

L I M I T E D   E D I T I O N



IWATA HIGH PERFORMANCE SERIES HP-C 50TH ANNIVERSARY AIRBRUSH

*Manual & Parts Guide*



**High-Precision, High-Detail Work** *distinguish this airbrush as High Performance!*



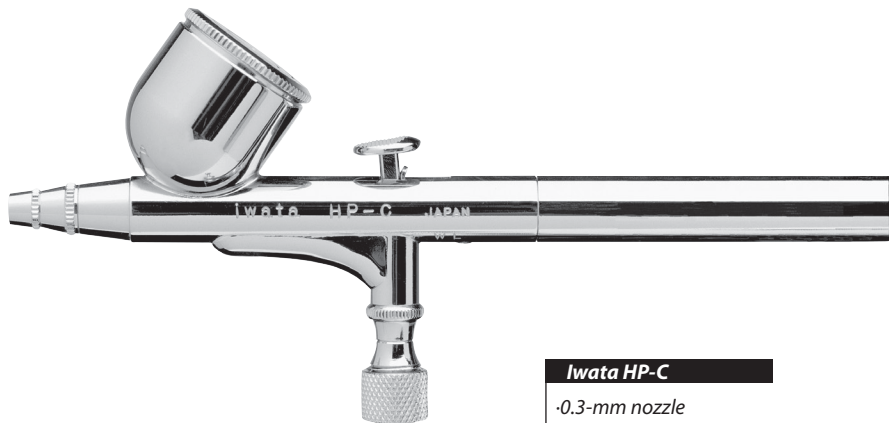
ONLY FROM ANEST IWATA-MEDEA

Iwata airbrushes are designed for the demanding professional. Modern precision machining and carefully selected materials are used in the manufacturing process to ensure consistent high performance and long life. Each Iwata airbrush is spray-tested before shipment to assure maximum performance and adherence to Iwata's strict quality standards. To maintain your Iwata High Performance HP-C at its peak performance, proper care and attention must be observed.

## **NEED ASSISTANCE?**

If you have any issues with this product, call Iwata-Medea **BEFORE** returning to your place of purchase.

**503-253-7308** *M-F 8am-4pm Pacific Time*

**IWATA HIGH PERFORMANCE HP-C 50TH ANNIVERSARY AIRBRUSH*****Iwata HP-C***

*·0.3-mm nozzle*

*·1/3 oz. (0.9 ml) cup*

## GETTING STARTED

### Compressor

Though the High Performance HP-C airbrush can function on minimal amounts of air, its full versatility requires an adjustable or regulated air source with an air storage tank. Other compressor considerations include the length of use while spraying and the environment, or amount of space, you spray in.

These Iwata Studio Series models come equipped with an air regulator for precise air adjustment.

- Smart Jet Pro: Good for small studios and normal use.
- Power Jet Lite: Good for normal studios and extended use.
- Power Jet: Great for normal studios and great for extended use.
- Power Jet Pro: Great for normal studios and great for extended use. (Two regulators allow two airbrushes on same unit.)

### Assembly

1. Screw the airhose onto the compressor.
2. Screw the airhose onto the airbrush.
3. If using a Smart Jet Pro, Power Jet, Power Jet Lite, or Power Jet Pro compressor, adjust the pressure to between 10 and 15 psi.
4. Check for any air leaks in the compressor or air hoses.
5. Place a few drops of cleaning solution or water into the airbrush's bowl.
6. Point the airbrush away from you.
7. Press down on the main lever (#7) to start airflow through the airbrush.
8. Pull the main lever back opening the airbrush's nozzle.
9. Spray water through the airbrush to see how it sprays.

## GENERAL OPERATION

1. Depress the main lever (#7) to start airflow.
2. Position the airbrush close to the surface, between 1/16 and 1/2 inch.
3. Pull the main lever back slightly to start paint flow.
  - A longer distance to the paint surface produces wider lines.
  - A shorter distance to the paint surface produces narrower lines.
  - Increased air pressure increases spray width.
  - Decreased air pressure decreases spray width.
  - The smallest lines are determined by skill and practice.

