



New Features: Major Upgrade to Vehicle and Part Colors

Partmate now has dedicated fields for interior/exterior colors and paint/trim codes on both vehicles and individual parts. When you enter a vehicle's colors, they auto-populate to relevant parts (you can still customize how colors are applied to individual parts).

This color info is transferred to Checkmate and saved on the vehicle and part records. It will also be important for future enhancements we have planned for Checkmate and Car-Part.com, where parts will be able to be searched by color.

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Overview

In this release of Partmate, the vehicle and part colors feature has received a major upgrade! Previously, you could set vehicle colors in your **Options** and they could be added to part descriptions.

Now, there are new, dedicated fields for interior and exterior colors and paint and trim codes, for both the vehicle and individual parts. This means that these vehicle and part colors now transfer to Checkmate and are saved on the vehicle and part records. (This is important for future enhancements we have planned for Checkmate and Car-Part.com, where parts will be able to be searched by color!)

When you install this version of Partmate and enter colors for a vehicle, colors will be populated for certain parts *automatically*, so inventorying parts with the color name and code takes *very* little extra time. However, you can still control how vehicle colors are applied to individual parts (whether you want the colors populated in part descriptions, or just saved in the dedicated color fields), by customizing the color configuration.

Keep reading to see how it works!



Step 1: Set Vehicle Colors When Adding Vehicle Information

When you are adding a vehicle and entering the vehicle information on the **Vehicles** tab: use the new **Vehicle Colors** tab to enter the colors, paint codes, and trim codes for the vehicle.

Do this *before* you start inventorying the parts for the vehicle, so the vehicle colors can be automatically applied to the parts as you inventory! (Any parts that were already inventoried before you set vehicles colors will *not* have any colors automatically applied.)

The new color fields let you set a **Primary Color** and **Code**, and a **Secondary Color** and **Code**, for both the **Exterior** and **Interior** of the vehicle.

- In each **Color** field, use the drop-down box to select a color option, or type a color name directly in the field. The color options that are available in the **Exterior Colors** fields are from the Collision Industry Electronic Commerce Association (CIECA) OEM color list.*
- In each **Code** field, type the paint code or trim code directly in the field.

The screenshot shows the Partmate software interface. The top window title is "Partmate - VIN: WBANV93558C Model: BM535I Year: 2008 Stock#: Miles: 155342". The main menu includes "File", "Edit", "Tools", "Print", "BIDMATE", "Turn Keyboard On", and "Help". The "Vehicles" tab is active, and the "Vehicle Colors" sub-tab is selected, indicated by a red arrow. The "Vehicle List" table shows one entry: "Copart:OH - Day 56073255 2008 BM535I WBANV93558C". Below the table are buttons for "Vehicle Done", "Delete", "Pull from CM", and "Add Vehicle". The "Vehicle Information" section includes fields for "Source", "COD", "Possession Date" (06/26/2025), and "From Business" (checked). The "Name" field contains "Copart:OH - Dayton", "Address" is "4444 BIDHIGH BLVD", "City/St/Zip" is "DAYTON OH 45439", and "Buyer" is "RACHELB". The "Vehicle Colors" configuration window is open, showing fields for "Prim Ext Color", "Prim Ext Color Code", "Sec Ext Color", "Sec Ext Color Code", "Prim Int Color", "Prim Int Color Code", "Sec Int Color", and "Sec Int Color Code". A red box highlights these fields. At the bottom of the interface are buttons for "Options", "Parts", "Export", and "Exit". A footer note states: "Partmate uses info that is ©2025 MOTOR Information Systems, a division of Hearst Business Media, Inc. All rights reserved. See [OEM/Other Copyright info.](#)"

Note: You must first enter a **Primary** color/code before you can enter a **Secondary** color/code. The **Secondary** color/code must be different from the **Primary** color/code.

