

The Colorful Story of 1990 Competition Yellow Paint

In August of 1990, GM issued a Service Bulletin with advice about matching the color when refinishing. They describe that '90 Competition Yellow changes its tint slightly when exposed to sunlight. Over time it turns darker and greener. The advice is to shield the car from sunlight for 48 hours before refinishing.

The Corvette Black Book notes that the production of Competition Yellow was delayed at the beginning of production. Then it was discontinued a few months before the end of '90 production on May 11th of 1990. The color Yellow was used in '91 and '92. Competition Yellow returned in '93. Presumably the '93 – '95 version of Competition Yellow was reformulated to reduce photosensitivity.

Competition Yellow is paint code 53U/WA9804.

Yellow is paint code 35U/WA8769.

Production numbers for all '90 – '95 Corvette Competition Yellow and Yellow as published in the Corvette Black Book.

53U	35U	35U	53U	53U	53U
1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
278	650	678	517	834	1003

Production numbers as published for ZR-1s by the ZR-1 Net Registry in 2004.

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995
23	39	26	11	43	49

The service bulletin is on the next page.



CHEVROLET MOTOR DIVISION
General Motors Corporation
Technical Service Department

Dealer
Service
Bulletin

90-306-10

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10

Section:

August 1990

Date:

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Corporate Bulletin No.:

Subject: **COMPETITION YELLOW PAINT**

Model and Year: **1990 CORVETTE**

TO: ALL CHEVROLET DEALERS

Condition:

Owners of some 1990 Corvettes painted Competition Yellow may comment that the color changes shades when exposed to direct sunlight.

Cause:

The primary pigment used in this color is photochromatic. This means the color becomes darker and greener when exposed to sunlight, when removed from sunlight the condition reverses itself within 48 hours.

Correction:

This condition is normal and no correction should be attempted. Should it become necessary to make paint repairs to this color, the vehicle should be removed from the direct sunlight for at least 48 hours before a match is made.

Dupont will provide matching repair color which may be ordered using the following description:

B9058KK
GM Code 53 WA9804
Competition Yellow B/C

Use of other suppliers products should be checked with the manufacturer to insure pigment formulas are the same. "We believe this source and their equipment to be reliable. There may be additional manufacturers of such equipment. General Motors does not endorse, indicate any preference for or assume any responsibility for the product or equipment from this firm or for any such items which may be available from other sources."

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