

Solvents, Reducers and Thinners are basically the same type of product. Thinners were originally designed for Lacquers. Reducers were designed for Enamels and Urethanes. Solvents just another description of both of these. Many people use these between paint systems, do not do this. It is like rolling the dice on your paint job. Sometimes you win and sometimes you lose.

Reducers



A reducers main purpose is to make the paint thin enough to spray through a gun as well as providing leveling of the paint and adhesion. They are made up of a combination or blend of different solvents. The blends are different depending on the conditions and temperature. By using the wrong reducers, you can get everything from runs and sags to orange peel, if it does not flash off at the correct speed. Below is a list of recommended temperature ranges for Urethane reducers.

Reducer Part #

Temperature Range

DT860	60-70 degrees
DT870	65-80 degrees
DT885	75-90 degrees
DT895	85 & up

Solvents can be blended to achieve an in between solvent, but do not mix up or down more than one level. When you are reaching the top of you solvent temprature range, you should be switching to the next level up. Also, if you are painting larger items, like pickup trucks. You want to move up to the next level, because you want to keep the solvent edge wet as long as possible as you come around the truck or car.

Each product or brand has similar recommendations for either reducers, thinners, or even catalysts for clears. Check with you P-bullitions in the Tech area for each product and recommended solvents.