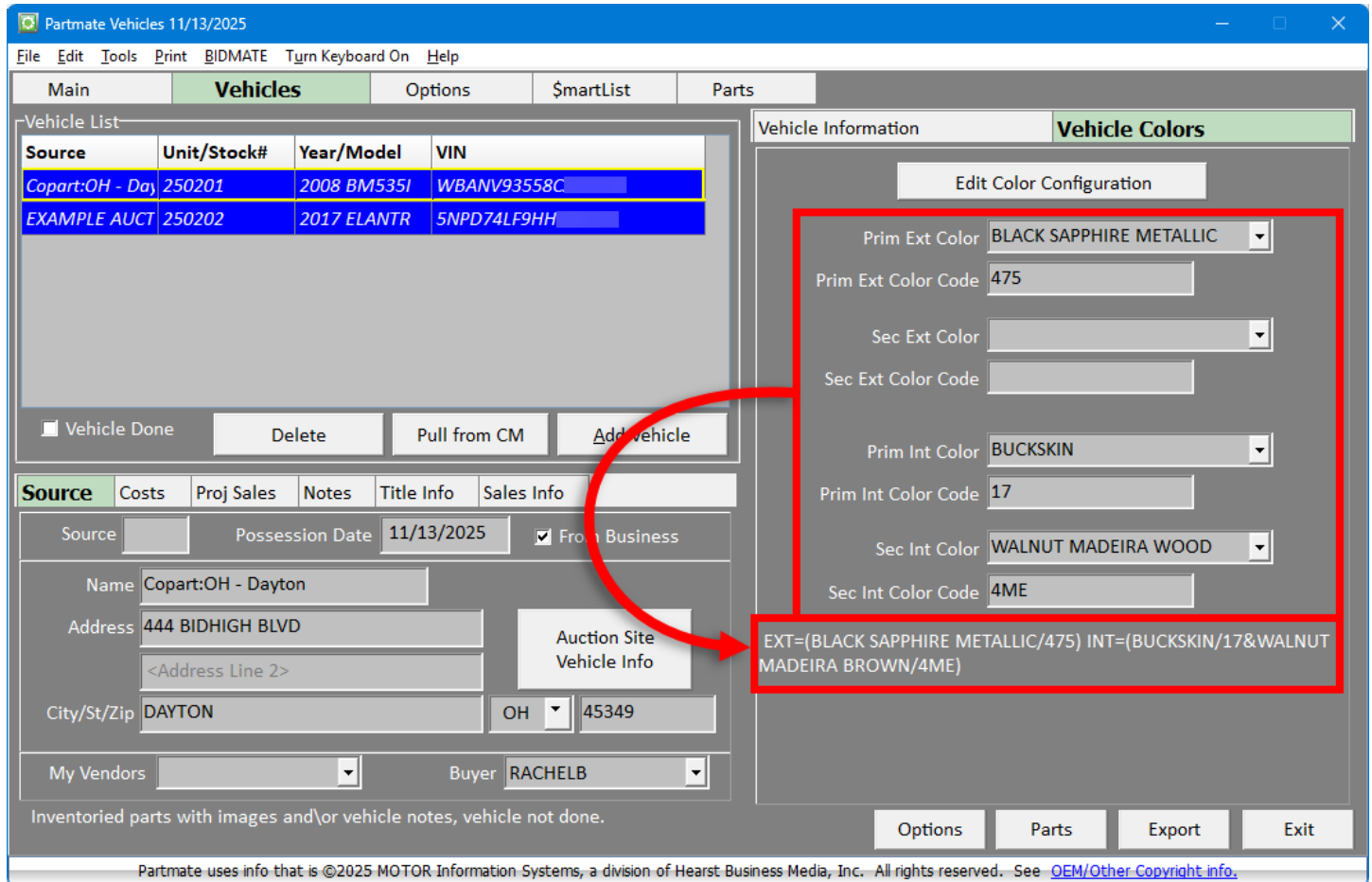
* You can customize the options that appear in the **Color** fields. (Refer to the [Customizing Color Configuration](#) section of this guide for more information.)

As you enter the colors and color codes, **EXTERIOR** and **INTERIOR** colors are displayed as:
EXT=(COLOR/CODE) or INT=(COLOR/CODE)

For example, this vehicle has 1 **EXTERIOR** color and 2 **INTERIOR** colors:

EXT=(BLACK SAPPHIRE METALLIC/475) INT=(BUCKSKIN/17&WALNUT MADEIRA WOOD/4ME)

This is the text that will be added to the vehicle description*.



* By default, colors/codes are added to the vehicle description and many parts automatically, but you can edit this configuration. For more information about customizing your configuration, refer to this section of the guide: [Customizing Color Configuration](#).

You can preview how the vehicle colors text will look in the vehicle **Description** on the **Vehicle Information** tab.*

The screenshot shows a software interface for vehicle information. The 'Vehicle Information' tab is active, and the 'Vehicle Colors' sub-tab is selected. The form contains several input fields: VIN (WBANV93558C), Stock # (250201), Model (BM535I), Year (2008), Mileage (155342), Pri Dmg (Old Car/Worn Out), Sec Dmg (<none>), Location (HOLD), Yard (999), Veh Category (Not Dismantled), and Part List (CAR/VAN WAREHOUSE). The 'Desc' field is highlighted with a red border and contains the text '50 EXT=(BLACK SAPPHIRE METALLIC/475) INT=(PORTLA'. The '50' is in a green box, indicating the character count.

The vehicle **Description** field now has a character counter letting you know how many characters are available in this field. If the character limit has been exceeded, the counter turns red and shows a negative number. **-23**

Note: Any configured vehicle **Options** will still automatically populate in the vehicle **Description** after you enter in the **Options**; however, if you use these new color features, **we recommend you no longer use vehicle Options fields** for colors. For more info, please refer to this section of the guide: [Important: Don't Add Colors/Codes in Vehicle Options Anymore!](#)

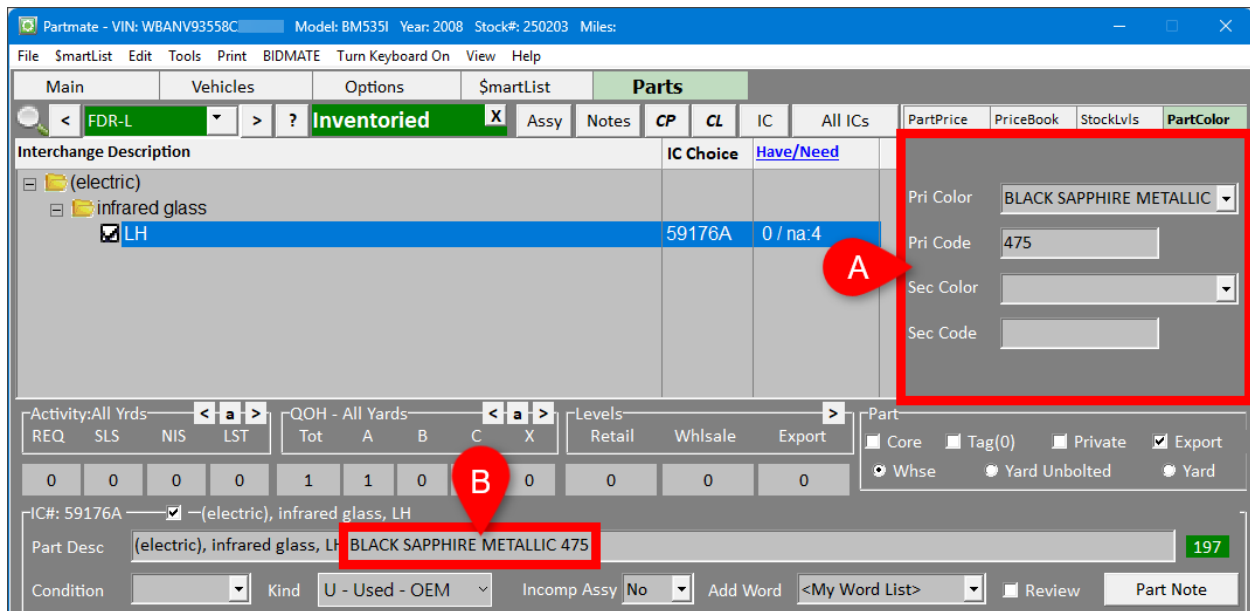
* You can edit your configuration to *not* add the vehicle colors to the AUT description (see the [Customizing Color Configuration](#) section of this guide for more info). If you do that, you can still add the colors to the vehicle description manually from the **Vehicle Colors** tab, by pressing a button that will appear to **Apply to Vehicle Description**.

