

New Features: Major Upgrade to Vehicle and Part Colors

In this release of Partmate, the vehicle and part colors feature has received a major upgrade!

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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!)

You 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). What's more, Partmate will populate colors automatically (according to your configuration), so inventorying parts with the color name and code takes *very* little extra time.

Keep reading to see how it works!



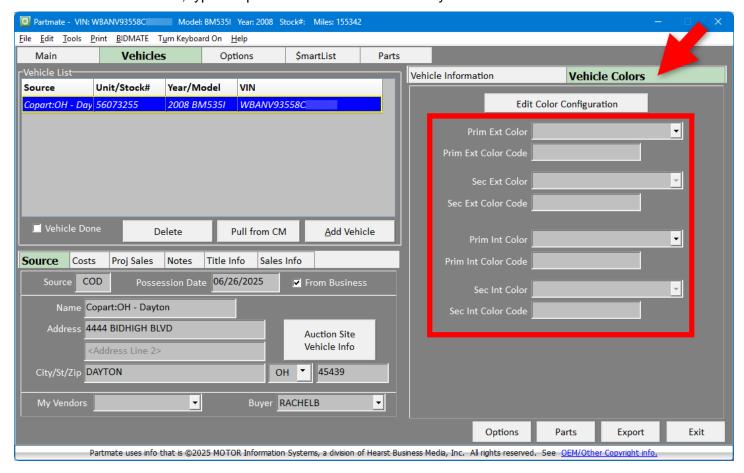
Step 1: Set Vehicle Colors When Adding Vehicle Information

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 **Prim**ary **Color** and **Code**, and a **Sec**ondary **Color** and **Code**, for both the **Ext**erior and **Int**erior 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.



⚠ Note:

You must first enter a **Prim**ary color/code before you can enter a **Sec**ondary color/code. The **Sec**ondary color/code must be different from the **Prim**ary 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.)

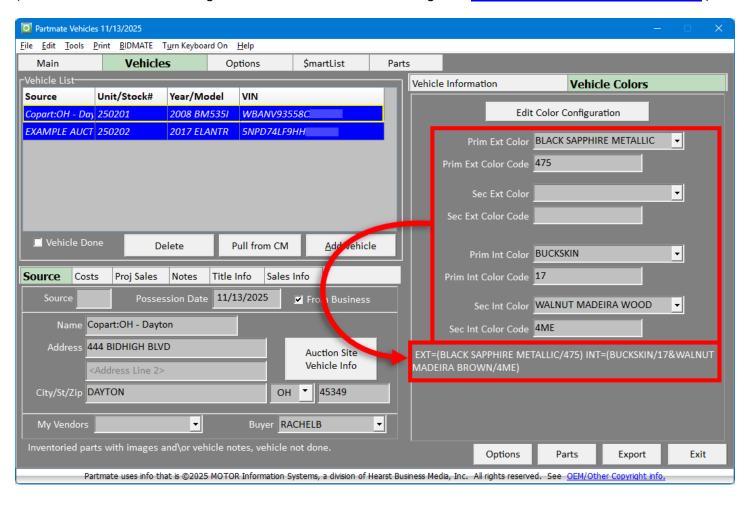
As you enter the colors and color codes, **EXT**ERIOR and **INT**ERIOR colors are displayed as: EXT=(COLOR/CODE) or INT=(COLOR/CODE)

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

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

If your Partmate is configured to add colors/codes to the vehicle and/or part descriptions, this is the text that will be added.

(More information about configuration can be found later in this guide: Customizing Color Configuration.)

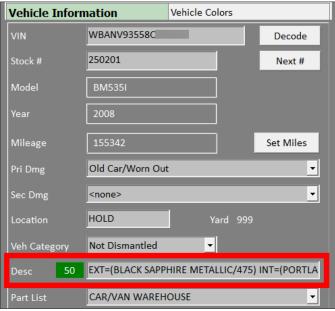


- By default, the AUT (automobile record) is configured to have the vehicle colors text added to the vehicle **Description** (see this on the Vehicle Information tab).
- If you have configured your system to not add the vehicle colors added to the AUT description, you can still add the colors to the vehicle description manually from the Vehicle Colors tab, by pressing a button that will appear to Apply to **Vehicle Description.**



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.



