

MIL-C-8779E  
 17 February 1988  
 SUPERSEDING  
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 23 August 1971

## MILITARY SPECIFICATION

### COLORS, INTERIOR, AIRCRAFT, REQUIREMENTS FOR

This specification is approved for use by all Departments and Agencies of the Department of the Defense.

#### 1. SCOPE

1.1 Scope. This specification establishes the color requirements for interior surfaces of Military aircraft.

#### 2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS

##### 2.1 Government documents.

2.1.1 Specifications and standards. Unless otherwise specified, the following specifications and standards of the issue listed in that issue of the Department of Defense Index of Specifications and Standards (DoDISS) specified in the solicitation, form a part of this specification to the extent specified herein (see 2.3.1).

#### SPECIFICATIONS

##### MILITARY

MIL-F-7179	- Finishes, Coatings, and Sealants for the Protection of Aerospace Weapons Systems.
MIL-P-7788	- Panel, Information, Integrally Illuminated.
MIL-M-18012	- Markings for Aircrew Station Displays, Design and Configuration of.
MIL-F-18264	- Finishes, Organic, Weapons System, Application and Control of.
MIL-C-21318	- Cloth; Bedford, Cord.
MIL-F-22735	- Film, Elastomeric, Fluorescent, for Weapons Systems.
MIL-M-25047	- Marking and Exterior Finish Colors for Airplanes, Airplane Parts and Missiles (Ballistic Missiles Excluded).
MIL-C-46168	- Coating, Aliphatic Polyurethane, Chemical Agent Resistant.

Beneficial comments (recommendations, additions, deletions) and any pertinent data which may be of use in improving this document should be addressed to: Systems Engineering and Standardization Department (Code 53), Naval Air Engineering Center, Lakehurst, NJ 08733, by using the self-addressed Standardization Document Improvement Proposal (DD Form 1426) appearing at the end of this document or by letter.
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AMSC N/A

FSC 15GP

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## STANDARDS

## FEDERAL

## FED-STD-595 - Colors.

2.2 Order of preference. In the event of a conflict between the text of this standard and the references cited herein, the text of this standard shall take precedence.

2.3 Source of documents.

2.3.1 Government specifications and standards. Copies of the referenced federal and military specifications and standards are available from the Department of Defense Single Stock Point, Commanding Officer, Naval Publications and Forms Center, 5801 Tabor Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19120. For specific acquisition functions, these documents should be obtained from the contracting activity or as directed by the contracting activity.

## 3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Application of color schemes.

3.1.1 Contractor requirements. Contractors shall apply the interior color schemes specified herein in accordance with the stipulations of the applicable aircraft contract. In case of conflict between the requirements of this specification and the contract, the latter shall prevail.

3.1.2 Service requirements. Military activities shall apply the interior color schemes specified herein in accordance with applicable directives.

3.2 Materials. The finishes and coating materials specified herein shall be in accordance with MIL-F-7179 and MIL-F-18264, except as otherwise specified herein.

3.3 Colors. The colors (color numbers) specified herein shall match the applicable colors of FED-STD-595.

3.4 Fabrics. Color requirements of ribbed nylon cloth, MIL-C-21318, used for seats and padding shall match the applicable colors of FED-STD-595.

3.5 Color requirements for aircraft inhabited spaces. When applicable, the color scheme number selected from Table I, non-flight compartments, will determine the selection of the related and identically numbered scheme from Table II, cockpit and flight deck interior. For aircraft with only single place cockpit, the selection shall be color scheme number 5 unless otherwise approved by the acquiring activity. Neither individual color numbers listed under specific color schemes nor specific schemes (scheme 1,2,3,or 4) shown in both Table I and Table II are to be intermixed. Only scheme 5 of Table II may be used with any scheme of Table I. When chemical warfare (NBC) compatibility is a requirement for an aircraft, those MIL-C-46168 colors that are the nearest in hue to the color schemes of Tables I and II shall be used.

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**3.5.1 Cockpit and flight deck interior.** The interior areas and stations covered herein are those in which the assigned crewmember or members have regular duties which require their making visual observations either within the aircraft or through windshields, windows or ports while controlling the flight of the aircraft. The color scheme shall be selected from Table II (see 3.5). In interior areas where the reduction of reflections is an important consideration, i.e., in canopies, windscreens, etc., the use of lusterless black, color no. 37038 shall be substituted for all surfaces described in either Table I or Table II to be compatible with Night Vision Goggle (NVG) usage.