Step 2: Vehicle Colors Automatically Applied to Parts

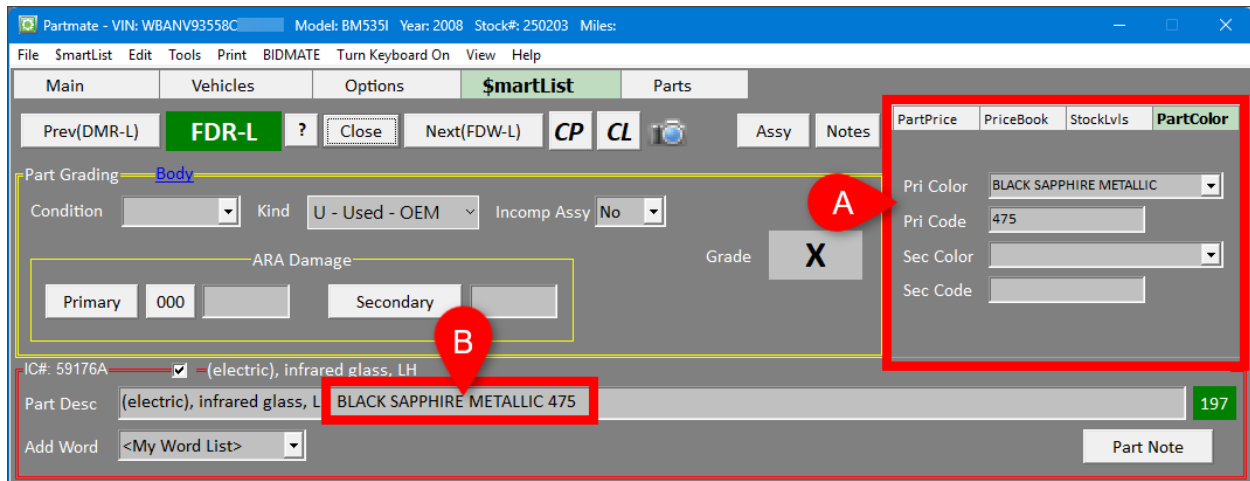
Now that you entered vehicle colors and codes on the new **Vehicle Colors** tab as described in **Step 1**, vehicle colors will be automatically applied to many parts as you inventory.*

The new color fields for parts are on the new **PartColor** tab, on both the **Parts** tab and **\$martList** tab.

- Parts tab:**



- \$martList tab:**



By default, many parts are already configured to have vehicle colors automatically applied to them.‡ For these parts, one or both of these things may happen:

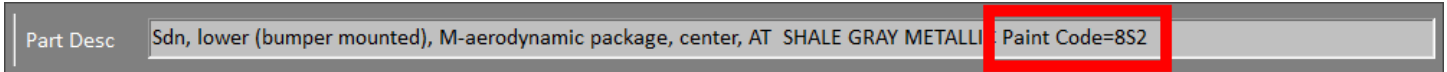
- Vehicle colors may be automatically populated in the new color/code fields for parts on the new **PartColor** tab.
- Vehicle colors may be automatically populated to the **Part Description**.

* You can edit which parts have colors automatically applied. For more information, refer to this section of the guide:

[Customizing Color Configuration](#)

Exterior parts will have the exterior color/code applied. Interior parts will have the interior color/code applied.*

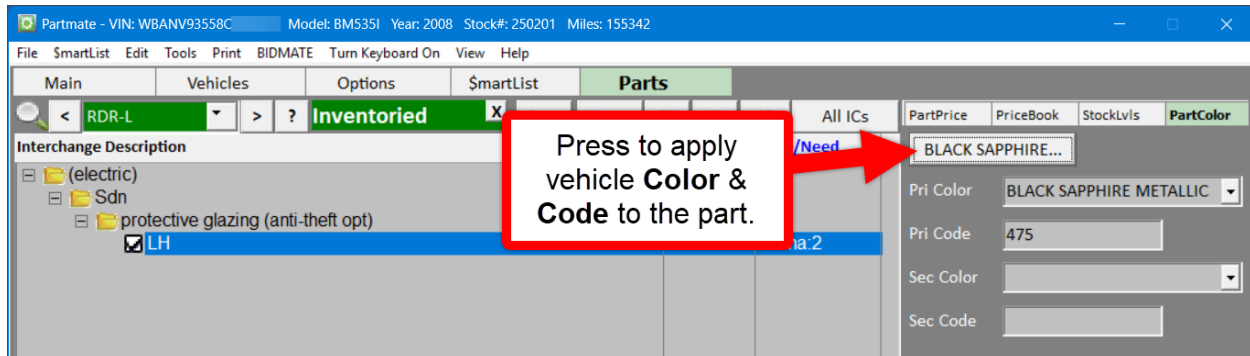
- Note:** If a color code is similar to an ARA damage code and the part is configured to have the color/code added to the part description, the text **Paint Code=** is automatically added before the paint code. This prevents both Checkmate and Car-Part.com from identifying the paint code as a damage code.



