

## Applying Car Wax

I grew up in the Southwest and I always remember my dad waxing the car. Car wax is not something people have in their garages at home here in New York where I now live. In California, cars are much more than just cars. People spend a lot more money on dressing up their cars than they do here. They put on shiny rims and lighted license plate holders. A car is a reflection of who you are. A car is a way to get around on the East Coast. The sun also does a lot more damage to your car out West, so even if your car is simply a car to you, car wax is a regular part of the upkeep. As my dad would say, waxing your car will help it depreciate less because it keeps the exterior looking fantastic.

So how often do you need to wax your car? The guys at the auto detailing shop will tell you it is dependent upon how perfect you want your car to look and what type of car wax you use (some of the synthetic waxes supposedly last for a year, for example.) If you are a perfectionist, you could be waxing your car all the time under those rules. If you read the directions on the tub of car wax, it will tell you that when water does not bead on your car, it is time to wax.

You have two choices for waxing your car. You can have a professional do it, or do it yourself. Whenever I wax my car, it does not seem to stay shiny as long as when I have a car detailing place do it. I am guessing that I just do not have the same skill as them, regardless of the kind of car wax I would use. But here is how the experts tell you to apply car wax. Wash your car thoroughly first. You do not want to apply wax if your car is in the hot sun or if the temperature outside is too cold. Make sure you do not feel any grit when you run your hand over the paint. Use a non abrasive car safe surface cleaner to remove bits of grit from the paint if there is still some present even after washing the car. Use a damp sponge and douse it in the car wax. Rub it on your car in small circles. Cover all the paint in a pattern, remembering the path you followed. Remove the wax (in the order in which it was applied) with a cloth or cloth diaper. Make sure to shake out the towel frequently, so the wax does not build up. Use a new clean cloth to polish the entire surface and make sure there are no spots of wax left.

## About the Author

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