Note: If Partmate is configured to add information from the vehicle **Options** to the vehicle description, that information will be inserted at the beginning of the description, in front of any vehicle colors that have already been populated:



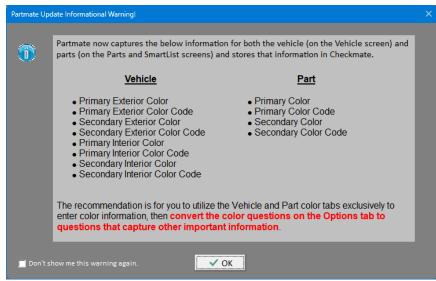
Step 2: Don't Add Colors/Codes in Vehicle Options Anymore!

If you add vehicle colors and codes to the new fields on the Vehicle Colors tab (as described in the previous step), be sure not to enter colors or codes in any fields on the vehicle Options tab that are configured for

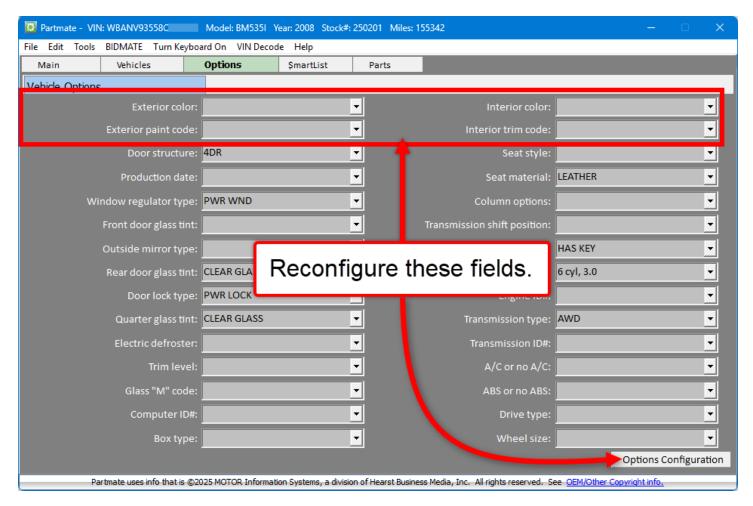
colors/codes. (This could result in the colors being added to your part/vehicle descriptions twice, depending on your configuration.)

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.



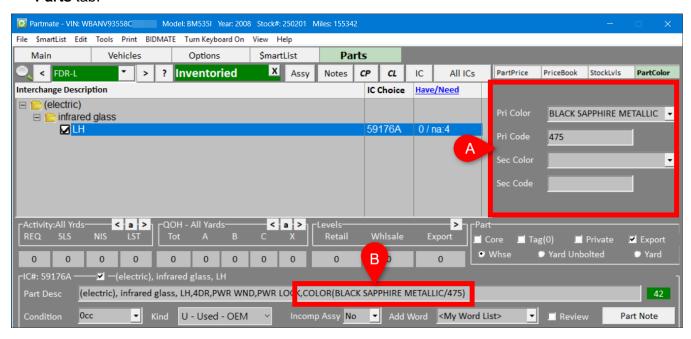
To learn more, refer to the **Default Vehicle Options** section of the Partmate User Guide which can be found on this page: https://products.car-part.com/partmate/training.html?p=4

Step 3: Vehicle Colors Automatically Applied to Parts

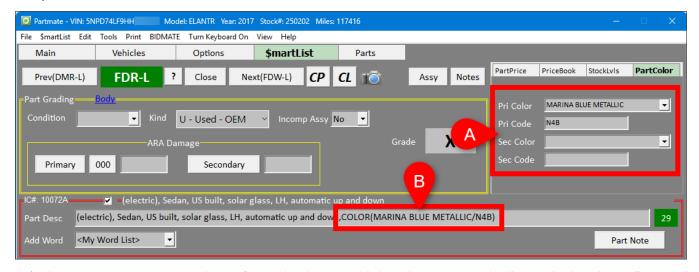
Now that you entered vehicle colors and codes on the new **Vehicle Colors** tab as described in **Step 1**, vehicle colors will be automatically applied as you inventory parts (to the parts that are configured to have colors applied).