Cases When Colors Will Not Automatically Apply to Parts

In some cases, vehicle colors will *not* be automatically applied to parts.

- If a part is *not* configured to have vehicle colors applied, or if a part was already inventoried *before* you added vehicle colors, vehicle colors will *not* be automatically applied to that part. In these cases, a button showing the vehicle color will display at the top of the **PartColor** tab. Press it to manually apply the vehicle color/code to the part. (You can also manually select or type in a color/code.)

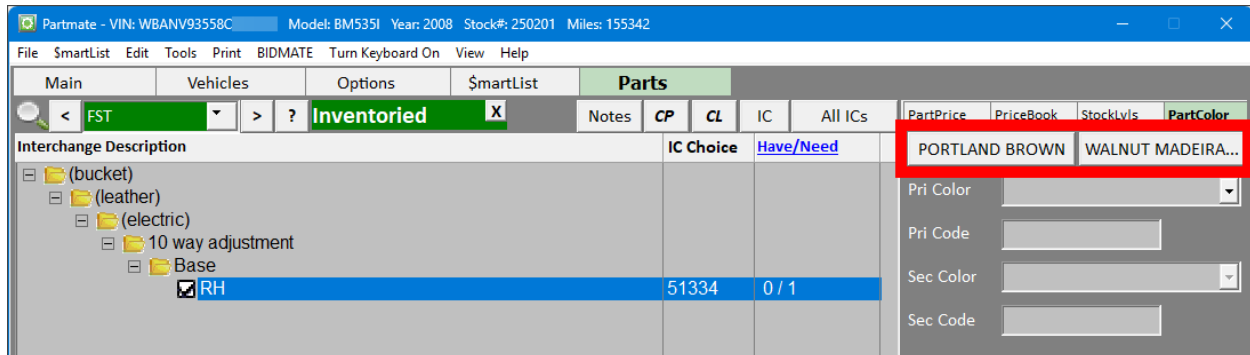


- If you entered both a primary *and* a secondary interior or exterior vehicle color/code, *neither* of the colors/codes will be applied to any parts because Partmate cannot be certain which of the colors is appropriate for this specific part.

* You can change whether a part is considered an interior or exterior part. For more information, refer to this section of the guide: [Customizing Color Configuration](#)

In these cases, the **PartColor** tab will display the 2 vehicle colors on 2 separate buttons.

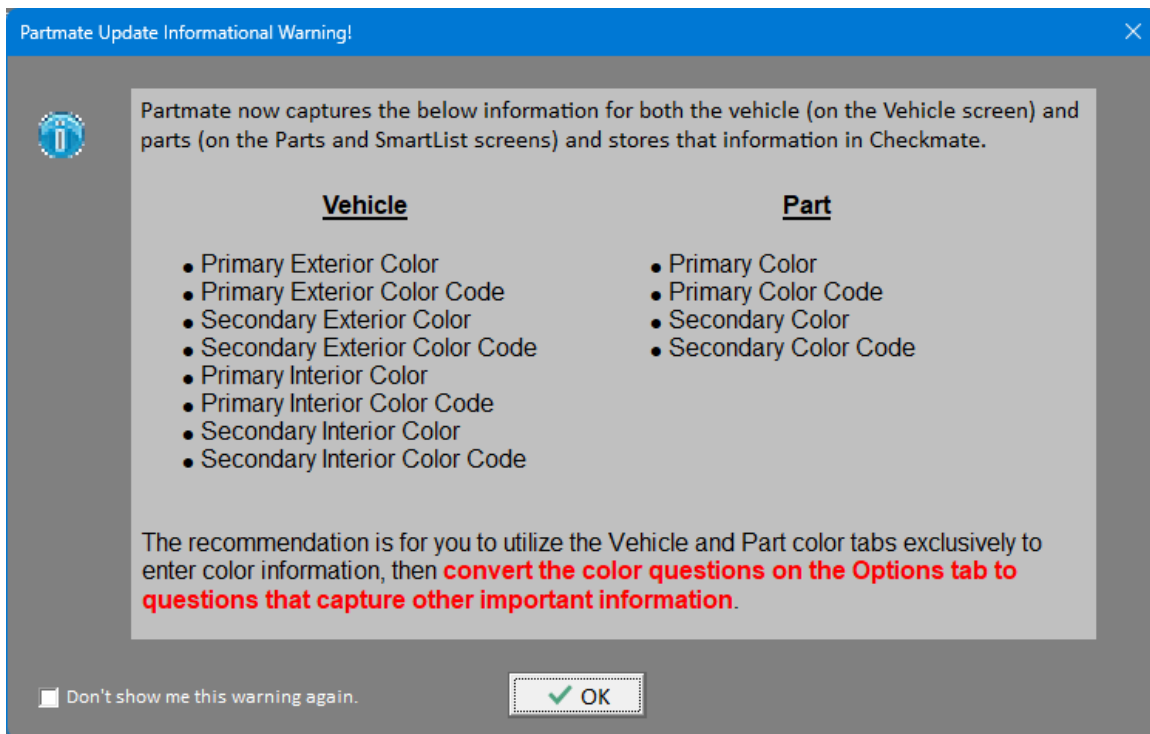
- Press one button to populate that color as the **Pri Color** and **Pri Code**.
- Press a second button to populate that color as the **Sec Color** and **Sec Code**.



