The inscription, border and other design features on a cast bronze plaque are raised above the background surface. This background surface is painted or patinated to provide a contrast to the raised elements which are usually finished or polished metallic bronze.

> **Painting Process**
The paint used at Phoenix Foundry is a high quality baked enamel sprayed on the plaques in a painting booth. The techniques used are similar to car body painting.

> **Paint Colours**
While any colour can be selected, the standard background colour for our plaques is either Phoenix Brown (Code XX) or Dark Brown (Code DB). Other colours that are in common use are shown, as cast with a stipple surface texture, on the colour swatch plaque below.

> **Patina**
Patina is defined as a film or encrustation caused by oxidation of old bronze. In nature this occurs over a long period of time and can result in a variety of interesting colours usually green. With the use of a variety of chemicals and processes carried out in our factory, the outcome can be accelerated and controlled. The process, called patination, can produce an interesting range of patinas giving a more natural appearance to the plaque. They are often selected for historical or artistic work. At Phoenix, we offer a brown patina that provides a truly beautiful, timeless finish.

> **Paint Colour Matching**
Phoenix Foundry can apply any colour. Customers requesting other than the Phoenix standards can choose from any "Australian standard colour". These can be found at:

> **cast bronze plaques and artistic castings**