### Wide-Lines and Blending

1. Depress the main lever (#7).
2. Position the airbrush from 1/2 to 6 inches away from the surface.
3. Pull the main lever back much further to release more paint to cover the bigger area.
  - A longer distance to the paint surface produces wider lines.
  - A shorter distance to the paint surface produces narrower lines.
  - Increased air pressure increases spray width.
  - Decreased air pressure decreases spray width.
  - The maximum usable line width is approximately 2 inches.

### Stippling

Iwata airbrushes are designed to produce a wide range of stippling textures.

1. Unscrew the needle cap (#1).
2. Unscrew the nozzle cap (#2).
3. Adjust the air pressure between 8 and 60 psi.
  - Low air pressure creates coarse stipples.
  - High air pressure provides fine stipple effects.
  - Paint viscosity also effects stippling texture.

### Air Pressure

Working pressures generally vary between 8 and 60 psi, depending on the type of surface, the desired spray texture, and the paint's viscosity.

Start spraying with 15 psi. If the spray is too grainy adjust the pressure up until the desired spray consistency is reached.

- Different colors will behave differently.
- Different paint lines will behave differently.
- Spray thick paint with greater pressure.
- Spray thin paint with less pressure.
- Spray large paint amounts with greater pressure.
- Spray small paint amounts with less pressure.

**WARNING: Do not exceed 98psi.**

### **Paint Preparation**

For non-specific airbrush paints, proper preparation, including filtering the paint through a nylon mesh, is critical for best performance. Thin paint with its proper solvent, and make repeated passes across the work to build up the color. This improves your work's quality and decreases your airbrush's cleaning time.

- Airbrushes spray very thin paint easiest.
- Thin paint with its proper solvent.
- Filter paint through paint filters or mesh.

### **Safety Tips**

- Always spray in well ventilated areas.
- Do not spray solvent based (flammable) paints around open flames.
- Use the appropriate respirator to safely filter out paint vapors particular to your specific paint type.
- Wear eye protection to prevent paint contact with eyes.
- Never exceed the airbrush's pressure limit (98 psi).

## MAINTENANCE

### Cleaning the Airbrush Between Colors

1. Dump out the color cup's excess paint.
2. Rinse the cup with the appropriate cleaning solution.
3. Use a paper towel to wipe out any left over paint.
4. Fill the bottom of the cup with cleaner.
5. Spray cleaner until the spray is clear.
6. Add the next color to the color cup.
7. Repeat cleaning procedure when finished.

### Cleaning the Needle (#4)

1. Unscrew the handle (#17) from the airbrush body.
2. Loosen the needle chucking nut (#16).
3. Gently pull the needle (#4) straight out.
4. Fold a soft cloth damp with cleaner over the needle.
5. Rotate the needle to gently wipe the residual paint off.
6. Carefully insert the needle into the airbrush until it seats fully against the nozzle (#3). You should feel a positive stop. If you feel a spongy stop, you still have debris in your nozzle.

**CAUTION: The most probable time to damage the needle is when the needle passes through the main lever (#7) and through the needle packing screw (#5).**

**If the needle stops abruptly, retract and examine the trigger mechanism for proper assembly and re-insert the needle.**

7. Tighten the needle chucking nut finger tight.
  - Pull the main lever back and forth to visually confirm the needle's ability to move.
8. Screw the handle back onto the airbrush body.

### Before Each Session

Spray water or the appropriate paint solvent through the airbrush to make sure the airbrush is working properly.

### After Each Session

Or any time the airbrush becomes clogged.

1. Increase the air pressure.
2. Spray cleaning solution for a short time.
3. Clean the needle if necessary

This cleaning method helps clean the paint passage, the nozzle, and the needle thoroughly.



#### **Lubricating the Needle (#4)**

To ensure smooth main lever (#7) action lubricate the needle when the trigger won't respond properly.

1. Unscrew the handle (#17).
2. Loosen the needle chucking nut (#16).
3. Remove the needle.
4. Coat the needle slightly with Medea Super Lube starting 1 inch behind the tip.
5. Wipe the needle with a soft, clean cloth, leaving a light coat of lube behind.
6. Re-insert the needle gently into the airbrush until you feel a positive stop.
7. Tighten the needle chucking nut.
8. Screw the handle onto the airbrush body.