**3.5.1.1 Floors, walls, ceilings and nonupholstered seats.** Floors, sidewalls, bulkheads, overhead, nonupholstered seats, seat bases, seat tracks, ejection rails and steps shall be per scheme selected from Table II.

**3.5.1.2 Instrument panels.** Instrument panels shall be per scheme selected from Table II. Instruments and equipment mounted thereon, including their bezels, mounting flanges and adjustment knobs shall be per scheme selected from Table II.

**3.5.1.3 Consoles and pedestals.** Exposed structural members and trim surfaces of side, center and overhead control consoles, pedestals, adjacent racks, consoles, cabinets, counter tops, curtains, ECS grills and lighting bezels shall be per scheme selected from Table II. Seating structure shall be per 3.5.1.11 or Table I, as applicable.

**3.5.1.3.1 Control panels.** The exposed surfaces and edges of control panels mounted in consoles, pedestals or elsewhere shall be per scheme selected from Table II and finished as follows:

- a. Integrally illuminated lighting plates in accordance with MIL-P-7788.

NOTE: When a control panel color other than black or gray is selected, the contrast ratios specified in MIL-P-7788 shall be adjusted by the acquiring activity to compensate for the reduced contrast of the other colors.

- b. Externally lighted panels in accordance with MIL-M-18012.

**3.5.1.4 Foot pedals and control columns.** Foot pedals and their housings, control columns and grip control handles shall be per scheme selected from Table II.

**3.5.1.5 Canopy and windshield framing.** The canopy and windshield framing shall be lusterless black, color no. 37038. Where a structural member can be considered either a windshield framing or a control mounting, at least 1 inch bordering the windshield shall be lusterless black, color no. 37038.

**3.5.1.6 Horizontal surfaces.** Glare shields and horizontal surfaces above the top of the instrument panel shall be lusterless black, color no. 37038. Where a glare shield is not used, the black shall extend 1/2 inch below the top of the instrument panel. Other horizontal surfaces which are at or above the lowest extent of transparency (windshields, canopy and windows) shall also be lusterless black, color no. 37038.

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3.5.1.7 Signage, lettering, markings and identification. The background of all interior equipment signage, instrument placards and other areas containing lettering, markings, and identification decals other than emergency and warning decals, shall extend at least 1/4" beyond the letters and shall be a lusterless color to match the surface on which it is mounted when possible. The legend shall continue in the present white color as specified by MIL-M-18012. Care must be exercised when white legends, per MIL-M-18012, are used on the lighter hues listed in the tables. Trials should be made to ensure that white legends will have adequate contrast to the lighter backgrounds over the entire range of ambient illumination anticipated. Black lettering shall be used on lighter backgrounds whenever it results in a higher contrast ratio.

3.5.1.8 Control knobs and handles. Unless otherwise specified, control panel mounted adjustment knobs and flight controls (handles, knobs and levers) shall be per scheme selected from Table I or II as applicable.

3.5.1.9 Handrails. Handrails and table legs shall be per scheme selected from table II or satin aluminum finish, unless the later finish would cause reflectance in transparent viewing areas, instruments or equipment in the cockpit or flight deck interior.

3.5.1.10 Upholstered seats. All upholstered nonejection seating, and fixed or adjustable floor-mounted seating shall be in accordance with Table I or II and MIL-C-21318. Such seating shall include flight crew, operators, observers, crew rest area, dinette, passenger and troops seats, as applicable.

#### 3.5.1.11 Ejection seats.

3.5.1.11.1 High visibility color configuration. When authorized by the Type Commander, the color scheme, outlined in 3.5.1.11.2 and 3.5.1.11.3, may be employed locally for the purpose of assisting in rescue operations. Before deployment beyond the continental United States, except on purely training exercises during deployment, the high visibility color should be removed and the ejection seat restored to the original color specified in 3.5.1.1 for nonupholstered seats.

3.5.1.11.2 Outer surfaces. The area of the outer surfaces of the ejection seat back and side parts of the seat bucket from the top to 3 inches below the level of the canopy sill, when the seat is in the full up position, shall be per scheme selected from Table II. The outer surfaces shall have vertical 3 inch borders of glossy insignia white, color no. 17925 from the bottom of the seat to the level described above. The remaining area between the side borders shall be fluorescent red orange, color no. 28913.

3.5.1.11.3 Inner surface. All exposed inner surfaces of the ejection seat back and bucket shall be per scheme selected from Table II, except that the seat bucket inner surface shall be fluorescent red orange, color no. 28913, extending out to within a 3 inch border at the periphery of the bucket.