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. Depending on how a part is configured, one or both of these things may happen:

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

Parts that are configured as exterior parts will have the exterior color/code applied. Parts that are configured as interior parts will have the interior color/code applied.



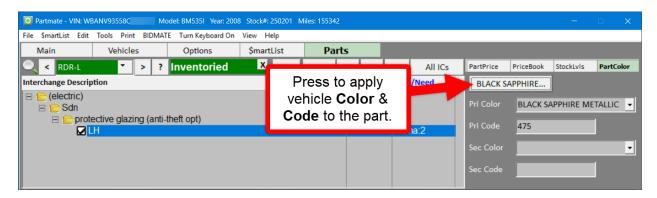
If a color code is similar to an ARA damage code and the part is configured to have the color/code added to the part description, the text **Paint Code=** is automatically added before the paint code. This prevents both Checkmate and Car-Part.com from identifying the paint code as a damage code.



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.)

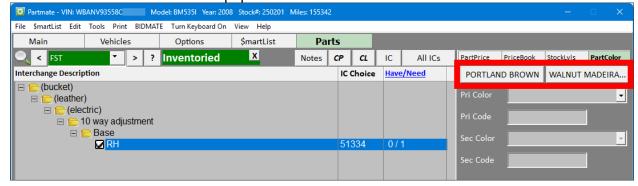


If you entered both a primary and a secondary interior or exterior vehicle color/code, neither of the
colors/codes will be applied to any parts because Partmate cannot be certain which of the colors is
appropriate for this specific part.

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

Press one button to populate that color in the Pri Color and Pri Code

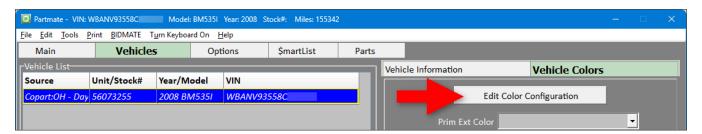




Customizing Color Configuration

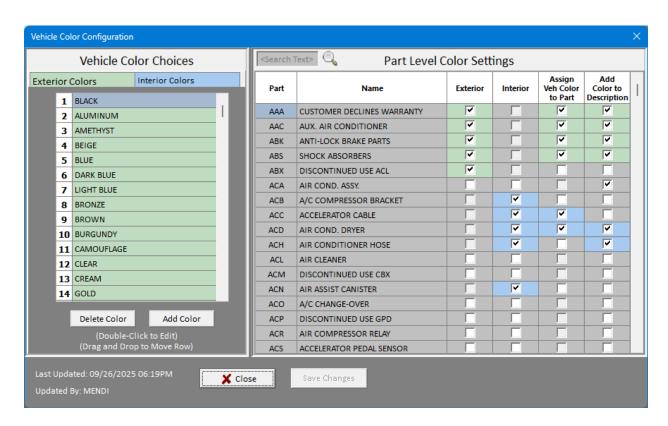
By default, Partmate is configured to automatically apply the colors/codes you enter on the **Vehicle Colors** tab to certain parts, but you can customize your configuration so that vehicle colors and codes are applied to parts exactly how you want.

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.

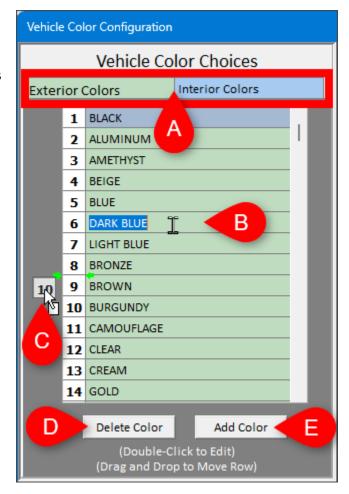
Customizing Vehicle Color Choices

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:

