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1979 Ford® F-150® Truck Body Painting Instructions

Covers Part #9230

Note: Please read these instructions entirely and plan your paint job before beginning.

CAUTION: RISK OF INJURY!
Use care with hobby knives, tapered reamers, and other cutting tools as they are extremely sharp and can cause severe injury, deep cuts, and/or punctures.

Buying Paint

The 1979 Ford F-150 Truck Body is molded from lightweight and durable clear polycarbonate. It should be painted on the underside so that the color will not be scratched off while running. The best way to paint the body is by using spray can paints. Genuine Traxxas ProGraphix® paint is specially formulated for painting Lexan® or polycarbonate bodies and provides airbrush-like quality with aerosol convenience. It is available in 23 colors and specialty coatings to help bring your vision to life. Whatever paint you use, be sure that it is made for painting Lexan® or polycarbonate for proper adhesion and flexibility. Other types of paints and solvents will crack and flake off when the body is flexed during handling or use.

Preparing the Body

The body must be washed thoroughly with dish soap and water to remove any grease or oil (i.e., fingerprints), which may keep the paint from adhering to it. Dry the body completely with a soft, lint-free cloth. Use the supplied masks to mask the windows (Fig. A). **Apply the window masks to the inside of the body first for clear windows.** Be sure that all of your masks are fully pressed down (burnished) so that the paint will not run or bleed underneath. Usually, the darker colors are painted first, followed by the lighter colors. If your paint scheme would be easier to mask by covering the dark areas and spraying them last, be sure the lighter colors are opaque enough to prevent the darker color from showing through. Lighter colors can be backed with silver to help make them opaque.

Spraying the Body

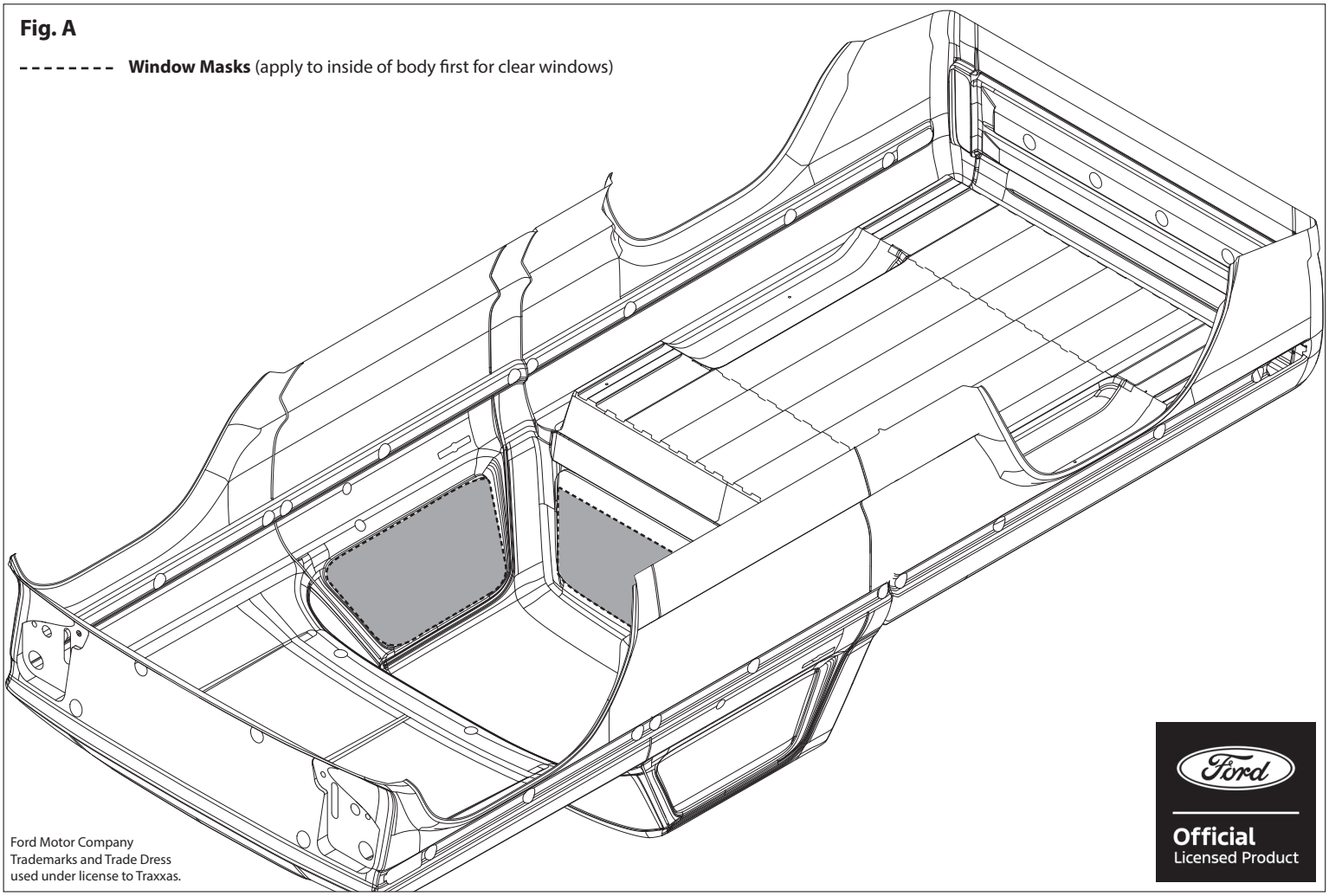
Read the directions on your bottle or can of paint and shake, mix, or thin the paint, as required. It is very important to avoid breathing the paint vapors, as they are extremely harmful. Spray the paint outdoors in well-ventilated areas only. Apply the paint to the body sparingly and in light coats. Be patient! Let the paint dry fully in between coats. This will prevent accidentally smearing wet paint. After the body is completely painted, remove the peel coat from the outside of the body.

Decals

You are now ready to apply the decals. The decals have been die-cut for your convenience. Test the position of the decals before applying them to the body. Once the decals have been applied, they cannot be removed without damaging them. You can spray the body with window cleaner before applying the decals. This will allow you to re-position them. Once positioned, squeegee the cleaner from under the decal. The decal will adhere when it dries. If you have air bubbles in the decals, puncture the center of each bubble with a sharp pin and push the air out. If you have creases along the outer edges of a decal (especially when applied to curved surfaces), use a hobby knife to cut along the top of the crease and overlap the edges.

Fig. A

-------- **Window Masks** (apply to inside of body first for clear windows)



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