

Car Wax FAQ

Waxing your car with [car wax](#) is an essential part of car maintenance, but few people know how to do it well. This guide answers some of the most frequently asked questions new car owners have about applying car wax.

What does car wax do, exactly?

Car wax protects the paint, creating a barrier between the paint and corrosive substances like tree sap and bird droppings. It also reduces oxidation and protects against fading brought on by exposure to UV rays. Some of the newer waxes contain ingredients that also reduce the appearance of minute scratches in the cars finish and clean the car. However, the most obvious effect is a high shine and a deepening of the cars color.

How often should I apply car wax?

Every two to three months, depending on the type of wax you use. Paste and liquid waxes last longer than spray waxes. Your climate also makes a difference: If you do not park under shelter, if the average temperature in your region is hot, if your car is exposed to a lot of droppings, tree sap, or blowing sand, or if your cars finish faces any other kinds of abuse, you should apply wax more often. The best way to tell whether your car is due for a wax is to watch how water beads on the finish. If the drops are over half an inch wide or if the water forms sheets instead, your car needs another coat of wax.

How should I wax my car?

First, wash and dry your car. The car should be absolutely dry before you start waxing. Water and wax do not mix. If you parked your car in the sun to dry it, move it to a shady spot and let it cool off before you start waxing, since heat can bake the wax onto the car, with ugly results.

Protect any parts you do not want to wax with masking tape. Then with a damp sponge, apply the car wax to your car, going in small circles (if you have an older car) or long strokes along the lines of the car (if you have a newer car). Avoid letting wax settle into the seams of the car, and do not let wax get onto any dull plastic your car may have on its exterior. Then take a soft, lint free towel and buff off the excess wax, going along the car in the same sequence in which you applied the wax. When the car is free of excess wax, go over it again with the softest cloth you can find to polish it and finish removing any streaks. Peel off the masking tape, and you have a freshly waxed car!. See here also [" title="Great find">Car Waterless car washing](#)

About the Author

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