



J2 TECHNICAL ARTICLE

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MORE BAD NEWS ON PAINT COLORS - "IT IS NOT WHAT YOU THINK IT IS"

A local paint authority just dropped some bad news on me as I tried to match a modern paint to a paint chip from what I thought might be some original paint on my J2!

He very nicely explained that there is a pigment problem in the old cellulose enamels of years ago. The problem is that the pigment was unstable

Some pigments get darker when exposed to sunlight while others might fade. Even areas where the paint was unexposed to the elements he said that pigment color would change. He further said that the amount of change could not be predicted in either area.

Because of the instability of the cellulose paints modern paints such as the acrylic lacquer and enamels are now being used.

So if you have or had planned to find an area on your car with "original paint" and match that, you may or may not have the original color says a paint authority.

Speaking of finding an original painted area on your nearly 50 year old car, it may be impossible since someone may have restored it many years ago and in doing so, stripped everything. It is like my 1950 M.G. TD that I restored in 1973 and in doing so removed many coats of earlier paint. If I had used that concept I would have sworn that the car was originally black. Since that time I found out that the car was originally red. Someday, maybe in year 2000, when someone new re-restores my 1950 TD, they will swear that the car was originally "British Racing green", the color I painted it! So don't bank on what you see on your car, it may not be original!

The M.G. Car Club can tell you what was the original color (name of color only) of your car when it was built at the factory. They can not tell you the formula of the color.

Sorry for the negative information!

So paint your car any color you desire (other than metallic)