

## Helping to understand Airless Spray Tips

**Sizing a Spray Tip** manufacturers typically use three numbers to designate tip size, as in 517 or 211.

**The relationship of the tip opening (orifice) to spray pattern size is:**

Given a constant width (fan), the larger the orifice, the more material the sprayer will apply. (A larger orifice means greater paint flow).

Given a constant orifice size, an increasing fan width will apply a thinner coating of material to the surface because a given amount of material is distributed over a larger area.

*The first digit refers to fan width and is one-half the size of the working fan width. The second and third digits refer to orifice size in thousandths of an inch; thus, the 17 in 517 refers to an orifice size of .017 inches.*

5 = 10" fan pattern at 12 inch spraying distance

17 = 17 thousandths orifice size

**Which tip size to buy?** Well now you know what the sizes mean, the question is which size do you need? This will depend on:

- A: Area you are spraying.  
*Example: If you were spraying a 4 inch skirting in a new house, you would not pick out a 517 (10 inch fan) to spray it with.*
- B: What capacity sprayer you have.  
*If your pump is rated at a max tip of .017 you can not spray with a 519 tip*
- C: Kind of material you are spraying.

*Depends on the thickness of the product, all manufacturers should recommend a tipsize for their products. Any decent spray supplier will be able to give you a chart.*