



The Cookie Countess Airbrush System User Guide

Read Me First!

For all video tutorials, airbrush assistance, and spare parts visit:
cookiecountessairbrush.com

1 Year Warranty

The Cookie Countess warrants this product to be free from defects in material or workmanship for a period of one (1) year following the date of purchase, provided that the product is used in compliance with the operating manual. This limited warranty does not cover failures due to abuse, accidental damage or when repairs have been made or attempted by anyone other than The Cookie Countess. A defective product meeting the warranty conditions set will be replaced or repaired at no charge by exchanging the product to The Cookie Countess; or returning the product to The Cookie Countess for a refund.

Congratulations on your purchase of **The Cookie Countess Airbrush System!** You are on your way to creating beautifully airbrushed cookies, cakes, and other desserts. Thank you for being a part of The Cookie Countess community of decorators. We'd love to see your incredible creations, so please follow us on Facebook and Instagram @thecookiecountess to stay in touch!

Airbrush Basics

- ◆ The Cookie Countess Airbrush Machine is a single-action airbrush gun. That means when you turn on the airbrush machine, the compressor will constantly run so air will always come out of the gun.
- ◆ Color doesn't come out until you pull back the trigger.
- ◆ We recommend *The Cookie Countess* brand airbrush colors because we stand behind the quality of our products.



Airbrush Colors

We recommend you use non-expired *The Cookie Countess* Airbrush Colors. You cannot use gel colors, oil colors, powdered colors, or any homemade colors (natural dyes, etc) in this machine. Before using inspect your airbrush color be sure there are NO solid or thick, goopy pieces in your airbrush color. The airbrush color should be thin and not gel-like.

Airbrush Shimmer and Metallic Colors

To use with *The Cookie Countess* shimmer, metallic, or pearl airbrush colors you may want to use an optional .5mm gun (available on our website), it has a little more room for a thicker airbrush color.

The Airbrush Gun

Your Airbrush System includes a .4mm Nozzle Single-Action Airbrush Gun. This gun can be used with any of our airbrush colors. Only a single-action gun can be used with this machine.

A word on using older colors or other brands:

Some brands of airbrush color can be thick, and older colors that have been on the shelf awhile (it happens!) become thick over time. These can cause damage to your machine.

Let's Get Started!

Adding Color to your Machine

- ◆ Protect your work area. Airbrush spray will travel so be sure to isolate your work surface and keep items/cookies you don't want colored away from the airbrush gun.
- ◆ Add a few drops of airbrush color into your gun well.
- ◆ Color will not come out of the gun until you pull back on the trigger.
- ◆ Experiment with your machine on a paper towel to get used to the power of the trigger!

The gun well



Adjusting Pressure & The Airbrush Gun Trigger

- ◆ If you are using *The Cookie Countess* regular airbrush colors, start the pressure knob on medium to medium-high pressure. The machine will work best on this setting, the goal is to keep the pressure as high as possible to get an even spray.
- ◆ Adjust the pressure knob to high if you have a shimmer color, or if you are trying to cover a larger surface area (like a cake).
- ◆ **The amount you pull back on the trigger determines the amount of color that will spray.** Start by slowly pulling back on the trigger and spraying lightly as you learn the process of airbrushing.
- ◆ The best results will come from a medium-high pressure and a gentle pull back on the trigger.

Spraying

- ◆ For best results layer color on, don't try to create an even coat in a single pass.
- ◆ Splotchy, blotchy color? If you are too close to the surface or you are pulling on the trigger too hard your color will be splotchy. Try moving the gun further away from your surface. Light layers are your friend here too. Use steady, even passes to layer color onto your surface.
- ◆ Your distance away from your work surface impact your spray pattern. If using a stencil we recommend a distance of 6-8" away from your surface.

Dry Time

- ◆ Dry time can vary from 2-15 minutes depending on how much color you put down. Experiment first! If it has been an hour and your color is still tacky, you have most likely used too much color. This much color is unnecessary.

