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### CERAKOTE V-168 Cobalt 4oz Tester

# CERAKOTE V-Series Oven Cure Coating: V-168 Cobalt 4oz Tester Instruction Manual

Model: V-168 Cobalt 4oz Tester

## 1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The CERAKOTE V-Series V-168 Cobalt is a thin-film ceramic-polymer protective coating designed for oven curing. This product offers exceptional corrosion, chemical, and durability performance. Its unique ceramic-polymer technology provides both flexibility and excellent physical performance, making it suitable for tight tolerance applications where masking can often be eliminated.

Key features include:

- A leader in thin film protective coatings.
- Ideal for tight tolerance applications, often eliminating the need for masking.
- Unmatched corrosion, chemical, and durability performance.
- Unique ceramic-polymer technology for flexibility and physical performance.



Image 1.1: CERAKOTE V-168 Cobalt 4oz Tester product bottle. This image displays the primary packaging for the V-168 Cobalt oven cure coating.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Always read the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) before using this product. Ensure adequate ventilation in the work area. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including safety glasses, gloves, and a respirator suitable for organic vapors. Avoid contact with skin and eyes. In case of contact, flush immediately with plenty of water and seek medical attention. Keep out of reach of children and pets. Store in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight and heat sources.

## 3. SETUP AND SURFACE PREPARATION

Proper surface preparation is critical for optimal adhesion and performance of CERAKOTE coatings. Failure to adequately prepare the surface can lead to coating failure.

### 3.1 Degreasing

Thoroughly degrease the substrate using a suitable degreaser (e.g., acetone, MEK, or a specialized industrial degreaser). Ensure all oils, greases, and contaminants are removed. Rinse thoroughly if using a water-based degreaser and allow to dry completely.

## 3.2 Abrasive Blasting

Abrasive blasting is recommended for most metal substrates to create an optimal surface profile for mechanical adhesion. Use a fine-grit abrasive media (e.g., 100-120 grit aluminum oxide) at 80-100 PSI. Blast evenly to achieve a consistent profile. For polymers, consult specific guidelines as blasting may not be suitable or may require different media and pressure.

## 3.3 Final Degreasing and Drying

After blasting, perform a final degreasing step to remove any blasting media residue or new contaminants. Use a clean, lint-free cloth with acetone. Allow the part to flash dry completely. Handle parts with clean gloves to prevent recontamination.

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS (APPLICATION)

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CERAKOTE V-Series coatings are typically applied using an HVLP (High Volume Low Pressure) spray gun. Ensure the spray gun is clean and properly adjusted.

### 4.1 Mixing

Shake the V-168 Cobalt bottle thoroughly for at least 2 minutes to ensure the coating is uniformly mixed. Do not thin the V-Series coating unless specifically instructed by CERAKOTE technical support for unique applications.

### 4.2 Application

Apply the coating in thin, even coats. Maintain a consistent distance and speed to avoid runs or sags. Typically, one to two thin coats are sufficient to achieve full coverage and desired film thickness. Allow for a flash-off period of 5-10 minutes between coats, or until the coating appears dull.

### 4.3 Curing

The V-Series is an oven cure coating. After application, place the coated part into a preheated oven. The full cure time is approximately 1 hour at the recommended temperature. Refer to the product's technical data sheet for precise temperature requirements, which can vary based on substrate and desired properties. Ensure the part reaches and maintains the specified temperature for the entire cure duration.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

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Once fully cured, CERAKOTE V-Series coatings are highly durable and require minimal maintenance. Clean coated surfaces with mild soap and water. Avoid harsh abrasive cleaners or solvents that could potentially damage the coating, although the coating itself is highly chemical resistant. Regular cleaning will help maintain the aesthetic and protective properties of the coating.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

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- **Poor Adhesion:** This is most commonly caused by improper surface preparation. Ensure thorough degreasing and abrasive blasting (if applicable) to create a clean, profiled surface. Contamination from fingerprints or oils can also cause adhesion issues.
- **Runs or Sags:** Occur when too much material is applied in a single coat or coats are applied too wet without sufficient flash-off time. Apply thinner coats and allow adequate flash-off between applications.
- **Uneven Finish:** Can result from inconsistent spray technique, improper gun settings, or insufficient mixing of the coating. Ensure consistent spray patterns and proper atomization.
- **Dull or Hazy Finish:** May indicate insufficient cure temperature or time. Verify oven temperature calibration

and ensure parts reach and maintain the specified temperature for the full cure duration.

For further assistance, contact CERAKOTE technical support.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Specification	Detail
Brand	CERAKOTE
Color	V-168 Cobalt
Finish Type	Matte
Size	4oz Tester
Item Volume	4 Fluid Ounces
Paint Type	Enamel
Specific Uses For Product	Automotive, firearms, aerospace, knives, eye wear, consumer electronics, wearables, salt water applications
Surface Recommendation	Metal
Indoor/Outdoor Usage	Outdoor
Item Form	Liquid
Is Waterproof	True
Package Information	Bottle
Full Cure Time	1 Hour (at recommended temperature)
Water Resistance Level	Water Resistant

## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For specific warranty information regarding CERAKOTE products, please refer to the official CERAKOTE website or contact their customer service directly. CERAKOTE stands behind the quality of its products when applied according to their detailed instructions and technical data sheets.

For technical support, application guidance, or to report product issues, please visit the official CERAKOTE website at [www.cerakote.com](http://www.cerakote.com) or contact their support team through the contact information provided on their site. Always provide your product model (V-168 Cobalt 4oz Tester) and batch number when seeking support.