Important: Don't Add Colors/Codes in Vehicle Options Anymore!

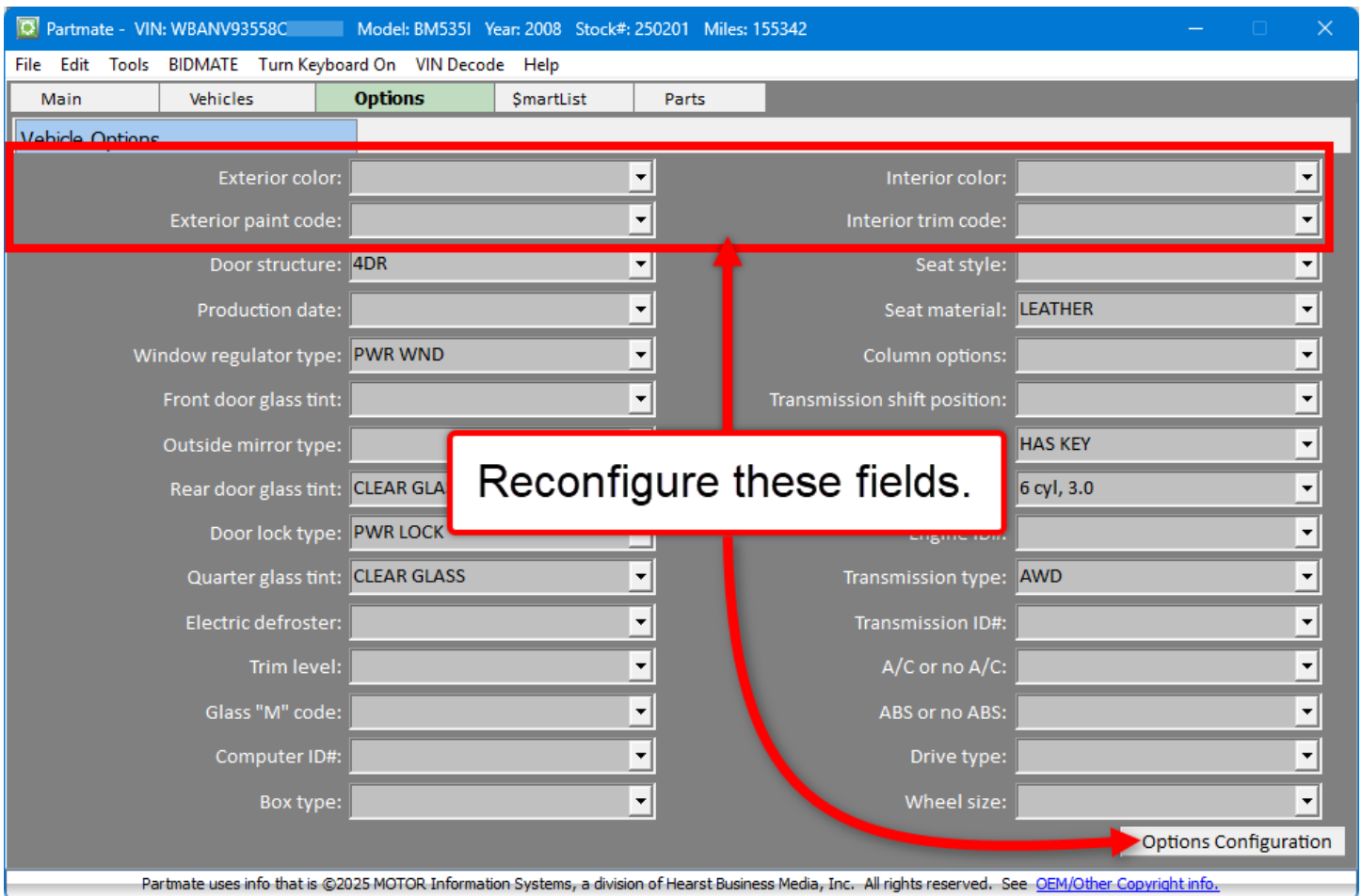
If you add vehicle colors and codes to the new fields on the **Vehicle Colors** tab (as described previously), be sure *not* to enter colors or codes in any fields on the vehicle **Options** tab that are configured for colors/codes. (This could result in the colors being added to your part/vehicle descriptions twice, depending on your configuration.)

When you open the **Options** tab, a message now displays recommending that you reconfigure color questions.



(After you reconfigure your color questions, the next time this message appears, check the box to **Don't show me this warning again.**)

If you have fields on the vehicle **Options** tab that are configured to select **Exterior** and **Interior colors** or **paint/trim codes**, we recommend you reconfigure these fields to use for *different* important vehicle options (driver assist, roof glass, or electric steering, etc.). To reconfigure your vehicle **Options** fields, press the **Options Configuration** button.