How do I keep my stencil from moving around?

Hold your stencil in place with a reusable *Stencil Genie*; or with a *Magnet Set* attached to a metal cookie sheet. Both are available on our website.

Trouble Shooting



Blotchy Color
Pulling trigger too hard
or gun too close

Uneven Spray
Pressure too low
or air leak

**Ideal pressure and
distance**

My airbrush spray is blotchy or the gun is sputtering.

- ◆ You may be too close to the work surface, pulling the trigger too hard, or using old/thick airbrush color.
- ◆ Try spraying plain, filtered water with the pressure knob set to high. If the gun doesn't spray in a fine mist at full power, then you have a clog or partial clog. See *cleaning guide on back page*.

My airbrush spray is too strong, too weak, or random in pressure.

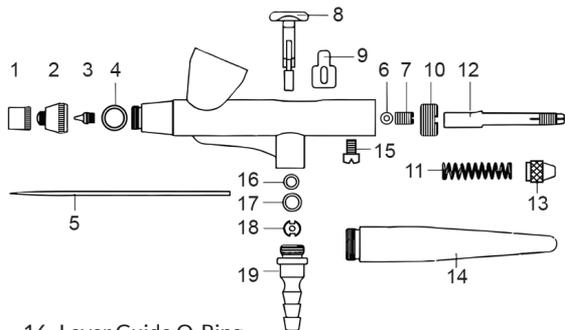
- ◆ Check your machine for air leaks. Leaks can happen in the hose if not properly stored, in the hose connector (part 19), needle cap (1), and nozzle cap (2).
- ◆ **Check compressor.** Remove the white hose from the machine body, turn the machine on high and put your finger over the machine air port. It should build pressure against your finger. If it makes no change then it could be a bad compressor (this is a rare problem, please contact us).
- ◆ **Check hose for leaks.** If the air port is working, attach the white hose to the compressor and put your finger over the other end of the hose. The hose should spoil up and create pressure against your finger. If the hose does not have proper airflow it may be faulty, you can purchase a replacement hose from our website.
- ◆ **Check airbrush gun.** Attach your airbrush gun to the hose and make sure the front caps (1, 2) are on tight. Put filtered water in the gun well, turn on the machine, and gently pull the trigger. Water should come out in a fine mist. If the gun does not spray, follow unlogging direction below.
- ◆ **Advanced: Check Needle.** Unscrew the gun tail (14) and make sure the needle is going in and out with the trigger when it's pulled back. If not, lightly press the needle towards the front of the gun and then screw the needle nut on tight. That will attach the trigger to the needle so that the needle pulls back with the trigger.
- ◆ You should be seeing better results at this point. If water is spraying out but the color isn't then it's likely a problem with your airbrush color.

Maintenance and Unclogging

- ◆ **After each use:** Empty the gun well of all airbrush color and rinse with water. Fill the gun well with warm, filtered water. With the machine on high pressure, pull back on the trigger until the color runs clean. Spray until only air remains, and wipe down the gun completely before storing for your next session.
- ◆ **To unlog or for a full cleaning:** Follow the direction above and place your finger over the nozzle while pulling the level to force the water flow back into the fluid cup. If you are comfortable dismantling the gun for cleaning, you can remove the gun tail, needle and nozzle cap, needle nut, and needle and soak in filtered, warm water for up to 12 hours. Make sure the gun is dry before carefully reassembling.

Airbrush Parts

1. Needle Cap
2. Nozzle Cap
3. Nozzle
4. O-Ring for Nozzle Cap
5. Needle
6. O-Ring for Needle Guide
7. Needle Guide
8. Operation Lever
9. Lever Guide
10. Stopper
11. Spring
12. Needle Chucking Guide
13. Needle Nut
14. Gun tail
15. Guide Screw



16. Lever Guide O-Ring
17. Valve O-Ring
18. Valve Screw
19. Hose Connector