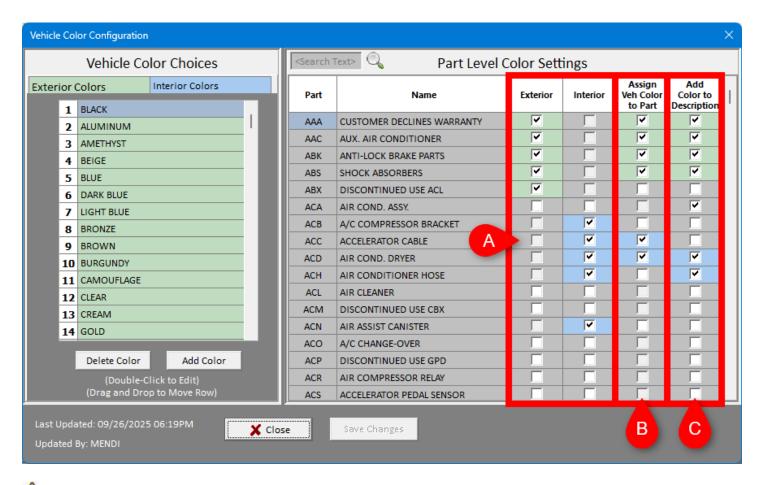
A. Check the box to set the part as an **Exterior** or **Interior** part (only the AUT - Automobile Record can be set as both). If a part is configured to have the vehicle colors/codes applied to it, this option sets which color will be applied to the part (exterior color/code or interior color/code).

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).



Mote:

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.

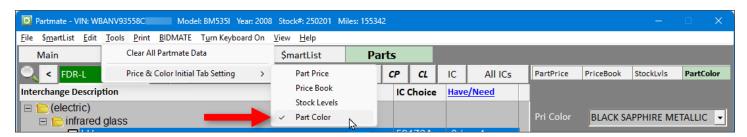
In the lower left-hand corner of the **Vehicle Color Configuration** window, you can see the last date/time this configuration was updated, and the user who updated it.



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

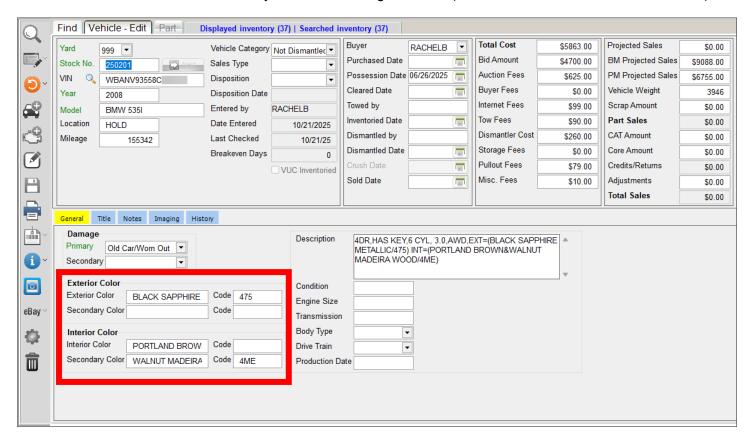
If desired, you can set the new **Part Colors** tab as the tab that displays by default when you first access the **Parts** or **\$\text{martList}\$** tabs. To do this, go to **Tools > Price & Color Initial Tab Setting** and select **Part Color**.



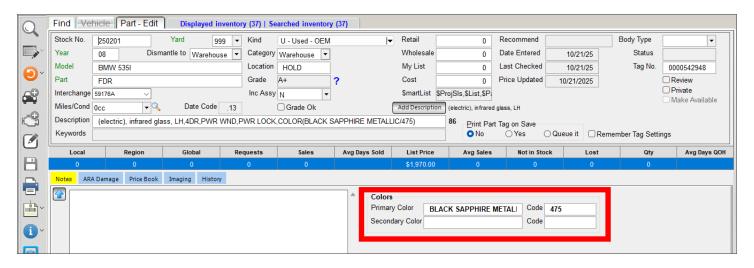
Vehicle and Part Colors/Codes in Checkmate

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):



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



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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