

LAST UPDATED 2025

AFTERCARE & CLEANING

WASHING

LOOKING AFTER YOUR WRAP OR PPF IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE AFTERCARE OF YOUR VEHICLE, ESPECIALLY IF YOU WANT TO KEEP IT LOOKING SHARP, VIBRANT AND DAMAGE-FREE FOR THE LONG TERM. WHETHER YOU'VE INVESTED IN A FULL COLOUR CHANGE, BRANDED VAN GRAPHICS, OR A COMMERCIAL WRAP, KNOWING HOW TO CARE FOR THE VEHICLE WRAP THE RIGHT WAY WILL PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT AND MAINTAIN THAT EYE-CATCHING FINISH FOR YEARS TO COME.

BELLOW WE WILL HELP GUIDE YOU TO CREATE A CLEANING ROUTINE WITH SAFE WASHING TECHNIQUES, TO ADVISED PRODUCTS AND WEATHER PROTECTION TIPS... WHILE AVOIDING THE MOST COMMON MISTAKES THAT CAN SHORTEN ITS LIFESPAN OR DAMAGE THE SURFACE.

WHY PROPER WRAP CARE MATTERS:

A VEHICLE WRAP IS MORE THAN JUST A COLOUR CHANGE... IT'S A PREMIUM INVESTMENT OF YOUR CAR OR VAN'S APPEARANCE AND BRANDING. BUT UNLIKE STANDARD CAR PAINT, VINYL WRAPS REQUIRE A MORE REFINED AFTERCARE TECHNIQUE TO KEEP THEM LOOKING THEIR BEST. REGULAR CLEANING IS CRUCIAL TO PRESERVE ITS BOLD COLOURS AND AVOID ISSUES LIKE EDGE LIFTING, DEGRADATION OR VINYL CRACKING.

NEGLECTING YOUR WRAP CAN CAUSE PREMATURE FADING, CRACKING, LIFTING AT THE EDGES AND EVEN PERMANENT DAMAGE TO THE VINYL.

HAND WASHING IS BEST:

WASHING IS BY FAR THE BEST AND MOST ADVISED METHOD GIVING YOU FULL CONTROL AND HELPING TO PRESERVE THE FLAWLESS FINISH. UNLIKE AUTOMATIC CAR WASHES USING ABRASIVE BRUSHES AND ROLLERS, WITH HIGH-PRESSURE JETS THAT CAUSE VINYL EDGES TO LIFT, CREASE, OR SCUFF - OF YOUR WRAP.

REGULAR, GENTLE HAND WASHING USING THE RIGHT PRODUCTS AND TECHNIQUES IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT STEPS IN LONG-TERM VEHICLE WRAP MAINTENANCE.

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

BELLOW IS OUR STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO SAFELY HAND WASHING A VINYL-WRAPPED CAR, VAN OR FLEET VEHICLE. FIRSTLY, SORT YOUR CLEANING ARE AND PREPARE THE FOLLOWING:

- CLEAN WATER SUPPLY TO USE IN YOUR BUCKET WASH AND RINSE - ALSO NEEDED FOR YOUR PRESSURE WASHER (PLEASE SEE NOTES**)
- PH NEUTRAL SHAMPOO AND SNOWFOAM IF NEEDED.
- PREWASH CLEANER - WRAP SAFE
- QUICK DETAILER OR SPRAY SEALER
- MICROFIBRE WASH MITT OR SPONGE
- MICROFIBRE DRYING TOWEL
- SEPARATE MICROFIBRE CLOTHS FOR DETAILING AND FINISHING.

NOW WE ARE READY.....





