

Paint Protection Film Drying Time

Technical Update April 2008

For Professional Installers

Purpose

This technical update addresses questions about the application drying time of ScotchgardTM Paint Protection Film (PPF).

Description

When applying Scotchgard PPF to a painted surface, during the application you spray the adhesive of the film with application solution. No matter how hard you squeegee during the application you cannot get all the application solution from the nooks and crevices in the adhesive. The very small amount of moisture left behind is normal. Just like the paint that the film is protecting, the film needs time to dry. Depending on temperature and humidity the drying time varies. The usual time it takes adhesive to dry and set-up is about an hour. This is not something that is unique to Scotchgard PPF - all brands of paint protection films need drying time.

Solutions/Equipment

Scotchgard PPF requires the following solutions and equipment for proper installation:

- 1. Soap Solution: Mix Johnson's® Baby Shampoo or Aveeno® Baby Wash and Shampoo and water in a 16 oz. spray bottle by adding 4 drops of shampoo to 16 oz. of clean tap water. Mix well and label as "Soap Solution."
- 2. Alcohol Solution: In a 16 oz, spray bottle, mix isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol 70%) with clean tap water. Use 25% (4 oz.) alcohol mixed with 75% (12 oz.) water. Mix well and label as "Alcohol Solution." *
- 3. Use of a proper squeegee is important for good application of the film. 3M recommends the use of the 3M orange urethane squeegee and/or the yellow turbo squeegee for best results.

Application Instructions

For the recommended application procedures, refer to either the official 3M installation CD/DVD or Application Guide for Scotchgard PPF in the Technical Update 2-14. Application information is also available on our website at www.3M.com/PaintProtectionFilm.

Care:

After initial application of Scotchgard PPF, do NOT wash vehicle in a high-pressure car wash for 24 hours. After that time, wash and wax your vehicle as you normally would. Avoid spraying the edges of the film with a pressure washer or a hose to reduce the chance of lifting the edges of the film. For added protection, 3M recommends waxing the vehicle and film with 3MTM Performance Finish 39030 after installation to help maintain the gloss of the film. Wax build-up along the film edges may be removed with a 3MTM Perfect-It Detail Cloth, a soft brush or a Q-tip® Cotton Swab.

Do not pressure wash your car for 24 hours.

Never use pigmented waxes.

Never use paste waxes.

^{*}Note: When using solvents, extinguish all ignition sources, including pilot lights and follow the manufacturer's precautions and directions for use.

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