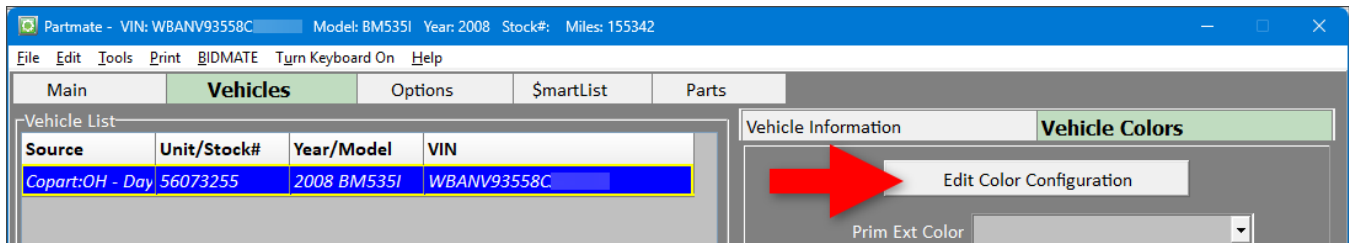


To learn more, refer to the **Default Vehicle Options** section of the Partmate User Guide which can be found on this page: <https://products.car-part.com/partmate/training.html?p=4>

Customizing Color Configuration

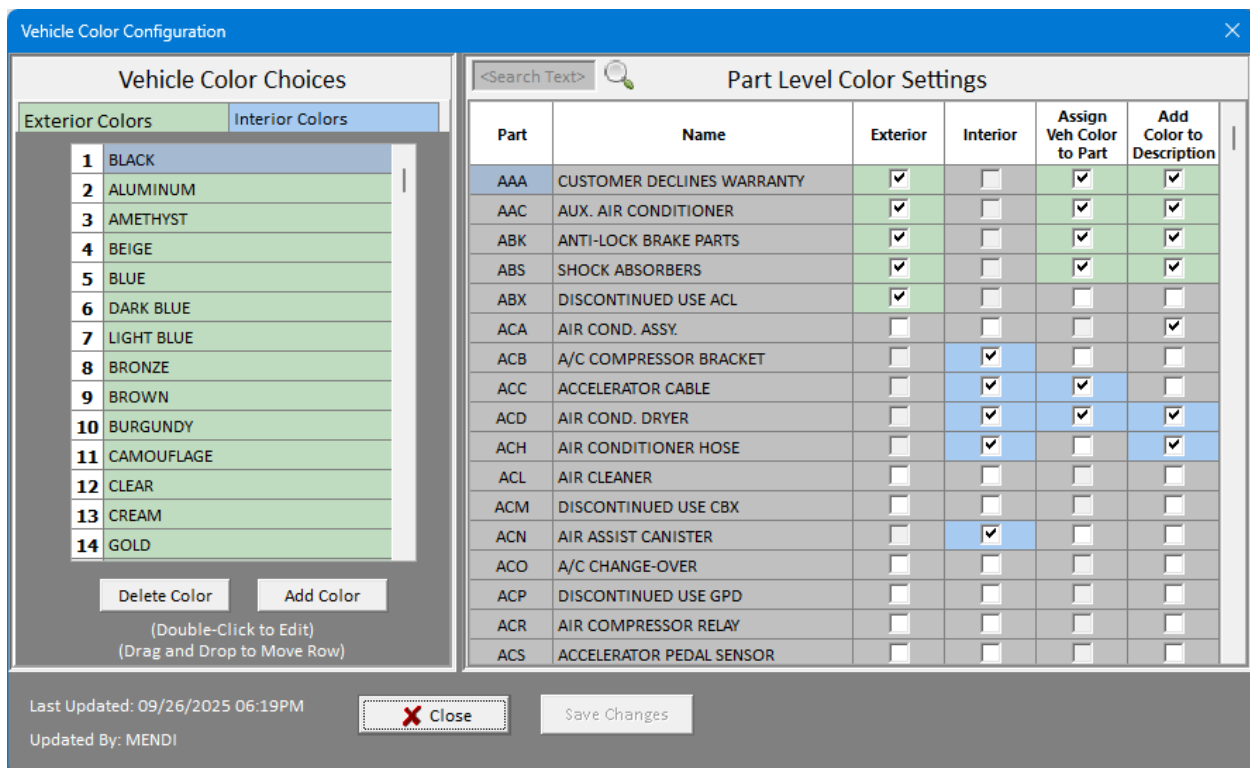
By default, Partmate is configured to automatically apply the colors/codes you enter on the **Vehicle Colors** tab to certain parts, but you can customize your configuration so that vehicle colors and codes are applied to parts exactly how you want.

To customize your color configuration, go to the **Vehicle Colors** tab, and press the **Edit Color Configuration** button (you must have an active Checkmate connection to access this).



The **Vehicle Color Configuration** window opens. The options on this window control several things:

- Which color options are available in the **Exterior** and **Interior Color** fields
- If a part is designated as **Exterior** or **Interior**
- Which parts should have the vehicle colors automatically assigned
- Which parts should have the color automatically added to the part description



When you're finished making changes on this window, press the **Save Changes** button.