3.5.1.11.4 Application of fluorescent red-orange on white. Application of fluorescent red-orange on white color may be obtained with paint or elastomeric films conforming to MIL-F-22735. Necessary precautions shall be taken to ensure that the materials are not applied in such areas or manner as to induce malfunction of the ejection seat.

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3.5.1.11.5 Assembly components. All other structural components of the ejection seat assembly, such as moving parts, mountings, pedals, control knobs and handles, shall conform to the color requirements for those areas as defined within this specification, as applicable.

3.5.2 Non-flight aircrew stations. Non-flight aircrew stations shall include such areas as combat information compartments, radar, sonar, navigation, communications and internal stores-stations, crew and passenger compartments, including the galley, crew rest, dinette and passenger seating areas, lavatories and other aircrew stations where there is no need for night vision capability of the crew members. If such an observation capability is required, light closures and special lighting shall be provided. The color scheme shall be selected from Table I.

3.5.2.1 Color scheme selection. Color schemes shall be selected according to the characteristics of the various aircrew stations with consideration being given to compartment size and lighting, interior environmental control, the physiological and psychological well-being of the aircrew and the predominant operational area of the aircraft type, when applicable. Selections shall be made from Table I. Color scheme no. 1 shall be employed in aircraft with relatively spacious workspaces, adequate access through the aircraft, continuous external illumination and where the operator's tasks are critically dependent on a uniform lighting system and where the internal environmental conditions can be precisely controlled. Color scheme no. 2 shall be employed in aircraft with more compact workspaces, relatively few open areas and limited external illumination, where ambient internal illumination must be maintained with a minimal amount of direct lighting and where the interior operational environmental controls may vary over a wide range. The more contemporary color schemes nos. 3 and 4 shall be used, but not limited to, larger aircraft transporting either additional, non-operational crew or passengers on a regular basis or subject to extended operational flights where added emphasis must be placed on crew comfort and visual fatigue. Adequate internal lighting and environmental control must be coordinated. Generally, scheme no. 3 shall be adapted to more temperate or tropical climates while scheme no. 4 shall be used in cooler climates. Schemes shall not be intermixed in the same aircraft.

3.5.2.2 Passenger compartments. When specified by the acquiring activity, the interior color scheme for passenger compartments shall conform to the applicable elements of a single scheme selected from Table I.

3.5.3 Sound proofing and thermal insulating blankets. The color of sound proofing and thermal insulating blanket materials in inhabited spaces shall conform to the color requirements for the areas defined in the selected scheme in Table I and Table II whenever such materials are normally visible, and is optional in uninhabited spaces.

3.6 Color requirements for uninhabited spaces. Included among uninhabited spaces shall be interior structural spaces, baggage compartments and cargo spaces. Those spaces requiring other than one coat of chromate primer shall not be top-coated unless required by MIL-F-7179 or other contract specification. When chemical warfare (NBC) compatibility is a requirement for an aircraft, those MIL-C-46168 colors that are nearest in hue to the colors cited herein shall be used.

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3.6.1 Bomb bays. The interior of bomb bays and other spaces from which bombs or other explosive devices are released shall be gloss white, color no. 17875.

3.6.2 Passageways and catwalks. Passageways and catwalks located in otherwise uninhabited spaces shall be lusterless gray, color no. 36440. The color shall begin at a natural line of demarcation, when applicable.

3.6.3 Escape hatches. Escape hatches shall conform to the color requirements specified in MIL-M-25047 as applicable.

3.6.4 Engine compartments. The interior of the engine cavity may be gloss white, color no. 17925, when temperature reduction of the surrounding airframe structure is determined necessary for a specific model.

3.6.5 Accessory compartments. The interior of avionics compartments, racks, consoles, load centers and accessory compartments shall be gloss white, color no. 17925.

#### 4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS

4.1 Responsibility for inspection. Unless otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the contractor is responsible for the performance of all inspection requirements as specified herein. Except as otherwise specified in the contract or purchase order, the contractor may use his own or any other facilities suitable for the performance of the inspection requirements specified herein, unless disapproved by the Government. The Government reserves the right to perform any of the inspections set forth in the specification where such inspections are deemed necessary to assure supplies and services conform to prescribed requirements.

4.2 Workmanship inspection. Applied color schemes shall be subject to inspection for quality of workmanship. Any color schemes which are not applied in accordance with the highest grade of workmanship shall, at the discretion of the acquiring activity, be removed and reapplied by the contractor.

#### 5. PACKAGING

This section is not applicable to this specification.

