

How to Use Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner and Product Comparisons- #29266

For Paintbrushes:

Wipe Excess Paint: Remove as much paint as possible from the brush onto a paper towel.

Soak: Dip the brush into the cleaner and gently swirl to loosen paint residues.

Rinse: Rinse the brush under clean water.

Repeat if Necessary: For stubborn paint, repeat the process.

Dry: Reshape the brush bristles and let it dry horizontally.

For Airbrushes:

After Painting: Empty any remaining paint from the airbrush cup.

Initial Rinse: Add a small amount of Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner into the cup.

Spray Through: Spray the cleaner through the airbrush to flush out residual paint.

Deep Cleaning: For thorough cleaning, disassemble the airbrush and soak the parts in the cleaner for a few minutes.

Final Rinse: Rinse all parts with clean water and reassemble the airbrush.

For Ultrasonic Cleaners:

Dilution: Mix the cleaner with water as per the ultrasonic cleaner's guidelines.

Placement: Place the items to be cleaned into the cleaner.

Run Cycle: Operate the ultrasonic cleaner as per its instructions.

Rinse and Dry: After cleaning, rinse items with clean water and dry thoroughly.

Why Choose Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner?

Versatility: Effective on various tools including airbrushes, paintbrushes, and even in ultrasonic cleaners.

Non-Toxic: Safe for use in enclosed spaces without compromising on cleaning power.

Eco-Friendly: Free from harmful chemicals, making it a responsible choice for both users and the environment.

Made in the USA: Ensures quality and supports local manufacturing.

Using Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner into your routine ensures your tools remain in optimal condition, extending their lifespan and maintaining the quality of your work.

Below we compare Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner to Vallejo Airbrush Cleaner and focus on how they perform in practical use, especially for cleaning brushes, airbrushes, and painting tools used with acrylic paints.

Overview

Both Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner and Vallejo Airbrush Cleaner are designed to clean water-based acrylic paints from brushes, airbrushes, and other tools. They are non-toxic, water-based, and safe for hobby use, but they differ in formulation strength, versatility, and intended use.

Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner

Micro-Mark's cleaner is a high-strength, multi-purpose cleaning solution that works effectively on both fresh and dried acrylic paint. It is formulated without ammonia, bleach, or phosphates, making it safer for both the user and the environment. Its strength allows it to break down tougher paint residue, especially in airbrushes or after prolonged use. It can also be used in ultrasonic cleaners for deep tool restoration and is effective on paint palettes and mixing tools as well.

Key Benefits:

- Strong yet non-toxic formula
- Can clean dried paint (with soaking)
- Suitable for brushes, airbrushes, mixing tools, and ultrasonic cleaners
- Dropper emersion for precision dosing
- Comes in larger bottles and at a lower cost per dose for better value
- Made in the USA

Ideal for hobbyists who need a powerful, all-around cleaner that can handle stubborn build-up and multiple tool types.

Vallejo Airbrush Cleaner

Vallejo's Airbrush Cleaner is a gentle, brand-specific solution designed primarily for cleaning their own Model Air and Game Air paints from airbrushes. It is less aggressive than Micro-Mark's cleaner but very effective for routine cleaning and flushing after each session. It's particularly good for preventing buildup rather than breaking down dried paint. Its dropper bottle design also makes it easy to use in small quantities.

Key Benefits:

- Gentle and effective for regular use
- Dropper bottle for easy dosing
- Maintains seals and airbrush parts well
- Low odor and safe for indoor use

Good for Vallejo users who clean their airbrushes immediately after each session and want a low-risk, daily-use solution.

Comparison Summary

Cleaning Power: Micro-Mark is stronger and more versatile (better for dried paint); Vallejo is gentler and better suited for regular maintenance.

Tool Compatibility: Micro-Mark works on brushes, airbrushes, palettes, and ultrasonic cleaners; Vallejo is designed almost exclusively for airbrushes.

Formulation: Both are non-toxic and low-odor. Micro-Mark includes no harsh chemicals; both are pH-balanced and airbrush-friendly.

Packaging and Value: Micro-Mark offers larger bottles (better price per oz); Both offer spill-proof dropper tips.

Use Case Fit:

Choose Micro-Mark if you clean multiple tool types, occasionally let paint dry, or want deep cleaning strength.

Choose Vallejo if you use only Vallejo paints and clean your airbrush frequently and gently.

