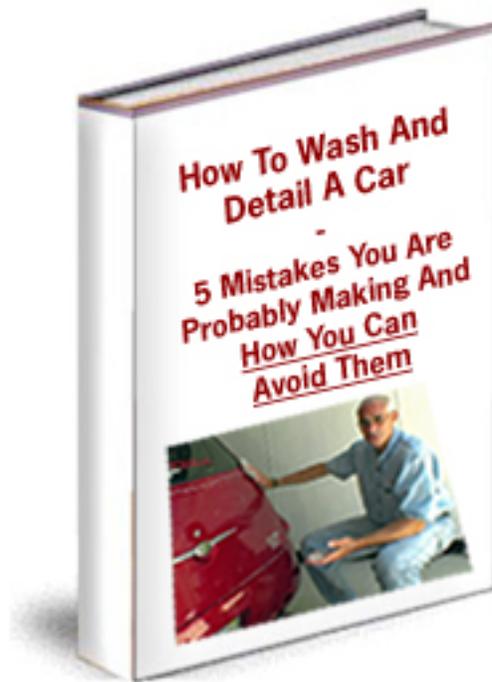


How To Wash and Detail A Car

5 Mistakes You Are Probably Making And How You CAN Avoid Them



By Rick Smith

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You've spent a lot of money on your car, you are proud of it and want to keep it looking nice, right? Despite your best intentions, you are likely damaging your car's paint in your attempts to take care of it. How can this be, and what can be done about it?

Innocently, you make a practice of regularly going to the drive-thru car wash. Sounds like a good idea, right? However, you don't know what sand, oil, contaminants and assorted muck the other cars left behind that are being kicked up and pelted into your car's finish. You trust that the operator is using appropriate car washing detergent in the right amount, but are they? Perhaps you only patronize hand wash establishments, not knowing the cleanliness or type of rag used to wash and dry your car.

I once went through a "touchless" car wash only to have the attendant come out at the end of the wash and start scrubbing the front of my car with a push broom! I yelled at him to stop. He looked amazed and said that most people want that because it gets all of the dirt off. Arrrgh... a push broom on my paint! He might as well have pulled out his electric sander and sanded my car!

If you are really careful you may hand wash your car at home, taking great care not to damage your paint. You wash with a terry cloth or shop rag, dry with a "shammy" and wax it like your dad taught you, not realizing how rough these materials are on your paint.

Yet when you are giving it a good last wipe, you see fine swirl marks in your reflection. Are they getting worse? How did those get there in the first place? Well, I hate to tell you that if you are washing your car like most people do, you are the one putting that lovely swirl design in your "baby's" finish. And those marks signify damage.

Car paint has changed from when your dad purchased his first car. You have to treat it differently than what you may have thought, in order to protect the clear coat (the clear, protective layer applied on top of the paint at the factory). In years past, paint was laid on thicker than it is today. Now it is thinner, with a protective clear coat that is about as

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thick as a single sheet of paper . Once you scratch through it, your paint is exposed and vulnerable to the elements. Those swirl marks are scratches in your clear coat.

How can you avoid damaging your paint in the first place? Can you repair damage you've already done? You can start by not making the five mistakes listed below and by following the guidelines that are provided. You will be amazed at how inexpensive and simple they are to follow and how great your car will look after you make a practice of doing them.

Hi, I'm Rick Smith, the producer of the video, [Keep Your Car Looking New For Pennies A Day](#). Before we introduce the 5 mistakes and how to avoid them, I would like to share what led me to produce this video. About 4 years ago I bought a used PT Cruiser in beautiful condition, and like you, I wanted to keep my car pristine. I started reading all of the PT Cruiser online forums and kept seeing this guy, Gary Kouba, moderating the detailing topics in the forums.

On many posts, I saw people ask him if he had a video available so they could learn how to detail their own cars. He would reply that he did not have a video because he didn't know how to produce one. So I, as a professional videographer, saw a great opportunity for a joint venture and offered my expertise. One thing led to another and I flew from my California studio to Gary's detailing shop in Chicago to shoot the video. (Check out that video at [LearnToDetail.com](#))

I'll admit that I knew absolutely nothing about detailing at this time. In the course of shooting the video I learned that most of what I thought was the right way to wash and detail a car was WRONG. I suspect this is true for many people.

When I returned to California I was so excited about what Gary taught me that I immediately applied his techniques to my PT Cruiser. My finish looked like glass. The big test was my 2001 Suzuki, which had never been garaged (and I live on a dusty, dirt road). I followed Gary's techniques step-by-step. This took about 2 hours the first time

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with this dirty old car. The results were miraculous. From then on it takes much less time to keep it looking new.

A few days later I gave a ride to a friend who had been in my car many times. When he saw my car he didn't recognize it. He asked if I had gotten a new car! That was exactly the response I wanted, and you can get it too if you follow the techniques shown in the video.

Well, enough about me, here's the information you, and your car, are waiting for.

5 Car Washing Mistakes That Will Damage Your Car's Paint

➔ **DON'T use a sponge or brush to wash your car.**

The surface of the sponge and stiff bristles on the brush will scratch your car's paint. They will also pick up micro-contaminants such as small grit and sand that will act as sandpaper as you move the sponge or brush over the surface of the car. Only use a brush on your wheels and tires.

➔ **DON'T wash your car under the blazing sun.**

Although it feels nice to get a little sun as you wash your car, the sun dries the soap on your car and you get a dull, soapy residue as a result. Also the water will evaporate faster than you can wipe it off and you will get damaging water spots on your paint.

➔ **DON'T wax your car.**

Wax only lasts about 30 days in warm weather and is especially vulnerable to melting at high temperatures. It also gets washed away during rainy days and when you wash your car. So your car's paint surface is not as protected you think. Besides that, you've wasted a few hours for no real gain.