THE PROCESS

1. RINSE THE WRAP WITH CLEAN WATER TO REMOVE LOOSE DIRT. EITHER FROM THE HOSE OR USE YOUR PRESSURE WASHER IF REQUIRED.
2. AT THIS POINT YOU CAN POTENTIALLY APPLY A SAFE PREWASH PRODUCT IN PLACES TO HELP AID THE INITIAL PRE-CONTACT WASH STAGE OF THE CLEANING PROCESS. BUT TAKE CARE TO FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURERS GUIDELINES AND ALSO THE AMOUNT OF TIME LEFT BEFORE RINISING OFF. IF LEFT TO LONG THIS COULD EFFECT THE WRAP AND EVEN CREEP UNDER THE EDGE POTENTIALLY EFFECTING THE GLUE. IF UNSURE, PLEASE ASK OR LEAVE THIS STEP OUT OF THE PROCESS.
3. RINSE THE ABOVE IF USED, IF NOT SKIP TO NUMBER 4.
4. APPLY YOUR PH NEUTRAL SNOW FORM USING A LANCE IF YOU HAVE ONE, AGAIN IF NOT OR NOT REQUIRED SKIP TO THE CONTACT WASH STAGE ON **NUMBER 5** ONWARDS. IF APPLIED, LET THIS DWELL AND WORK ITS MAGIC ON THE VEHICLE WHILE YOU PREPARE YOUR BUCKETS IN STAGE **NUMBER 5**.
5. PREPARE YOUR SHAMPOO CLEANING SOLUTION IN A WASH BUCKET FOLLOWING THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS. WE ADVISE USING A 2 BUCKET WASH METHOD (1X WASH / 1X RINSE) WITH GRIT GUARDS IF POSSIBLE AND ALSO USE A SEPARATE BUCKET FOR YOUR WHEELS.
6. RINSE SNOWFORM IF APPLIED.
7. NOW THE CONTACT WASH STAGE...WE DO THE WHEELS SEPARATELY TO AVOID CONTAMINATION BUT THIS IS FOCUSING ON THE WRAP SOE SO WILL BE MOVING AHEAD WITH THIS STAGE. USING YOUR WASH BUCKET AND THE MICROFIBRE MITT, SUDD UP THE MITT AND GENTLY WASH THE WRAP FROM TOP TO BOTTOM, 1 PANEL AT A TIME AND DON'T SCRUB! ONCE AT THE BOTTOM TRANSFER TO THE RINSE BUCKET AND RINSE OUT...THIS AIMS TO GET ALL THE DIRT, GRIT AND PARTICLES PICKED UP IN THE MITT AWAY FROM VEHICLE WRAP AND ALSO THE CLEAN WASH BUCKET.
8. RING THE MITT OUT AND THEN BACK IN THE CLEAN WASH BUCKET AND ONTO THE NEXT PANEL....REPEAT THIS PROCESS THROUGHOUT.
9. RINSE EACH SECTION IF NEEDED TO AVOID SPOTTING BUT ONCE YOU HAVE THE KNACK OF THE PROCESS AND AS LONG AS NOT IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT ON A SUMMERS DAY YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO COMPLETE A FULL CONTACT WASH BEFORE RINISING IF NEEDED.
10. RINSE THE VEHICLE, YOU CAN USE A HOSE IF YOU HAVE GOOD MAINS PRESSURE OR THE ALTERNATE IS A PRESSURE WASHER (SEE NOTES BELOW**)... WE A PRESSURE WASHER ON OUR VEHICLES BUT YOU MUST REMAIN CAUTIOUS, DO NOT OPERATE THE WASHER CLOSE TO THE WRAP / PPF.
11. ONCE RINSED, USE AN ABSORBENT SOFT MICROFIBRE DRYING TOWEL WORKING A PANEL / SIDE AT A TIME TO DRY THE WRAP. SOME PEOPLE DO ALSO USE A DETAILER AT THIS STAGE BY SPRAYING ON THE PANEL TO HELP THE TOWEL GLIDE...IT ALSO ADDS AN ELEMENT OF FINISHING PROTECTION AT THE SAME TIME BUT NOT NECESSARY.
12. FINALLY ONCE DRIED, YOU CAN USE A QUICK DETAILER TO ADD A LAYER OF PROTECTION TO THE WRAP / VEHICLE. NOW BE VIGILANT IN WHAT YOU USE AND PLEASE ASK BEFORE PROCEEDING IF NEEDED. FOR EXAMPLE, DON'T JUST USE ANY DETAILER AS SOME USE GLOSS ENHANCING AGENTS...IF YOU HAVE A MATTE WRAP THIS WILL AFFECT THE FINISH AND POTENTIALLY RUIN THE WRAP. TRY TO STICK TO TESTED AND BRANDING PRODUCTS WE HAVE RECOMMENDED.

