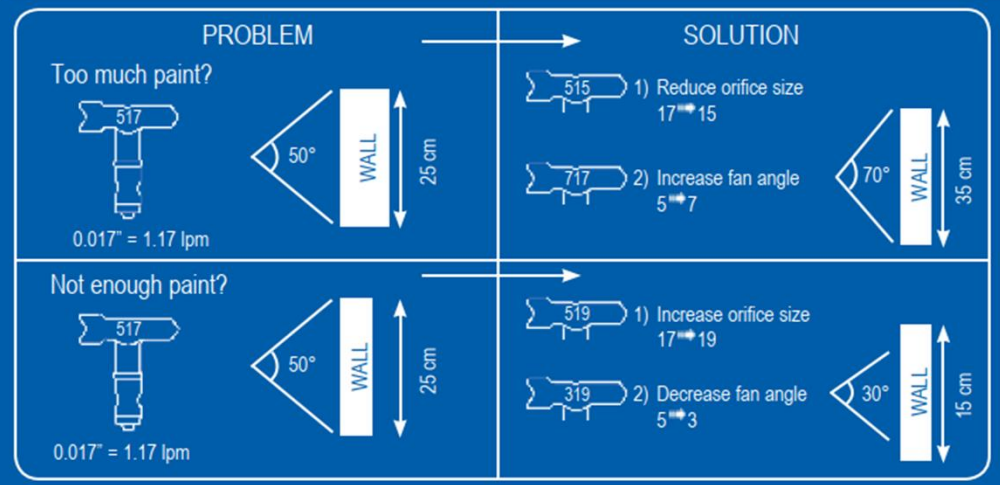
- The tip's fan width
- The tip's orifice size
- Your sprayer's maximum output
- The type of paint you are spraying
- The type of surface you are spraying
- Tip wear

Choosing the Right Tip

- decreases overspray
- provides more control
- results in less time to spend on the job
- less paint usage
- and higher profits

Adjusting to the Right Tip

Based on this general information, you will be able to choose the appropriate tip for your application. Experiencing with a few tips will help you gain experience and will help you decide what is the optimum tip for your application. Ask your distributor or your Graco representative for specific tip size recommendations.

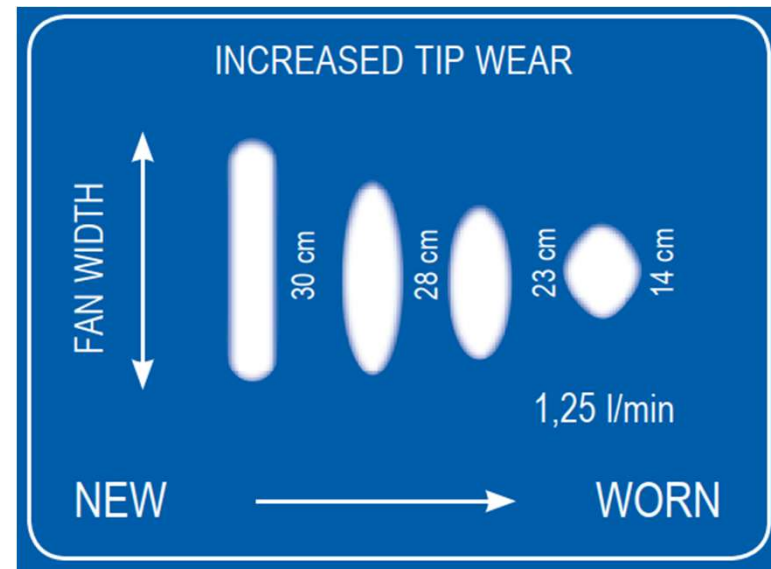


Tips Do Wear and Will Need Replacement

The two main causes for tip wear are:

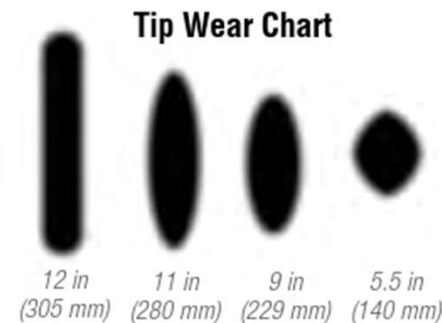
- Working pressure at the gun
- Abrasive material

To explain what tip wear is and what this means to your business, think again of the similarities between spray tips and drill bits. Have you ever tried to drill into concrete using a worn out bit? If you have, then you know that it takes much longer to drill, takes much more effort and the drilled hole ends up being very unprofessional. It is the same with continuing to spray with a worn out tip.



WORN TIPS COST TIME AND MONEY

- A worn tip uses more paint
- Produces uneven coverage and inconsistent mil build
- Reduces production—requires more passes
- Results in a poor quality finish



If using a worn tip, on average you will spray 25% more paint and 20% in additional labor.