**DO NOT over-lube the needle; transferring excess lube into the nozzle may cause severe paint flow problems.**

**DO NOT use light machine oil or WD-40 for lubrication. These lubes cause the needle to stick when it moves through the needle packing o-ring and can also get into the air system.**

**CAUTION: If it becomes absolutely necessary to dismantle the airbrush remember that most situations do not require tools.**

**DO NOT use pliers.**

#### **Lubricating the Air Piston (#12)**

To ensure smooth main lever (#7) action lubricate the air piston when the trigger won't respond properly.

1. Unscrew the handle (#17).
2. Unscrew the needle chucking nut (#16).
3. Remove the needle (#4).
4. Unscrew the spring guide (#11).
5. Remove the needle spring (#10).
6. Remove the needle chucking guide (#9).
7. Pull the main lever up and out.
8. Use tweezers to pull out the air valve piston.
9. Clean the air piston with a cotton swab.
10. Clean the hole at the bottom of the trigger housing with a cotton swab.
  - a. Clean until a cotton swab comes back clean.
11. Dab a very small drop of Super Lube on the air piston shaft.
12. Insert the air piston back into the hole at the bottom of the trigger housing.
13. Place the main lever back into the trigger housing.
14. Press the main lever up and down a few times.
  - a. It should spring back up smoothly when depressed.

**MAINTENANCE (CONT'D)**

15. Place the needle chucking guide into the airbrush body.
  - a. Check the parts guide for proper orientation.
  - b. Pull the small tab forward.
  - c. Angle the needle chucking guide's tail end slightly up.
  - d. Insert the needle chucking guide into the airbrush body.
  - e. The small tab should stick up slightly behind the main lever.
16. Place the needle spring over the needle chucking guide.
17. Screw the spring guide into the airbrush body.
18. Push down on the main lever at least once.
19. Carefully insert the needle.
  - a. Warning: This is the most probable time to bend the needle point.
20. Screw the needle chucking nut onto the needle chucking guide.
21. Screw the handle back into the airbrush body.

**DO NOT over-lube the air piston; transferring excess lube into the air system may cause severe paint flow problems.**

**DO NOT use light machine oil or WD-40 for lubrication. These lubes cause the needle to stick when it moves through the needle packing o-ring.**

**CAUTION: If it becomes absolutely necessary to dismantle the airbrush remember that most situations, unless otherwise directed, do not require tools.**

## TROUBLESHOOTING PROCEDURES

Symptom	Problem	Solution
<b>Bubbles in Color Cup or Bottle</b>	Loose nozzle cap	• Tighten (#2) finger tight
	Cracked or damaged nozzle	• Replace nozzle (#3)
<b>Double Line</b>	Dried paint on needle tip (Tip-Dry)	• See Cleaning the Needle
	Dirty airbrush	• See Cleaning the Airbrush Between Colors • See Cleaning the Needle
	Debris on nozzle tip	• Clean nozzle (#3) with toothpick
	Bent needle	• See Needle (#4) to replace needle
	Cracked or damaged nozzle	• Replace the nozzle (#3)

\*Warning: The most likely time to damage the nozzle (#3) is upon removal from the airbrush.

### TROUBLESHOOTING PROCEDURES (CONT'D)

Symptom	Problem	Solution
<b>Not Spraying</b>	Loose needle chucking nut	• Finger tighten (#16)
	Needle stuck	• Pull out/Break-free Needle (#4)
	Improper air pressure	• See specific compressor instructions to raise or lower the air pressure
	Paint too thick	• See Paint Preparation
	Clogged nozzle	• Clean nozzle (#3) with toothpick
	Cracked or damaged nozzle	• Replace nozzle (#3)
<b>Skipping</b>	Dried paint on needle tip (Tip-Dry)	• See Cleaning the Needle
	Paint too thick	• See Paint Preparation
	Dirty airbrush	• See Cleaning the Airbrush Between Colors • See Cleaning the Needle
	Cracked or damaged nozzle	• Replace nozzle (#3)

\*Warning: The most likely time to damage the nozzle (#3) is upon removal from the airbrush.