FOLD A MICROFIBRE 4 WAYS ON ITSELF (SO HALF AND HALF AGAIN) THEN SPRAY THE DETAILER ON THE CLEAN FACE...APPLY TO THE PANEL...FLIP THE CLOTH TO THE DRY SIDE AND BUFF OFF... FLIP BACK TO THE CLEANING SIDE AND REPEAT THIS THROUGHOUT...IF THE FIRST CLEANING SIDE BECOMES DIRTY OR LADEN...OPEN THE TOWEL UP AS WE FOLDED IT IN OUT ITSELF LEAVING 2 CLEAN SIDES INSIDE FOR USE.
13. CHECK OVER WHAT YOU HAVE JUST COMPLETED AND ADMIRE THE CLEAN WRAP READY FOR THE WEEK AHEAD.

FREQUENCY: AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK OR MORE OFTEN IF YOUR VEHICLE IS EXPOSED TO POLLUTION, DIRT ROADS OR SALTED WINTER ROADS.

****NOTES****

PRESSURE WASHING A WRAPPED VEHICLE - CAN YOU JETWASH A WRAP ?

YES YOU CAN, **BUT** YOU NEED TO PROCEED WITH EXTREME CAUTION. PRESSURE WASHING CAN CAUSE SERIOUS DAMAGE TO VINYL IF DONE INCORRECTLY, LEADING TO BUBBLING, PEELING OR DELAMINATION.

ALSO CONSISTENT PRESSURE WASHING, OR FOCUSING ON A STUBBORN AREA, CAN DULL THE FINISH OF YOUR WRAP OVER TIME - ESPECIALLY WITH MATTE OR SATIN FINISHES. WHILE WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND HAND WASHING AND RINSING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, SOMETIMES YOU MAY PRESSURE WASH FOR CONVENIENCE. BELOW WE WILL HIGHLIGHT SOME GUIDELINES FOR PRESSURE WASHING A VEHICLE WRAP.

IF JET WASHING A VEHICLE WRAP, TAKE THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS:

- USE A WIDE-ANGLE SPRAY NOZZLE (40 DEGREES)
- MAINTAIN AT LEAST 2 METRES (6 FEET) DISTANCE
- KEEP WATER PRESSURE BELOW 1300 PSI
- NEVER SPRAY HARD OR CONSTANTLY AT EDGES OR SEAMS
- AVOID SPRAYING AT A SHARP ANGLE - SPRAY PERPENDICULAR TO THE SURFACE
- EVER USE A HOT WASH AND LIMIT WATER TEMPERATURE TO COOL TEMPERATURES.
- AVOID SPRAY DEGREASERS, WAXES & SOLVENTS... THESE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS DAMAGE.



EVEN WITH THESE PRECAUTIONS, PRESSURE WASHING CARRIES RISK. AS NOTED ABOVE, IMPROPER TECHNIQUE CARRIES A HIGH RISK OF LEADING TO DELAMINATION, WHERE THE TOP LAMINATE PEELS AWAY FROM THE VINYL, EXPOSING ADHESIVE AND CRUSING LONG-TERM DAMAGE.

SPOT CLEANING & STAIN REMOVAL TIPS

EVEN WITH REGULAR WASHING, EVERY DAY YOU WILL BE POTENTIALLY FACED WITH OTHER SPOT CLEANING TASKS LIKE BIRD DROPPINGS, TREE SAP, ROAD TAR, FUEL SPILLS, AND EVEN SQUASHED BUGS...THESE CAN QUICKLY BUILD UP AND ARE OFTEN ACIDIC OR STICKY AND CAN DEGRADE THE VINYL, DISCOLOUR THE FINISH, AND SHORTEN THE LIFESPAN OF THE WRAP IF LEFT UNTREATED. CHECK OUT THE BELOW FOR SOME TIPS...

BIRD DROPPINGS / TREE SAP / INSECT SPLATTER:

- SOFTEN WITH WARM, SOAPY WATER OR USE A SPECIFIC SPOT WASH SOLUTION THAT WE CAN RECOMMEND.
- LET SIT FOR SEVERAL MINUTES BEFORE INITIALLY WIPE.
- USE LIGHT PRESSURE WITH A MICROFIBRE CLOTH.
- FOLLOW UP BY USING YOUR RECOMMENDED DETAILING SPRAY IF YOU USE ONE.

FUEL Drips OR LEAKS:

- WIPE IMMEDIATELY WITH A WET PAPER TOWEL
- LIGHTLY HAND WASH THE AREA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- RINSE WITH CLEAN WATER.
- FOLLOW UP BY USING YOUR RECOMMENDED DETAILING SPRAY IF YOU USE ONE.