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Also think about this. Waxing involves fairly hard rubbing of our paint's surface to both apply and remove the wax. If the surface of your car isn't really clean and contaminant free, you could be grinding small grit into the surface. There is secret technique we cover in the video, [Keep Your Car Looking New For Pennies A Day](#) available at [LearnToDetail.com](#) to thoroughly clean the surface to remove micro contaminants that you can't see before you even wash your car.

➔ **DON'T use dishwashing detergent.**

The chemicals in these detergents are very harsh on your paint and can damage it.

➔ **DON'T Use a “shammy”, bath towel or shop rag to dry your car.**

Boy, this goes against what many people think, doesn't it? They think a “shammy” is great for soaking up water, but again, like using sponges and brushes while washing, it can trap particles that can scratch your car's paint as you rub it all over your car.

So now you know what not to do, here is what you can do to avoid damage, better protect your car's finish and have a fantastic sheen on your “baby”.

5 Easy, Inexpensive Techniques To Wash and Detail Your Car (And Protect Your Car's Paint)

➔ **DO use a micro-fiber cloth or mitt when you wash your car.**

These products are particularly well suited for use on the surface of your paint without inflicting damage. They can be found at most auto part stores (or on [Amazon.com](#)) and even though they may cost a little more than what you may have been using, the investment is well worth it. In the video, [Keep Your Car Looking New For Pennies A Day](#), we explain how a micro-fiber [micro-fiber cloth](#) helps prevent damage. **Keep Your Car Looking New For Pennies A Day** has a [whole chapter](#) on choosing the appropriate rag, [micro-fiber cloth](#) or [mitt](#) for different parts of your car. On some parts

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you want a terry cloth, and on others you can use inexpensive shop towels. It is important to know the difference.

➔ **DO wash your car under shade or cloud cover.**

Find a shady spot or wash your car in the early morning or late afternoon. The key here is to avoid direct sun so that the soapy residue won't have time to build up on your car's paint. It also allows more time to thoroughly dry off your car before damaging water spots form.

➔ **DO use a synthetic paint sealant on your car.**

Not only does waxing not really provide the protection you think it does, it's unnecessarily hard work! [Synthetic sealants](#) are much easier to apply and far easier and faster to wipe off. Plus they don't melt or wash off and offer up to six months of protection. Again, they can be found in most auto part stores.

➔ **DO use soaps formulated specifically for car paint.**

Like the special detergent recommended for your delicate clothes, [automotive detergents](#) are formulated specifically to clean your car's finish. The nice part about them is that a little amount goes a long way, so you really will be saving money in the end by investing in a high quality auto detergent.

➔ **DO use micro-fiber towels when drying your car.**

Like washing your car, using a micro-fiber [towel](#) is crucial to not rubbing left-over grit into your car's paint. They are amazingly effective at removing water, too, much more so than a towel.

Now get some professional instruction.

These are just some of the ways you can get your car looking new and keep it looking like you just drove it off of the lot. We cover these in much greater depth, along with other important advice and information in the video, [Keep Your Car Looking New For Pennies A Day](#).

In the video, you will learn a simple car washing system that not only will quickly and

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safely clean your car, it will also use less water! We also cover deep cleaning and protective methods you can do once or twice a year that will make a huge difference in the micro surface cleanliness of your paint, and which will make subsequent car washes go faster with better results!

The video thoroughly covers washing, cleaning, polishing and sealing your paint, but it doesn't stop there. You'll also learn how to clean you engine compartment so that it shines, too. Do you hate looking into a dirty, oily engine compartment? So do I, that's why I use the methods shown in the video to keep my engine compartment looking as clean as the outside of my car. You'll learn how to wash you wheels and tires, too.

You spend a lot of time in your car's interior, and you want it to be clean, fresh smelling and well protected too, right? That's why we included sections in the video, [Keep Your Car Looking New For Pennies A Day](#), about how to clear your dash, vents, instrument panel, carpets, seats (leather and cloth) and windows. You'll learn how to get gum, drink stains and even lipstick out of your carpet.

For the really serious detailer there is an introduction to buffers, how to choose and use one, how to select pads and polishes and even how to do wet sanding. This is where you really learn to tackle those ugly swirl marks safely.

You also get tips on removing common contaminants like bird droppings, tar and tree sap. You'll learn to save money by making your own window washing fluid for mere pennies per gallon.

Buying a new car? You get a tip that can save you a potential expense of between \$800 and \$1,200 on that car.

Just follow the tips we've provided here and you'll be well on your way to proper home car detailing. Get [Keep Your Car Looking New For Pennies A Day](#) and follow the

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advice in there and you will be absolutely amazed at how good your car - in fact ANY car, no matter how old or dirty - can look with the right treatment. It isn't hard, doesn't require special equipment, and doesn't take a lot of time. In fact, you'll spend a lot less time and money keeping your car great looking than if you follow the outdated process of washing and waxing your car that most people do. We guarantee it!

When you consider that the cost of a complete drive-through car wash averages \$10, for the cost of just 2 washes, the video will pay for itself and will teach you to give your cars a professional detailer's touch for a lifetime! Your car will look professionally detailed and you'll be proud to say "I did it myself."

Did You Like This Special Report?

Then you'll love [My Keep Your Car Looking New For Pennies A Day!](#) Video and you can get \$2 off the price by using coupon code **SHINYCAR** when you order.

We just covered a few tips in this report to help you maintain your car's finish. Watch the entire video to truly get professional results. Order [NOW](#) and use **SHINYCAR** coupon code for \$2 off the video.