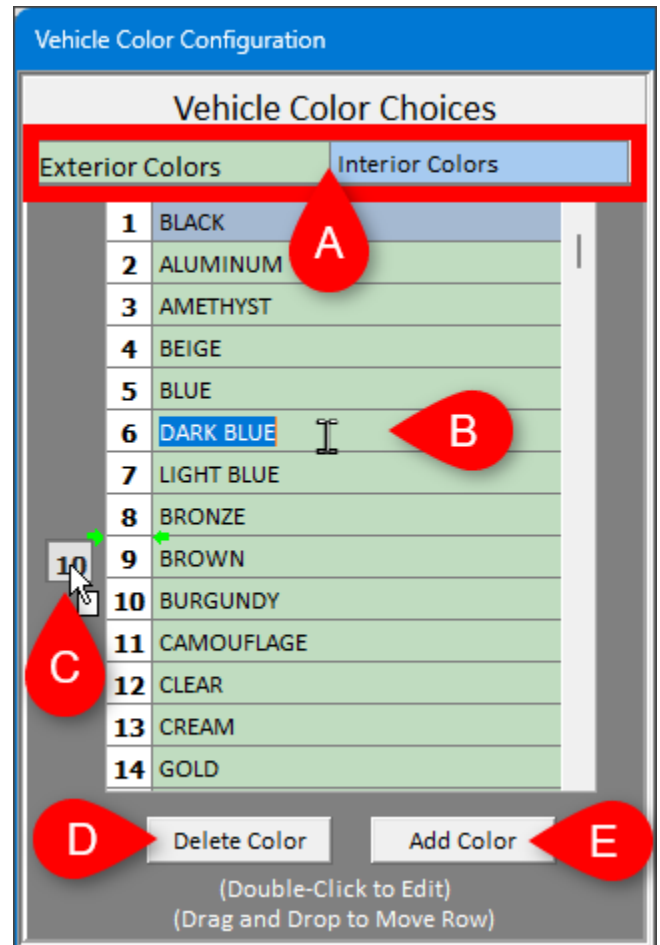
Customizing Vehicle Color Choices

On the left side of the **Vehicle Color Configuration** window is where you set which color options are available in Partmate's color fields.

The color options that are available in the **Exterior Colors** fields are on the Collision Industry Electronic Commerce Association (CIECA) OEM color list (these are the same default options you are used to seeing in the color fields on the vehicle **Options** tab). In addition, there is a **Clear** option and a **Multicolor** option.

You can change these options to be whatever you want.

- A. Select **Exterior Colors** or **Interior Colors**.
- B. To change an existing option, double-click (or double tap) on the option, then type your changes.
- C. The colors are in alphabetical order by default. To re-order them, click or tap and hold an option and drag it to the desired place in the list.
- D. To delete an option, select the option you want to delete, and then press **Delete Color**.
- E. To add a new option, press **Add Color**.



Customizing Part Level Color Settings

On the right side of the **Vehicle Colors Configuration** window is where you customize the part level settings for colors.

The **Part** code and part **Name** are listed in the middle of the window. For each part:

- A. Check the box to set the part as an **Exterior** or **Interior** part (only the AUT - Automobile Record can be set as both). If a part is configured to have the vehicle colors/codes applied to it, this option sets which color will be applied to the part (exterior color/code or interior color/code).
- B. **Assign Veh Color to Part**
Check this box if you want the vehicle color and code to be automatically assigned in the part's color fields when you inventory it. If this box is *not* checked, when you inventory this part, the part's color/code fields will remain blank, unless you manually fill them out.
- C. **Add Color to Description**
Check this box if you want the color and code for the part to be automatically added to the part's description when you inventory it. If this box is *not* checked, when you inventory this part type, there will be no colors applied to the part description. (This setting will not affect any vehicle **Options** you may have configured to add colors to part descriptions).

Vehicle Color Configuration

Vehicle Color Choices

Exterior Colors	Interior Colors
1 BLACK	
2 ALUMINUM	
3 AMETHYST	
4 BEIGE	
5 BLUE	
6 DARK BLUE	
7 LIGHT BLUE	
8 BRONZE	
9 BROWN	
10 BURGUNDY	
11 CAMOUFLAGE	
12 CLEAR	
13 CREAM	
14 GOLD	

Delete Color Add Color

(Double-Click to Edit)
(Drag and Drop to Move Row)

Part Level Color Settings

Part	Name	Exterior	Interior	Assign Veh Color to Part	Add Color to Description
AAA	CUSTOMER DECLINES WARRANTY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AAC	AUX. AIR CONDITIONER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ABK	ANTI-LOCK BRAKE PARTS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ABS	SHOCK ABSORBERS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ABX	DISCONTINUED USE ACL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACA	AIR COND. ASSY.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACB	A/C COMPRESSOR BRACKET	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACC	ACCELERATOR CABLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACD	AIR COND. DRYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACH	AIR CONDITIONER HOSE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACL	AIR CLEANER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACM	DISCONTINUED USE CBX	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACN	AIR ASSIST CANISTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACO	A/C CHANGE-OVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACP	DISCONTINUED USE GPD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACR	AIR COMPRESSOR RELAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACS	ACCELERATOR PEDAL SENSOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Last Updated: 09/26/2025 06:19PM
Updated By: MENDI

Close Save Changes

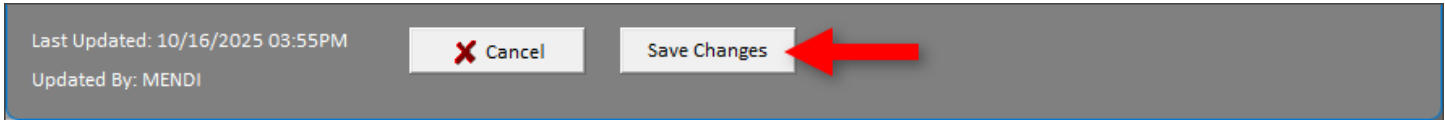
Callouts: A (points to ACC row), B (points to Assign Veh Color to Part column), C (points to Add Color to Description column)

Note: If a part is not designated as either an interior or exterior part, then the exterior color will be available to apply to the part with a button.

Saving and Sharing the Partmate Color Configuration

After editing the color configuration, press **Save Changes**.

