



Update 10.04.2020

Looking after your car's paintwork...

We thought it would be nice to share some of our experience here at Fleetline and maybe give the guys, or gals something to have fun with (and do at home) as the weather steadily improves...

Washing the car Step 4 – Drying and Finishing

The simple act of drying your car after you've washed it might not seem like a terribly important one, but, believe us, it is more important than you might think.

You see, washing and drying your car on a regular basis is the one car maintenance activity that offers the most benefit to the aesthetics of your vehicle. If you want to maintain your car's resale value and keep the paintwork looking as good as new, you'll pay attention to how you dry it. Water that is usually used for washing contains natural minerals, and those don't simply evaporate when you let your vehicle air dry. Sure, your car will eventually be dry, after all the water evaporates, but those minerals will leave a trace.

You will see spots, deposits, and streaks that will make your car look even worse than it did before you washed it. If your car's paintwork is dark, this will be even more noticeable. Even worse, in some areas, these mineral deposits in water can also harm your car's paintwork, because some of those deposits can degrade the paint over time.

Microfiber drying towels are the key to drying your car quickly, and without leaving any streaks. Just dampen the towel lightly before you start. Start with the roof, go over flat surfaces, and then move on to cracks and crevices. It will not scratch or leave swirl marks on your car, they are amazingly absorbent, and have no lint. If you're looking for a budget option, [Chemical Guys microfiber towels](#) are about as good as it gets.



Cleaning the glass

Save your windows for last. When cleaning your car, you should always save your windows to last to prevent yourself from having to do more work. You can prevent contaminating your windows with smudges and grime by cleaning the rest of your car before you clean your windows.

Pull your car into the shade. Car bodies absorb heat quickly, and sitting in the sun, your car might feel hot to the touch. If this is the case for your car, you'll need to park it in an area with shade and wait until the outside of your car feels cool. If your car is too hot, it can cause cleaner or water that you use to evaporate too quickly for you to clean the window.

Wipe windows, from the top to bottom. You may want to take your cloth and run it along the outside edges of the window first, to clean any build up that has occurred along the seams of the window. After cleaning edges and corners, wet or re-wet the main surface of your side window and wipe it with opposite direction strokes from how you wipe on the inside. A great product to use for this is [Autoglym Fast Glass](#) and perhaps have an additional smaller microfibre cloth for this important part of the process

So that's the 'keeping the car clean' part of looking after your car's paintwork. There's a world of protection, coatings, polishes for your car's paintwork, wheels, chrome, glass and whatever else rocks your boat... We'll come back to this in a week or two, watch this space

This is a difficult time for everybody, and as we're open supporting critical services to stay on the road. We are here for everyone, Stay Safe

The Fleetline Team

