



# INST#21

## **Making Hammertone-Finish Hammer**

Years ago, sheet metal was often supplied in coils and if the smith did not have an uncoiler and straightening roll press (expensive!) he “planished” the metal flat with a planishing hammer. The planishing hammer has a very slight dome shape to the head. The metal was worked from the center to the outside edges in overlapping passes. Later, hammertone finishes were developed to simulate this look. Getting a good hammertone finish is just about as easy as painting with any aerosol type finish. It is important that certain rules be observed:

1. Surface must be clean and dry. Clean means no rust, oil, grease or fingerprints.
2. Be sure that the temperature of the paint can and the surface to be painted is between 70 and 90 degrees F.
3. Spray with even strokes at a distance of 14 to 16 inches. Spray lightly horizontally then again vertically. Dries in a few minutes, depending upon temperature.
4. If thinner is used, it must be a medium-drying type. Slower-drying thinner will give more time for the wet paint to flow out and give the hammered appearance. The most successful thinner is Toluene. Approx. ratio is 2 parts paint to 1 part thinner. Toluene is normally purchased at major hardware stores. A fair second thinner choice is enamel reducer.

### NOTES:

- When the temperature of the can is appropriate, shake at least one minute and occasionally during use, making sure the ball agitator in the can is moving freely.
- The same instructions apply when using a spray gun.
- Hammered effect works best when part to be painted is laying flat.