## TROUBLESHOOTING PROCEDURES (CONT'D)

Symptom	Problem	Solution
<b>Spattering</b>	Dried paint on needle tip (Tip-Dry)	• See Cleaning the Needle
	Paint build-up in needle cap	• Unscrew (#1) and clean with cotton swab
	Air pressure too low	• See specific compressor instructions to raise the air pressure
	Paint too thick	• See Paint Preparation
	Dirty airbrush	• See Cleaning the Airbrush between Colors • See Cleaning the Needle
<b>Trigger Sticks (back and forth)</b>	Dirty airbrush	• See Cleaning the Airbrush between Colors • See Cleaning the Needle
<b>Trigger Sticks (up and down)</b>	Paint on air valve packing o-ring	• See Lubricating the Air Piston

## REPLACEMENT PARTS AND ACCESSORIES

### Nozzle (#3)

In time, the nozzle may wear or be damaged and may need to be replaced.

1. Unscrew the handle (#17).
2. Loosen the needle chucking nut (#16).
3. Gently pull the needle (#4) part way back. It doesn't need to be fully pulled out.
4. Unscrew the nozzle cap (#2)
5. Unscrew the nozzle counter-clockwise with the provided wrench.
6. Screw the new nozzle into the airbrush body with your fingers.
7. Slightly tighten the nozzle with wrench. **DO NOT OVER TIGHTEN!**
8. Screw the nozzle cap onto the airbrush body.
9. Push the needle all the way forward until it seats with the new nozzle.
10. Tighten the needle chucking nut.
11. Screw the handle onto the airbrush body. **TIP: Keep a spare nozzle on hand for unforeseen accidents.**

### Needle (#4)

Iwata needles are precision ground, hardened stainless- steel capable of withstanding prolonged use. They are, however, easily physically damaged because of the long, tapered, extremely fine tip. If the needle point becomes severely bent, it must be straightened before pulling it back through the nozzle. If not, the bent needle might damage the nozzle as it's pulled through.

### TIP: Keep a spare needle on hand for unforeseen accidents.

- Needles are sharp.
- Needle tips are bent easily.

### Crown Cap (Optional Accessory)

The crown cap physically protects the needle while spraying very fine lines.

- Protects the needle
- Replaces the needle cap (#1)

### Quick Disconnect (Optional Accessory)

A quick disconnect joint is screwed onto the airhose and a quick disconnect adapter is screwed onto each airbrush. When using multiple airbrushes the quick disconnect joint facilitates changing airbrushes on the same airhose quickly.

### Pistol Grip Moisture Filter

The Iwata-Medea Pistol Grip Moisture Filter delivers clean, dry air to your airbrush. Miniature in size, the super-fine, 5-micron filter element performs like a full-size filter separator.

The clear filter bowl allows visual inspection of built up moisture. Release the water by pulling the spring-loaded release valve.

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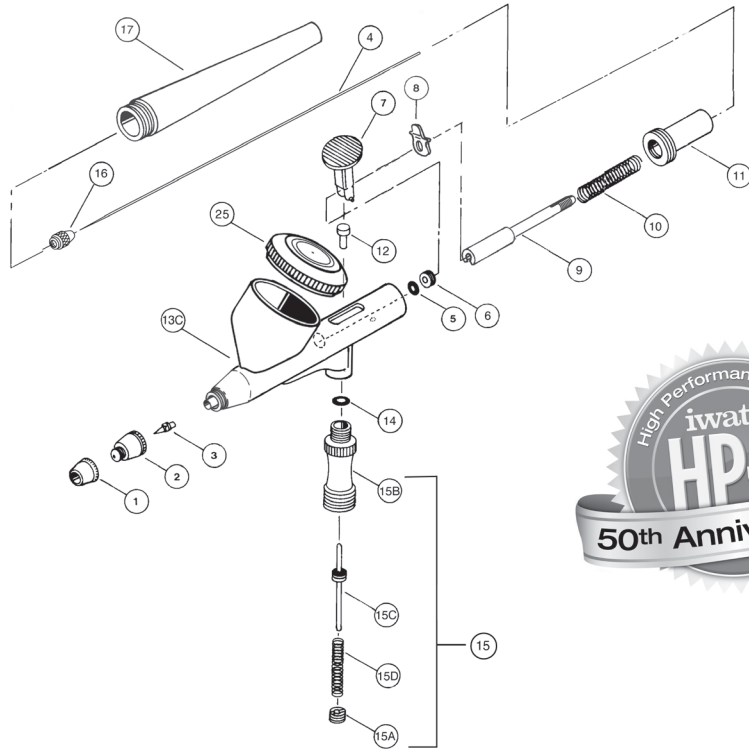
## ***Pistol-Grip Filter***

