



PD-0804

Clearcoat Defect Removal

Caution: Wear the proper safety protection when sanding, cleaning, mixing and spraying all materials included within this process.

PPG Automotive refinish clearcoat finishes are designed to duplicate OEM manufacturer appearance and performance specifications when properly applied using recommended procedures, undercoats and equipment.

Even with extreme care in cleanliness and preparation procedures, dirt and particulates can land in the clearcoat film during the application and drying process. The OEM environment can not be entirely duplicated in a collision repair facility for these and other reasons:

- The vehicle is painted at the factory as a shell before any non-painted parts are attached,
- The vehicle can be cleaned thoroughly to eliminate dust and dirt, and has never been "on the road".
- The vehicle is painted with computer controlled robotics for consistent texture

When removing dirt and particulates from the refinish clearcoat depending on severity the procedure will require:

- Sanding or nibbing the affected area to remove the dirt and particulates
- When removing multiple spots in any given panel it may be necessary to gradually sand or level the texture away from the area from some or no texture in appearance to texture matching the OEM appearance. This procedure may entail sanding to some degree the entire panel.
- All areas sanded must be buffed and polished to bring back the desired appearance and DOI (Distinctness Of Image)

Procedure

Assess the repaired area to look for dust nibs or other environmental debris or defects such as runs or sags.

Clean area with an All Purpose Cleaner and Degreaser

Dust Nibs:

1. Sand nibs with P1500 grit using a finishing DA sander with an interface backup pad. Visually and hand check area to make sure nibs are removed.
2. Refine entire sanded area with P3000 damp on a DA sander with a backup pad.
3. Proceed to the compounding procedure below.

Runs/sags:

1. Use P1200 grit Wet-or-Dry sandpaper with hand block to remove the defects.
2. Refine entire sanded area with P1500 using a DA sander with an interface pad.
3. Refine entire sanded area with P3000 damp on a DA sander with a backup pad.

Compounding

Compound the entire repair area with extra cut compound with a white foam pad or a wool compounding pad.

Polishing

Polish the entire repair area with a swirl mark remover and a black foam pad.