#### 6. NOTES

6.1 Intended use. This specification covers the color schemes for the interior surfaces of Military aircraft. Color scheme no. 1 employs predominantly neutral gray/light green for overhead, sidewalls, consoles, racks and floor. Color scheme no.2 is lighter in reflectance and employs "earth" colors, including colors commonly referred to as cream, beige and dull brown. Color schemes nos. 3 and 4 are more contemporary in nature and both coordinate the console-mounted control panel color as an inherent element of that color scheme. Scheme 3 incorporates a cool combination of pale, medium and darker blue tones while scheme 4 is a warm combination of ivory, tan and rich brown tones.

6.2 Research projects. The provisions of this specification are not applicable to Military aircraft used for research projects. The interior color schemes of such aircraft are subject to departmental approval in each case.

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6.3 Subject term (key word) listing.

Cloth  
Coatings  
Color  
Compartments  
Fabrics  
Finishes  
Interior  
Markings  
Scheme

6.4 Changes from previous issue. Asterisks are not used in this revision to identify changes with respect to the previous issue, due to the extensiveness of the changes.

Custodians:

Army - AV  
Navy - AS  
Air Force - 11

Preparing activity:

Navy - AS

(Project number 15GP-0057)

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TABLE I. Color schemes for non-flight compartments of military aircraft. (See general notes 1-4; Page 4).

APPLICATION	Color scheme No. 1 (gray/green)		Color scheme No. 2 (gray/beige)		Color scheme No. 3 (blue)		Color scheme No. 4 (tan/brown)	
	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.
1. Overhead, sidewalls with included doors & hatches; exposed structure; ECS grills, lighting bezels	Light gray green	34554	Cream	37855	Light sky blue	*37773	Ivory	37778
2. Mainscoting; kickbases; floor-mounted equipment and hatches	Medium gray	36231	Dull brown	30318	Medium blue	35250	Leather brown	30215
3. Floor covering-vinyl or carpeting 3.1 Solid color 3.2 Tweed or linear pattern	Medium gray Medium gray/ Dark gray	36231 36231/ 36081	Dull brown Dull brown/ Dark brown	30318 30318/ 30099	Dark blue Medium blue/ Dark blue	35183 35250/ 35183	Leather brown Tan/ Leather brown	30215 *33522/ 30215
4. Consoles; console-mounted equipment; rack and cabinet exteriors; keyboards; CRT/MPD bezels and mounting flanges	Medium gray green	24424	Beige	26555	Medium sky blue	25550	Tan	23522
5. Control and display panels (internally and externally lighted; except adjustment knobs) 5.1 Alternate for complementary interior scheme	Medium gray Moss green	36231 34226	Medium gray Medium umber	36231 *36160	Gray blue	35190	Coffee brown	30219

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TABLE I. Color schemes for non-flight compartments of military aircraft. (Continued).

APPLICATION	Color scheme No. 1 (gray/green)		Color scheme No. 2 (gray/beige)		Color scheme No. 3 (blue)		Color scheme No. 4 (tan/brown)	
	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.
6. Instrument bezels/faces and mounting flanges; control panel and instrument adjustment knobs	Black	37038	Black	37038	Black	37038	Black	37038
7. Console work surfaces and counter tops	Medium gray	36231	Medium gray	36231	Medium blue	35250	Leather brown	30215
8. Bulkheads	Medium gray green	24424	Beige	26555	Medium sky blue	25550	Tan	23522
8.1 Contrasting bulkheads and trim accents - Tedlar	Teak simulation	---	Teak simulation	---	Teak simulation	---	Teak simulation	---
9. Curtains and light closures-vinyl or fabric	Medium gray green	34424	Beige	36555	Medium blue	35250	Tan	*33522
9.1 Observer's stations-solid color	Medium gray green	34424	Beige/Dark blue	36555/35183	Medium blue/medium sky blue	35250/35550	Indian orange/Light orange	32246/32544
9.2 Operator's stations; crew rest area; gallery/dinette-solid or striped pattern	Medium/Light gray green	34554						
10. Upholstered seating; including detachable cushions and padding								
10.1 Flightcrew and operator's	Red	21136	Rust	22203	Ultra-marine	25102	Rust	22203
10.2 Passenger seating; dinette; crew rest area	Red	21136	Dark blue	25183	Ocher	*23434	Light orange	22544

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TABLE I. Color schemes for non-flight compartments of military aircraft. (Continued).

