

# RapidMatch™ X-5 Best Practices

There are several factors that should be taken into account in order to ensure good formula retrieval: frequent calibration, correct measurement techniques including avoiding contaminated sample areas, and proper instrument maintenance. It is important to understand all variables to help diagnose any sources of error.



## The Basics

1. The instrument **MUST** be fully charged before use (12 hours for complete charge).
2. The serial number on the white tile calibration **MUST** match the RAPIDMATCH™ X-5 device serial number (if not, contact X-Rite® Support).

## Daily Calibration Required

1. The calibration tiles **MUST** be clean to ensure accurate calibration.
2. Take a reading of the white calibration tile; two measurements will be taken.
3. Place the *RapidMatch X-5* unit into the docking station. Press the Read button; four measurements will be taken.
4. After the instrument has been calibrated, you must verify the instrument is performing adequately and within the tolerance guidelines. Measure the white tile as if it was a sample.
5. Compare the L\*a\*b\* values displayed on the instrument to the values on the back of the white calibration tile:
  - If the deviation in the values for 25°, 45° and 75° are less than 0.15, then the *RapidMatch X-5* Spectrophotometer is ready to use
  - If the deviation in the values for 25°, 45° and 75° are greater than 0.15, review maintenance procedures and repeat the white tile calibration. If the deviation continues, contact X-Rite Support.

## Correct Measurement Technique

1. Vehicle or panel surface must be clean and polished; choose a flat area next to the damaged area—dull or dirty finishes and curved areas will not return accurate results.
2. Using both hands, hold the *RapidMatch X-5* device firmly against the vehicle or panel without moving.
3. Position the device horizontal to the panel and hold that position—do not rotate the device. When measurements are complete, slide the *RapidMatch X-5* unit back into the docking station.

## Regular Maintenance

1. Clean the white calibration tile with a clean soft cloth before use.
2. Clean the black calibration tile before use by removing it from the back of the docking station and wiping with a clean soft cloth.
3. Clean the instrument optics weekly with short bursts of clean, dry air (NO Freon or high pressure air).
4. When the instrument is not in use for extended periods of time, cover the docking station or store in the protective carrying case.

NEED HELP? Support is available online; go to [www.ppgrefinish.com/Color Tools/PAINTMANAGER® Software Support Page](http://www.ppgrefinish.com/Color Tools/PAINTMANAGER® Software Support Page).

