

If you have a factory installed water trap installed on your compressor, we need to remove it, we may use it again later. Then, coming off of the compressor, we need to install at least 25 feet of metal line, either galvanized or copper. In order to provide enough cubic feet per minute of usable air, you should use line sizes of at least 1/2" national pipe (these will measure about 3/4 of an inch outside diameter). A shop with many users will have 3/4" to 1".

As air is compressed it heats up and the moisture in turns to a gas. Most moisture traps are designed to remove liquid moisture, so we must allow the air to cool for at least 25 feet so that this moisture can turn back to a liquid. Then it can be captured in a moisture trap. We will want the line slanted away from the compressor, so that the excess water will flow away from the compressor. Then put a drop on the end of the line, with a valve, so that you can empty the lines frequently. You want to catch all the liquid moisture that you can, even if you have a dessicant filter (which is made to take out the moisture vapor) because you will use up your expensive dessicant in the filter if you don't take out the liquid moisture first. Then put on a quality water trap made to handle 15-20 CFM of air. That way you don't restrict the flow of air.

Below you will see an illustration of our recommended air piping layout, provided to us by the Sharpe spray gun company.

Air Piping Layout

Shop Air Piping Layout Diagrams

As we all know, compressed air is a key element in everything we do in the shop. And the quality of the paint job on refinishing work is affected by the quality of the compressed air we use. The quality of our compressed air is also effected by how our air delivery lines are laid out in our shops. The following two diagrams will show you a very good layout for shop air piping. I have also provided links so you may download these diagrams to your hard drive in Adobe PDF format where you can then print for future reference. A good piping layout, along with Sharpe's full line of clean, dry air equipment, will save you from many problems and help you get the clean, quality compressed air you need to perform professional refinishing work.

Air Line Setup