APPLICATION	Color scheme No. 1 (gray/green)		Color scheme No. 2 (gray/beige)		Color scheme No. 3 (blue)		Color scheme No. 4 (tan/brown)	
	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.
11. Non-upholstered and formed seating; all seating bases and structure webbing	Medium gray	36231	Dull brown	30318	Ultra-marine	*35102	Dull brown	30318
12. Galley and rest area cabinetry dinette seating structure	Medium gray green	24424	Beige	26555	Medium sky blue	25550	Tan	23522
13. Galley counters; dinette and rest area table tops	Gull gray	36440	Beige	36555	Bronze	30266	Bronze	30266
14. Bunk structure; handrails; table legs	Satin aluminum	---	Satin aluminum	---	Satin aluminum	---	Satin aluminum	---
15. Bunk covers; pillows and mattresses	Gull gray	36440	Dark blue	35183	Medium blue	35250	Leather brown	30215
16. Lavatories-interior	Light gray green	34554	Cream	37885	Light sky blue	37773	Ivory	37778
16.1 Overhead; sidewalls	Medium gray green	24424	Beige	26555	Medium sky blue	25550	Tan	23522
16.2 Bulkheads, cabinets; toilet shroud	Medium gray green	36231	Dull brown	30318	Dark blue	35183	Leather brown	30215
16.3 Mainscoting; kickbases; floor covering	White	27875	White	27875	White	27875	White	27875
16.4 Toilet seat; urinal; sink; rack interior								

**General notes -**

1. All color numbers specified refer to the applicable colors of FED-STD-595. Color numbers preceded with an asterisk (\*) are finish variations of the existing colors. The associated names shown are descriptive and are included for convenience only.
2. Painted and material surfaces are coded in FED-STD-595 relative to the category of a finish: 1XXXX gloss finish; 2XXXX semigloss; 3XXXX lusterless or flat. This system applied to the colors specified in Table I.
3. The color numbers listed under color schemes no. 1; no. 2; no. 3; and no. 4 are not to be intermixed beyond that indicated.
4. Refer to paragraph 3.5.1 when Night Vision Goggle (NVG) compatibility is required.

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TABLE II. Color schemes for cockpit/flight deck interiors of military aircraft.

APPLICATION	Color scheme No. 1 (gray/green)		Color scheme No. 2 (gray/beige)		Color scheme No. 3 (blue)		Color scheme No. 4 (tan/brown)		Color scheme No. 5 (neutral gray)	
	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.
1. Overhead trim surfaces (except canopy/windshield framing); flight controls (handles, throttles; levers and knobs, except grip handle)	Light gray green	34554	Beige	36555	Medium sky blue	35550	Tan	*33522	Gull gray	36440
2. Sidewalls; bulkheads; exposed console structure and trim surfaces; racks/cabinets; pedestals; non-upholstered seating (upholstered see Table I); seat bases and tracks; ejection seats and rails; foot pedals and housings; control columns, hand rails; table legs; curtains; ECS grills/gaspers; general lighting bezels; CRT bezels and mounting flanges; console-mounted equipment; stowage wells, counter tops	Teal	34226	Slate tan	30277	Gray blue	35190	Coffee brown	30219	Medium gray	36231
3. Floor Covering	Medium gray Medium gray/ Dark gray	36231	Dull brown	30318	Dark blue	35183	Leather brown	30215	Medium gray	36231
3.1 Solid color		36231/ 36081	Dull brown/ Dark brown	30318/ 30099	Medium blue/ Dark blue	35250/ 35183	Tan/ Leather brown	*33522/ 30215	Medium gray/ Dark gray	36231/ 36081
3.2 Tweed or linear pattern										

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TABLE II. Color schemes for cockpit/flight deck interiors of military aircraft. (Continued).

APPLICATION	Color scheme No. 1 (gray/green)		Color scheme No. 2 (gray/beige)		Color scheme No. 3 (blue)		Color scheme No. 4 (tan/brown)		Color Scheme No. 5 (neutral gray)	
	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.	Color	Color No.
4. Control panels (internally and externally lighted, except adjustment knobs) and associated mounting structure steps	Dark gray green	34092	Dark brown	30099	Midnight blue	*35053	Dark brown	30099	Black	37038
5. Instrument panel	Dark gray green	34092	Dark brown	30099	Midnight blue	*35053	Dark brown	30099	Medium gray	36231
6. Instrument bezels/faces and mounting flanges (except CRT/MPD), control grip handle; canopy/windshield framing; glareshield; horizontal trim surfaces (above the lowest extent of transparency)	Black	37038	Black	37038	Black	37038	Black	37038	Black	37038
7. Control panel and instrument adjustment knobs	Teal	34226	Slate tan	30277	Gray blue	35190	Coffee brown	30219	Medium gray	36231

General Notes - Notes 1-4 of Table I are applicable.

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