Painting Chrome

BY BOB BOND

Within the last issue I painted a '62 Mercury Monterey front-end headlight section. For this issue we're going to take it up a notch and attempt something a little more difficult. In this painting, I'm not only painting the chrome, but I'm also painting the car a Candy Apple Red.

The beauty with candy colors that I have always admired is their ability to reflect many different shades at different angles. A '57 Chevy front-end hood is one of the best cars to show how reflections can be really radical and extreme. Follow along as I show you once again how you can paint chrome and more using the simple color by number process.

1- I first enlarged the photo onto canvas. Then I painted in all the black areas and then began with a very light blue and added a medium blue.

2 - Next I continued by adding darker shades of blue.

3 - Here I used a striping brush and laid in the grill stripes. Notice they're not all the same color. Some are darker because of shadows.

4 - Now it's time for color #2 - tans/browns. Here I painted in all the areas reflecting the ground and Chevrolet emblems.

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5 - Now it's time to paint in the sky, leaving white areas for clouds to be added.

6 - While the blue sky sets up I went back to the tan colors in the headlight.

7 - Here I painted in some white clouds and airbrushed light gray to the bottom section of the clouds.

8 - Here I'm adding just a little white with my Iwata airbrush to soften the brush-blended blues.

9 - Now onto the next color sections, here I'm painting various reds into their proper place.

10 - Continuing with shades of red/maroon, this is so the vehicle will reflect the changing colors in Candy Apple Red.

11 - This part shows the various reds painted into the clouded area on the hood.
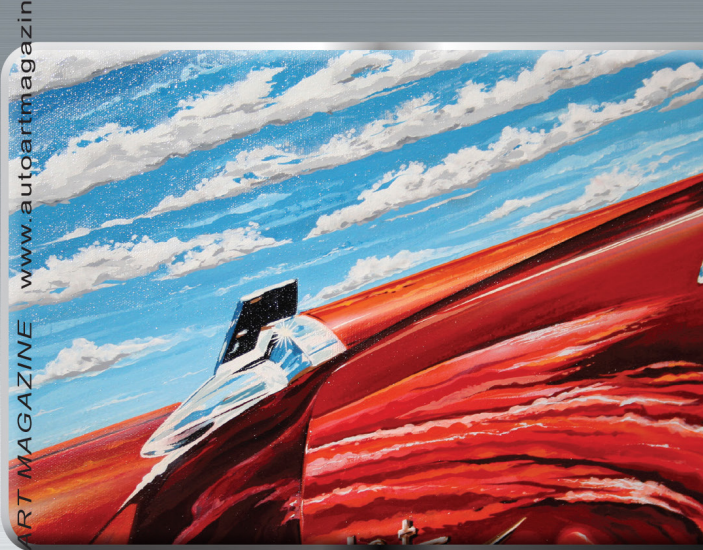

12 - Continue on with lighter and darker shades of red.

13 - Here I'm doing some blending to soften color changes.

14 - Now it's almost complete but the clouds need some help.

15 - Here I've put more detail into the clouds so as not to appear so cartoonish.

16 - Lastly I added a small touch by painting myself into the painting.

Finished art 24" X 36"

Here are two other paintings I did using the same technique.

Materials used:

- ✓ Materials used:
- ✓ 24" X 36" Canvas
- ✓ Mack 179L Lettering Brushes
- ✓ Shot Lettering Enamels
- ✓ Kafka Outlining Brushes
- ✓ Cosmos #4 Striping Brush
- ✓ 1 Shot High Temp Reducer
- ✓ Iwata Eclipse Airbrush
- ✓ KWIK Draw 6-inch Opaque Projector