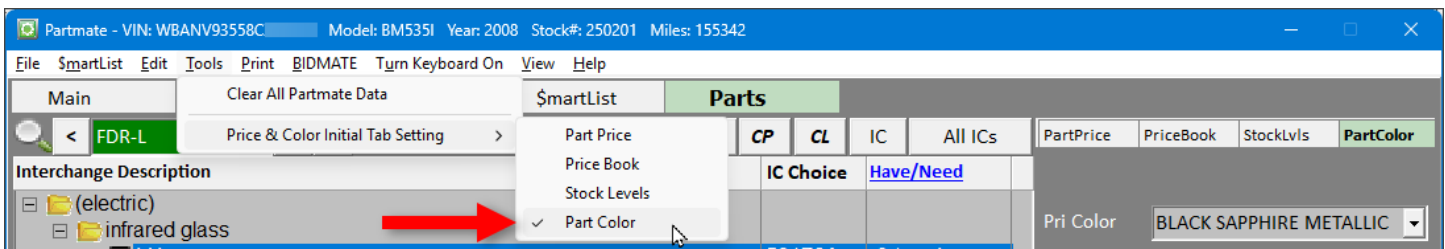
In the lower left-hand corner of the **Vehicle Color Configuration** window, you can see the last date/time this configuration was updated, and the user who updated it.



Your color configuration is stored as part of your Checkmate Recycler Data. (You can't edit your Partmate color configuration in Checkmate, it is stored there so you can easily sync the color settings on other connected Partmate devices). To sync the color settings on another Partmate device: on that device's Partmate home screen, go to **File > Import > Checkmate Recycler Data > Import**

(Optional) Setting the Part Color Tab as the Default Initial Tab

If desired, you can set the new **Part Colors** tab as the tab that displays by default when you first access the **Parts** or **\$martList** tabs. To do this, go to **Tools > Price & Color Initial Tab Setting** and select **Part Color**.



Vehicle and Part Colors/Codes in Checkmate

Vehicle and part colors are transferred to Checkmate when you export the vehicle from Partmate.

You can see vehicle colors in Inventory Pro when editing a vehicle (on the **Vehicle - Edit** tab, **General** tab):

The screenshot shows the 'Vehicle - Edit' form in Inventory Pro. The 'General' tab is active, and the 'Exterior Color' and 'Interior Color' sections are highlighted with a red box. The 'Exterior Color' section shows 'BLACK SAPPHIRE' with code '475'. The 'Interior Color' section shows 'PORTLAND BROW' with code '4ME' and 'WALNUT MADEIRA' with code '4ME'. The 'Description' field contains: '4DR, HAS KEY, 6 CYL, 3.0, AWD, EXT=(BLACK SAPPHIRE METALLIC/475) INT=(PORTLAND BROWN&WALNUT MADEIRA WOOD/4ME)'. The 'Total Cost' table shows a total of \$5863.00, and the 'Projected Sales' table shows a total of \$0.00.

Category	Value
Total Cost	\$5863.00
Bid Amount	\$4700.00
Auction Fees	\$625.00
Buyer Fees	\$0.00
Internet Fees	\$99.00
Tow Fees	\$90.00
Dismantler Cost	\$260.00
Storage Fees	\$0.00
Pullout Fees	\$79.00
Misc. Fees	\$10.00
Projected Sales	\$0.00
BM Projected Sales	\$9088.00
PM Projected Sales	\$6755.00
Vehicle Weight	3946
Scrap Amount	\$0.00
Part Sales	\$0.00
CAT Amount	\$0.00
Core Amount	\$0.00
Credits>Returns	\$0.00
Adjustments	\$0.00
Total Sales	\$0.00

You can see part colors when editing a part (on the **Part - Edit** tab, **Notes** tab)

The screenshot shows the 'Part - Edit' form in Inventory Pro. The 'Notes' tab is active, and the 'Colors' section is highlighted with a red box. The 'Colors' section shows 'Primary Color' as 'BLACK SAPPHIRE METALI' with code '475'. The 'Description' field contains: '(electric), infrared glass, LH, 4DR, PWR WND, PWR LOCK, COLOR(BLACK SAPPHIRE METALLIC/475)'. The 'List Price' is \$1,970.00.

Local	Region	Global	Requests	Sales	Avg Days Sold	List Price	Avg Sales	Not in Stock	Lost	Qty	Avg Days QOH
0	0	0	0	0		\$1,970.00	0	0	0	0	

Soon, vehicle and part colors will be searchable in Checkmate and on Car-Part.com. Additionally, in search results in Checkmate Sales Pro and Inventory Pro there will soon be information columns for vehicle and part colors, making it as easy as possible to locate parts by color.

Getting Help

For more information about this product, including access to online training videos and documentation, visit Products.Car-Part.com for our recycler resources.

Car-Part.com takes customer service seriously. We have a variety of support options available to help you if you have questions about our products or if you need help for any reason. Your questions are very important to us and we want your experience to be a positive one. Please contact us with any questions or concerns using any of the following methods.

Phone Support

If you have a question not covered in this guide, Car-Part.com offers phone support. Please call 859-344-1925 with your questions.

Online Support using Car-Part Messaging (iCPM)

Support technicians are available online using Car-Part Messaging (iCPM) support rooms. These technicians are available LIVE to help answer any questions you may have.

The support rooms are staffed Monday–Friday, 8:00AM–6:00 PM Eastern Time.

To enter an iCPM support room:

1. Double-click the **iCPM** icon on your desktop.



2. **Car-Part Messaging** opens.
3. Double-click the name of the **Support Room** from your bookmark list.
4. Type **HELP** and a brief explanation of your issue. A Car-Part.com support technician will answer and help with your issue.

Training

If you have ongoing training needs, Car-Part.com has a team of product training specialists to help you learn how to use our products quickly. If you are interested in product training, please call our training department at 859-344-1925 and a trainer in your area will call to schedule training.

Comments

We welcome your comments and suggestions concerning the content and organization of this guide as well as the accuracy and the usability of the instructions it contains. Email us at documentation@car-part.com. We're listening!

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