

Material Coverage per Square Foot per Coat



Use this chart to calculate coating coverage.

Coverage per coat – Large Flat Panels

TE – Transfer Efficiency	3 mils wet	5 mils wet
100% (Brush)	534 sq ft.	320 sq ft.
80% (Air Assisted Airless)	428 sq ft.	257 sq ft.
65% (HVLP)	348 sq ft.	208 sq ft.
40% (Conventional)	214 sq ft.	128 sq ft.

Things to Consider when Using this Chart

- Transfer efficiency is not only a function of the spraygun, but also the type of part being sprayed and the application technique of the finisher.
- The application technique of the finisher has a greater effect on the transfer efficiency than either the type of spray gun or the type of part being sprayed.
- You will get less coverage on mouldings or parts that you have to spray edges than you will on the faces of large flat panels.
- Lower solids (often less expensive) materials or lighter coats may take more coats to achieve a desired dry film build.
- Labor is always more expensive than material.

Square Foot Cost of Coatings

This chart will help calculate you cost of material per square foot per coat. It can be used for both waterborne and solvent-based finishes. The two tables show both a 3 and a 5 wet mil application. A 3 wet mil application rate, which is typical for waterbased finishes, is usually applied in a lighter coat.

I have highlighted the 65% TE (Transfer Efficiency) which is typical for most HVLP and Reduced Pressure spray guns. 40% TE is typical of conventional guns and 80% is for Air Assisted Airless equipment.

Simply go across the row that is closest to the price per gallon that you pay to where it intersects with the TE column of your spray gun. That is your cost of material per square foot per coat. Multiply that number by the number of coats that you will apply and you will have your cost of material per square foot.

Finish applied at 3 wet mils

	80% TE	65% TE	40% TE
\$ PER GALLON	SQ FT COST PER COAT	SQ FT COST PER COAT	SQ FT COST PER COAT
\$10	\$0.02	\$0.03	\$0.05
\$12	\$0.03	\$0.035	\$0.06
\$15	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.07
\$18	\$0.045	\$0.05	\$0.08
\$20	\$0.05	\$0.06	\$0.09
\$23	\$0.055	\$0.07	\$0.11
\$25	\$0.06	\$0.075	\$0.12
\$28	\$0.07	\$0.08	\$0.13
\$30	\$0.075	\$0.09	\$0.14
\$33	\$0.08	\$0.095	\$0.15
\$35	\$0.085	\$0.10	\$0.16
\$38	\$0.09	\$0.11	\$0.18
\$40	\$0.10	\$0.115	\$0.19
\$43	\$0.105	\$0.12	\$0.20
\$45	\$0.11	\$0.13	\$0.21
\$48	\$0.115	\$0.14	\$0.22
\$50	\$0.12	\$0.145	\$0.23

Finish applied at 5 wet mils

	80% TE	65% TE	40% TE
\$ PER GALLON	SQ FT COST PER COAT	SQ FT COST PER COAT	SQ FT COST PER COAT
\$10	\$0.04	\$0.06	\$0.08
\$12	\$0.05	\$0.06	\$0.09
\$15	\$0.06	\$0.07	\$0.12
\$18	\$0.07	\$0.09	\$0.14
\$20	\$0.08	\$0.10	\$0.16
\$23	\$0.09	\$0.11	\$0.18
\$25	\$0.10	\$0.12	\$0.20
\$28	\$0.11	\$0.13	\$0.22
\$30	\$0.12	\$0.14	\$0.23
\$33	\$0.13	\$0.16	\$0.26
\$35	\$0.14	\$0.17	\$0.27
\$38	\$0.15	\$0.18	\$0.30
\$40	\$0.16	\$0.19	\$0.30
\$43	\$0.17	\$0.21	\$0.34
\$45	\$0.18	\$0.22	\$0.35
\$48	\$0.19	\$0.23	\$0.38
\$50	\$0.20	\$0.24	\$0.39