



## CARE GUIDE

### FOR BODYSHOPS

#### REPAIR PREPARATION AND APPLICATION



It's important to prepare an existing matt system finish correctly. In particular:

- Keep the repair area completely clean. Use the recommended Octoral cleaners and tack cloths on all repair areas during all stages of the repair. We always recommend wearing clean gloves.
- Check before applying masking tape. An existing matt clear finish may be affected by masking tape adhesive. Test your tape on a low-visibility area of the car first, and look to see if it marks the film or affects the gloss. Minimise the time that the masking tape is in contact with the existing finish, and remove any tape prior to force-curing the repair.
- Ensure your final coat is free of dust/dirt. Small dirt nibs can be removed from the existing layers of a matt clear system and the basecoat layers as normal. However it's not possible to remove dust/dirt from the final matt clear coat. If imperfections are present, you'll need to respray the panel(s). Matt clear coat panel blending is not possible with this type of system.
- Spray a test panel first. OEM matt system finishes vary, and can change over time, which is why this versatile system was specially developed to reproduce a wide range of gloss levels. To verify the gloss level and colour match of any matt clear coat system, you should spray a test panel before the vehicle is repaired. Refer to the Octoral Matt Clear Swatch for additional colour and gloss information.

#### APPLYING OCTORAL MATT CLEAR



The application guidelines in the Technical Data Sheet (TDS) provide the best advice for a successful repair. The following points are important:

- The flash-off period between coats and prior to baking is critical for the gloss level and an even appearance.
- Flash-off times may vary depending on application conditions.
- Cross layer application is essential.
- Film thickness and application technique affect the finish. Thin films or dry application will give a lower gloss appearance, while thick films or heavy wet application will give a higher gloss appearance.



## CLEANING, PRESSURE-WASHING AND DRYING VEHICLES AFTER MATT CLEAR REPAIRS



When vehicle cleaning is required, here are the products and the procedure we recommend:

### Recommended products

- Pressure washer - 80 bar (1200 psi) or less rated. The tip should be 45° or larger, and held at least 30 cm (12 inches) from the surface. Do not hold the spray in one place for extended periods. Keep the nozzle in motion.
- Soft microfiber cloths/sponges.
- Matt finish cleaner or gentle non-abrasive soaps. Always follow the manufacturer's dilution instructions and recommendations.
- Two large buckets with dirt separators.

### Recommended procedure

- Pre-wet the vehicle with a pressure washer to cool and remove the large areas of dirt that could damage the vehicle finish.
- Fill one bucket with soap and water, and the second bucket with clean water.
- Take turns during the washing process to rinse the microfiber cloths/sponges out, to remove any dirt from the cloth/sponge that may scratch the finish, and to keep the soap solution as clean as possible.
- Rinse the area completely before moving onto a new one.
- To dry, use a clean soft damp microfiber cloth to remove the excess water.



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## CARE GUIDE

### FOR CAR OWNERS

#### CARE AND MAINTENANCE



The Octoral Matt Clear Coat used on your vehicle is a unique finish, and requires special care to maintain an even appearance.

##### Keeping the matt finish pristine

Matt finishes of this type can become marked with day to day use – areas such as door handles and edges, the bonnet, any removable roof and the fuel filler flap can change in appearance with regular contact. Before touching bodywork check that your hands are clean and free of oils or hand care products. If you do need to handle areas of the vehicle, we recommend the use of clean gloves.

#### DOS AND DON'TS

##### Fuel spills

✓ Do use soft clean damp microfiber towels to protect the finish or remove any fuel as soon as possible (see also Quick Spot Cleaning guidelines).

✗ Don't spill or drip fuel onto the matt finish.

##### Washing and cleaning

✓ Do use a soft damp microfiber cloth or sponge, and wipe area gently.

✗ Don't allow water drip lines to repeatedly form and dry.

✓ Do use products designed for a matt finish only. Unlike a high gloss finish, damage to a matt coating (scratches, scuffs, etc.) cannot be polished or buffed out. Once an area is damaged or becomes shiny, the matt appearance cannot be restored without repair.

✗ Don't use paint cleaners, abrasives, polishes, glazes, waxes, or rubbing compounds – most of these products are meant for high gloss finishes.

✓ Do wipe the finish lightly, moving forward and backward.

✗ Don't polish or rub the finish aggressively, especially in a circular motion. Polishing will lead to a higher, uneven gloss effect.

✓ Do use a soft damp microfiber cloth. A dry towel may damage the finish.

✗ Don't use paper towel, terrycloth or abrasive cloth for wiping.

✓ Do wash by hand with a soft microfiber cloth/sponge, mild soap, and frequent rinsing. Washing too often can create areas of uneven gloss.

✗ Don't use automated car washing facilities, hand-held mechanical cleaners/polishers, or wash too often.

✓ Do wash in a cool shaded area.

✗ Don't wash in direct sunlight.

✓ Do wipe away any excess from wheels/tyres or allow to dry before driving.

✗ Don't leave wet wheel/tyre polish or cleaner on the wheel – it may spray/splatter on the finish during driving.



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## QUICK SPOT CLEANING



When spot cleaning is required to remove something that may harm the finish (bird droppings, road tar, etc.), here are some recommendations:

### Pressure washers

Use a pressure washer with rating that does not exceed 80 bar (1200 psi). The tip should be 45° or larger, and held at least 30 cm (12 inches) from the surface. Do not hold the spray in one place for extended periods. Keep the nozzle in motion.

### Quick cleaning: products

Use a soft wet or damp microfiber cloth/sponge – some may state they are matt finish compatible.

Use matt finish cleaners – some alcohol-based cleaners (non-vinegar or ammonia) may be acceptable. Use recommended products and always follow the product manufacturer's instructions.

### Quick cleaning: procedure

- Apply cleaner to the damp microfiber cloth/sponge and to the area to be cleaned.
- Soak the area briefly to allow the debris to soften.
- Remove residue with pressure washer (see recommendations), or, if pressure washing equipment is not available, gently wipe the area in a forward-backward motion.
- Rinse and repeat as needed.
- Dry area with a clean and damp microfiber soft cloth.

## FULL CLEANING / PRESSURE WASHING AND DRYING



When your vehicle needs thorough cleaning, here are some recommendations:

### Full cleaning: products

- Pressure washer - 80 bar (1200 psi) or less rated. The tip should be 45° or larger, and held at least 30 cm (12 inches) from the surface. Do not hold the spray in one place for extended periods. Keep the nozzle in motion.
- Soft microfiber cloths/sponges.
- Matt finish cleaner or gentle non-abrasive soaps. Always follow the manufacturer's dilution instructions and recommendations.
- Two large buckets with dirt separators.

### Full cleaning: procedure

- Pre-wet the vehicle with a pressure washer to cool and remove the large areas of dirt that could damage the vehicle finish.
- Fill one bucket with soap and water, and the second bucket with clean water.
- Take turns during the washing process to rinse the microfiber cloths/sponges out, to remove any dirt from the cloth/sponge that may scratch the finish, and to keep the soap solution as clean as possible.
- Rinse the area completely before moving onto a new one.
- To dry, use a clean soft damp microfiber cloth to remove the excess water.