

Vipond's Paints Pty Ltd

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TAUTFLEX - for SLK Benz interiors

TautFlex has successfully been used to repair and repaint entire areas including consoles and dashboards on the SLK Benz interior. The models include SLK 230, SLK 200, SLK 320, SLK AMG 32 all with the same body code - R 170.

TautFlex is a water based paint that is easy to use and has excellent adhesion to most plastic and leather surfaces. It has been formulated in standard Benz colours, to dry to a matt finish to closely match the surface finish in the SLK Benz.

TautFlex is available in 200 mL bottles in the following Benz colours

- Anthracite 221, 815A, 878A, 881A, 211A
- Mondria Blue 222
- Siam Beige 215
- Marlin Blue 212
- Crimson 217
- Leather Sand 225 (sometimes called Sienna beige, Oyster)
- Scarlet 227 (sometimes called Salsa Red)
- Nappa Black 861
- Lotus Yellow 219

You can check your exact colour by putting your VIN into:

- Mercedes VIN Decoder | Decode Your Mercedes-Benz VIN (lastvin.com)
- Mercedes-Benz VIN decoder Lookup and check Mercedes-Benz VIN Number and Get Vehicle History. (vindecoderz.com)

PREPARATION OF SURFACE

Cleaning is vital!!!

- 1. Any rough edges of the peeling parts can be sanded with a fine wet and dry paper. The paint edges will wet sand smooth. Use about 600-800 grit.
- 2. Thoroughly clean the surface with a non-abrasive liquid cleaner and wipe off with a damp clean towel.
- 3. Wipe the surface with alcohol (methylated spirits.)

APPLICATION

Thoroughly stir the paint until all the pigment that has settled on the bottom has mixed back in. Shaking the bottle may cause bubbles. Allow these to disappear before using.

First, spot paint the chipped areas using a very small brush to fill the holes to the level of the original paint. Build the level up using thin coats and allow to dry between coats.

Use a **soft** bristle brush ($\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch, depending on the job) and apply two **thin** coats. Apply more coats if required. Do not apply heavy coats or the paint may sag and run. Allow 2 hours between coats.

Do not apply if the temperature is below 10°C (52°F).

Some streaking may occur using the brush but can be rectified by 'stippling' - dabbing gently with a small pad of towelling or sponge with not too much paint. This gives a slight texture and emulates a sprayed finish.

PAINTING A WHOLE PANEL.

Use a microfiber cloth or towelling to wipe on (watch the lint). Alternatively, use a soft bristle paint brush. It is easiest to apply TautFlex using this technique if painting the whole panel or whole dash and console. When wiping paint on, it is important to allow adequate drying time before applying the next coat (minimum 2 hours), otherwise the first coat may rub off.

Whilst paint dries after a few minutes, allow 24 hrs for full shrinkage and cure. The entire job should take no more than 45 mins for a reasonable touch up and 90 mins for 1 fresh coat over everything except the speedo panel (this takes a little longer to remove but is well worth it). A fresh coat over the padded vinyl lid will revitalize the finish and give a perfect match.