Final Verdict Micro-Mark Cleaner vs Vallejo

Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner is the more powerful and versatile choice, ideal for users who want a multi-use, deep-cleaning product that handles both fresh and dried acrylics. Vallejo Airbrush Cleaner is a gentler, maintenance-focused cleaner, excellent for daily use if you're using Vallejo paints and need minimal disruption to your airbrush components.

Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner over The Army Painter Paint Cleaner

Choosing Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner over The Army Painter Airbrush Cleaner comes down to strength, versatility, value, and tool compatibility. Here's a comparison explaining why Micro-Mark may be the better option for many hobbyists and modelers:

1. More Versatile Cleaning Power

Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner is a multi-purpose formula that cleans not only airbrushes but also traditional paintbrushes, mixing trays, and other acrylic paint tools. It's effective on both wet and dried acrylic paint, making it ideal for cleaning neglected or clogged tools.

By contrast, The Army Painter Cleaner is designed specifically for cleaning their Warpaints Air range from airbrushes. It's effective for light-duty flushing and maintenance but may struggle with dried paint or cross-brand use.

2. Stronger Formula Without Harsh Chemicals

Micro-Mark uses a non-toxic, high-strength formula that does not include ammonia, bleach, or phosphates. It offers a deeper clean without damaging brushes or seals, and is safe for enclosed hobby rooms.

The Army Painter cleaner is also non-toxic and safe, but it's formulated for gentler, routine flushing, rather than aggressive deep cleaning. If you airbrush frequently or occasionally allow paint to dry in your tools, Micro-Mark provides a more reliable cleanup.

3. Compatible with More Paint Brands and Tools

Micro-Mark's cleaner is designed to work across multiple paint systems, including Vallejo, Citadel, Reaper, and Army Painter, as well as with Micro-Mark's own paint line. It's also suitable for use in ultrasonic cleaners, something The Army Painter does not specifically support.

If you use multiple brands, Micro-Mark is the more universal and flexible choice.

4. Larger Bottle, Better Value

Micro-Mark offers their cleaner in larger bottles (8 oz / 236 ml), making it more economical for regular cleaning, batch painting, or terrain work. The Army Painter's cleaner is typically sold in 100 ml dropper bottles, which cost more per ml.

5. Ideal for Deep Cleaning and Restoration

If you occasionally deal with:

- Dried paint in your airbrush
- Dirty brushes from washes or glazes
- Old mixing palettes or spattered tools

...then Micro-Mark's cleaner gives you the cleaning strength you need without damaging your gear.

When The Army Painter's Cleaner Might Be Enough

You only use Warpaints Air, and you clean your airbrush immediately after each use.

Final Verdict

Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner is the better choice for most modelers and miniature painters who want:

- A stronger, more flexible cleaner
- A product that works with multiple brands and tools
- A better cost-per-use value

It's especially useful for artists who want to maintain their tools in top condition, even after heavier or delayed use.

Comparing Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner with Vallejo's and The Army Painter's

Feature	Micro-Mark Acrylic Paint Cleaner	Vallejo Airbrush Cleaner	Army Painter Airbrush Cleaner
Primary Use	Multi-tool acrylic paint cleaner	Airbrush cleaner for Vallejo paints	Airbrush cleaner for Warpaints Air
Strength of Cleaning	High-strength	Medium-strength	Light to medium-strength
Works on Dried Paint	Yes	Somewhat (requires soaking)	Not recommended
Tool Compatibility	Airbrushes, paintbrushes, palettes,	Airbrushes (some brushes)	Airbrushes only
Paint Brand Compatibility	Universal (Micro-Mark, Vallejo, Citadel, TAP, etc.)	Best with Vallejo paints	Best with The Army Painter paints
Toxicity / Odor	Non-toxic, low-odor	Non-toxic, low-odor	Non-toxic, low-odor
Use in Ultrasonic Cleaner	Yes	Not specified	Not specified
Best For	Deep cleaning, dried paint, multi-brand users	Routine airbrush maintenance with Vallejo paints	Quick cleanup of TAP airbrush paints
Bottle Size	8 oz (~236 ml) precision dropper	17, 60, 200 ml	100 ml dropper bottle
Price per ml	Lowest at \$.04/ ml	Moderate at \$.06/ml	\$.072/ml
Made In	USA	Spain	Denmark