



Photo 1
I started by enlarging the small picture to 11" x 17". Half on one sheet, half on another and spliced together to use for a pattern.



Photo 2 – Starting from the bottom left corner (I'm right handed) I painted in all the areas which will receive white using a #2 Steve Kafka quill (love 'em) and 1Shot enamel reduced with 1Shot's 6002 reducer.



By
Bob Bond

Color By Number Chrome

My dad Bond (and I say that, because I had two) wasn't an artist by trade, he manufactured fish aquariums.

When I was a kid growing up he liked to paint paintings that were pre-laid out and all you had to do was paint in areas by numbers. This always interested me because in each painting he did, someone else analyzed a photo into various areas and assigned numbers for colors, making it so that even a non-artist could paint it.

Recently, I wanted to try my hand at painting a chromed-out motorcycle engine. I happened to flip through an old motorcycle magazine and 'there it was, the picture I'd been looking for.' The bummer was, it was a small picture, so with a magnifying glass

in hand I started studying the detail in the small picture. Imagining as if I were going to do overlays for screen printing, I broke it down to just a few simple colors containing many shades of whites, blues, grays, purples and tans.

To help the design come to life quickly, I decided to start with a black background and paint the white first. I sanded a 12" x 18" metal panel and sprayed it with John Deere's flat black spray paint.

I couldn't project the image onto a black background since projectors don't work on dark surfaces. So I scanned the small image into the computer enlarging it to 300% and at 300 dpi. Using Corel Draw I took the

image and blew it up so that half would fill an 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper and the second half would fill a 2nd sheet of paper. I spliced the two together and I had a large extremely out-of-focus copy to trace onto the black panel.

I placed a piece of white Saral Transfer Paper under the enlarged layout pattern and traced the detail of where the white would go and a few other key element areas.

Now it's ready for painting, filling in colors by number: #1 white, #2 various blues, #3 various grays, #4 various purples, #5 yellowish tans (little brown), and #6 black.

Follow along as I complete this project step-by-step or should I say Color By Number.



Photo 3 – I next painted in various shades of blue throughout the painting.



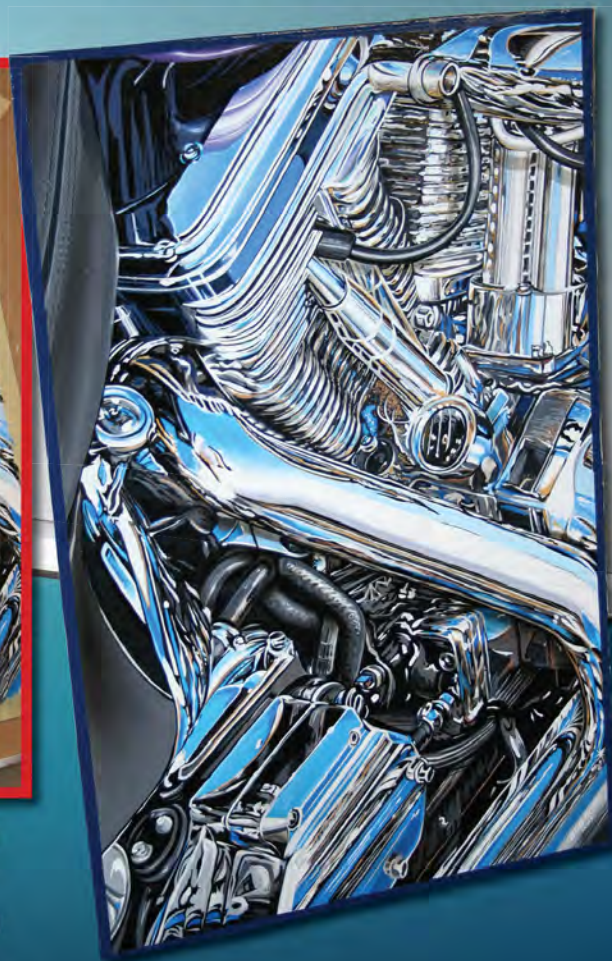
Photo 4 – At this stage I wanted to complete areas as I go, so I used various grays and black working my way upward from the bottom left-hand corner. Airbrushed the seat fade and a little white in some areas.



Photo 5 – Continuing upward, more detail with various dark blues, adding purples (tank), grays and black to the top section.



Photo 6 – Examining a photo closely enables you to see and duplicate its fine detail, note: stitching in the seat and reflection images. I completed all the grayish areas and lastly painted imitation gold, various tans and a very little brown to complete the painting, as seen in the finished photo.



With the design completed, I cut off the edges of the metal panel so the size of the art is now 11" x 17" enabling it to fit into my scanner (duh! Should have done this first). By scanning the art directly, I didn't lose any detail that might have been lost by photographing the project for reproduction. When I scanned the original I enlarged it to just under 13" x 20" and again used 300 dpi. Thanks to Billy Koenig of Koenig Signs in Newalla, Okla., we now have some super reproduced giclee (25¢ word) prints available at a reasonable price of only \$39.95 + \$7 postage. See www.bobbondart.com for details.