TAR / OIL / GREASE:

- USE ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL (IPA) DILUTED WITH WATER (70/30 SPLIT)
- SPOT CLEAN ONLY, AND TEST ON AN INCONSPICUOUS AREA FIRST

FURTHER ADVICE

RAIN, UV RAYS, POLLUTANTS, ROAD SALT AND MORE CAN ALL TAKE A TOLL ON THE LIFESPAN OF YOUR VEHICLE WRAP. HORIZONTAL SURFACES LIKE BONNETS, ROOFS, AND BOOT LIDS ARE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE DUE TO THE NATURE OF THEIR POSITIONING. EXPOSURE CAN NOT ONLY FADE COLOURS, BUT CAN ALSO CAUSE THE ADHESIVE TO WEAKEN. IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU DO ALL YOU CAN TO PROTECT YOUR WRAP FROM THE ELEMENTS WITH SMART PARKING HABITS, OPTIONAL PROTECTIVE FILM WRAPS OR CERAMIC COATINGS.

PRO TIPS TO REDUCE WEAR:

- PARK IN THE SHADE, GARAGE, OR UNDER A CARPORT
- USE A CAR COVER IF OUTDOOR PARKING IS UNAVOIDABLE
- CONSIDER A PROTECTIVE FILM WRAP FOR ADDED PROTECTION LIKE THE CERAMIC COATINGS WE OFFER POST WRAP.

SEASONAL WRAP CARE TIPS:

AUTUMN / WINTER CARE:

- RINSE REGULARLY TO REMOVE ROAD SALT
- DO NOT SCRAPE SNOW OR ICE OFF WITH HARD TOOLS
- USE LUKEWARM WATER (NEVER HOT) TO DE-ICE IF NEEDED

SPRING / SUMMER CARE:

- AVOID WASHING IN DIRECT SUN (SHAMPOO AND WATER DRIES TOO FAST) - OPT TO CLEAN IN THE EVENING WHEN COOLER.
- WATCH FOR BUG SPLATTER - CLEAN PROMPTLY USING THE STEPS ABOVE.
- USE UV-PROTECTIVE SPRAYS SPARINGLY

THINGS TO AVOID, COMMON HABITS AND SUBSTANCES WE ADVISE AGAINST:

- DO NOT USE AUTOMATIC CAR WASHES
- SCRUBBING WITH ROUGH BRUSHES
- DO NOT CLEAN WITH HOUSEHOLD KITCHEN/BATHROOM SPRAYS, BLEACH, SOLVENT, OR DEGREASING AGENTS.
- LEAVING BIRD DROPPINGS, BUGS, FUEL SPILLS, OR TREE SAP TO SIT
- WIPING THE WRAP WHEN IT'S HOT FROM SUN EXPOSURE
- CHECK BEFORE USING HIGH-PH OR CITRUS-BASED CLEANERS
- APPLYING BLEACH, SOLVENT, OR DEGREASING AGENTS
- DO NOT SCRAPE ICE OR FROST WITH METAL OR HARD PLASTIC TOOLS
- PARKING LONG-TERM UNDER LEAKING GUTTERS OR TREES
- CLEANING IN DIRECT SUNLIGHT OR ON HOT SURFACES
- IGNORING SMALL EDGE LIFTS OR CRACKS, WHICH CAN QUICKLY WORSEN

WE WANT YOUR WRAP TO LAST AS LONG AS POSSIBLE, AND THAT STARTS WITH A PROPER AFTERCARE ROUTINE. THAT'S WHY WE OFFER A FREE POST-WRAP CHECK-UP 3-4 WEEKS AFTER INSTALLATION. THIS ENSURES THAT NO LIFTING, BUBBLING OR EDGE IMPERFECTIONS HAVE APPEARED. IT'S A QUICK BUT IMPORTANT VISIT THAT SETS YOUR WRAP UP FOR LONG-TERM SUCCESS.

THIS LETS US CHECK FOR ANY EDGE LIFTING OR ADHESION ISSUES AND GIVES US A CHANCE TO RECTIFY OR RECOMMEND A SOLUTION.

HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT WRAP MAINTENANCE, CARE PRODUCTS, OR SERVICE? CONTACT US THROUGH OUR WEBSITE OR ON 07552494541 TO SPEAK WITH ONE OF OUR TEAM.