*For clean, dry air-flow.*

Attaching directly onto the airbrush, the Iwata-Medea Pistol-Grip Filter is the final defense to deliver clean, dry air to your airbrush. Miniature in size, the super-fine, 5-micron filter element performs like a full-size moisture separator.


The clear filter bowl allows a visual inspection of built-up moisture and is evacuated through a spring-loaded release valve – without taking the filter off the airbrush.

Ergonomically designed, the Pistol-Grip Filter provides for many comfortable hours of spraying.







— IWATA HP-C AIRBRUSH • MASTER PARTS LIST —


#	Item Description	Price Code	Item#	HP-C
1	Needle Cap	B	1110 2	■
2	Nozzle Cap	0.3 mm	D 1140 3	■
		0.4 mm	D 1140 4	opt
3	Fluid Nozzle	0.3 mm	G 1080 3	■
		0.4 mm	G 1080 4	opt
		Discontinued 0.2 mm	G <del>1085 2</del>	opt
4	Fluid Needle	0.3 mm	C 1075 3	■
		0.4 mm	C 1075 4	opt
5	Packing Fluid Needle (O-Ring)	A	1150 2	■
6	Needle Packing Screw	A	1125 1	■
7	Main Lever	D	1100 2	■
8	Auxiliary Lever	A	1040 4	■
9	Needle Chucking Guide	C	1115 2	■
10	Needle Spring	A	1135 3	■
11	Spring Guide	C	1170 2	■
12	Valve Piston	 A	1175 1	■
13	Body*		N/A	■
14	Packing Air Piston (O-Ring)	A	1145 1	■
15	Air Valve Set	G	1030 4	■

■ = yes x = no opt = optional

#	Item Description	Price Code	Item#	HP-C
15A	Air Valve Guide	 A	1025 1	■
15B	Air Valve Body	D	1020 1	■
15C	Air Valve Discontinued	 B	<del>1015 4</del>	■
15D	Air Valve Spring	A	1035 1	■
16	Needle Chucking Nut	A	1120 2	■
17	Handle	E	1090 2	■
18	Pre-Set Handle	G	1155 2	opt
25	Lid	C	1095 4	■
	Spanner	A	1165 1	■
	Conversion Kit (Converts 0.3 mm to 0.4 mm Nozzle - 4 Piece Conversion)	I	Discontinued <del>1195 1</del>	■
	Crown Cap	D	1105 0	opt
	Quick Fit Set (QD Screws Onto Air Hose and Adaptor Screws Onto Airbrush)		1160 3	opt
	Quick Fit Adaptor (Screws Onto Airbrush)		1160 4	opt
	Adaptor (Iwata Airbrushes to Paasche Airhose)		J 001	opt
	Adaptor (Iwata Airbrushes to T & C/Badger Air Hoses)		J 002	opt

■ = yes x = no opt = optional

\*Replacement parts not available.

 **CALIFORNIA PROP 65 WARNING:** Certain products identified with this symbol and offered for sale in this catalog contain lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm.

Corrections as of 01/2024

All Iwata airbrushes are *Warranted* against all manufacturing defects of material and manufacture or workmanship for a period of FIVE years from the date of purchase. This warranty does not cover fluid needles or fluid nozzles since these parts need to be replaced occasionally due to normal wear. Any other part or material that is or becomes defective so as not to be usable within this period will be repaired or replaced. This warranty does not cover damage caused by negligence or airbrushes that have been altered or abused in any way. Call or email Iwata-Medea before returning an airbrush for the appropriate procedure for warranty repairs.



*Genuine Iwata*





**ANEST IWATA-MEDEA, Inc.**

**W W W . I W A T A - M E D E A . c o m**

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