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A. General

The paint serves two purposes, aesthetics and protection against external influences.

Consistent development has resulted in significant improvements in the weathering resistance of the paints; paint care measures have thus become easier. In the case of the nitro combination paints used previously, the entire paint surface had to be polished at short intervals in order to maintain the gloss.

The use of new paint resins including modern 2-component polyurethane paints has resulted in significant progress.

However, even vehicle paints of the highest quality are not insensitive or resistant to all external influences.

B. Damage and stress to paint finish due to external influences

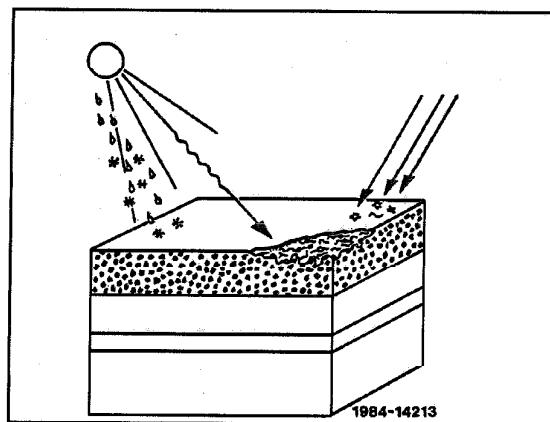
Apart from influences due to chemical or biological substances such as: The required Spelling application is not running acid (acid rain), oil soot, road salt, detergent substances, tree resin, insects, bird excrement and mechanical damage from washing brushes and stones there is damage through moisture and ultraviolet rays from sunlight.

The latter damage particularly affects the pigmented unicolor paints. The fine synthetic resin film, enveloping and protecting the coloring pigment particles, is destroyed in time by the effect of ultraviolet rays, resulting in the exposure of the coloring pigment. The result is that the paint surface becomes dull.

Stress factors on paint finish:

- temperatures (cold, heat)
- moisture/ultraviolet rays
- aggressive contaminants
- mechanical influences, e.g.
dust
sand
scratches

Top-coat
Filler
Dip primer
Paint substrate



1984-14213

If the plastic coating superimposing the pigment is removed on new vehicles by polishing with abrasive agents, the process of decay of the pigments starts even earlier.

The degree of damage is dependent on the intensity and duration of the exposure to ultraviolet rays, and it is unlikely to be avoided even with the best paints.

Careful and properly timed care of the paint finish, like the technical maintenance, helps the vehicle maintain its value. Proper paint finish care can considerably prolong the pleasing appearance of new paint finish.

C. Vehicle wash

Depending on the stress factor, the paint finish does not require any protective agents during the first few months. It is adequate to wash the vehicle regularly. Washing the vehicle regularly is recommended to remove the aggressive contaminants adhering to the paint surface, such as bird excrement, tree resins, insects and acid traces.

1. Washing by hand

Before washing by hand, hose the vehicle down to remove as much dirt as possible (sand, dust). Clean the vehicle preferably with a soft, water-fed brush using neutral detergents (shampoo). Rinse with clear water. Sponges and cloths are less suitable for the outer skin. Use separate agents for the wheels, bumpers etc. if possible. For drying, use clean, scratch-free chamois or household cloths. Do not allow water droplets and traces of water to dry in the sun.

2. Automatic car wash

The system must be in perfect working order. Clean brushes, correct contact pressure, adequate water quantities, adequate quantity of neutral shampoo, separate brushes for wheels and entrance areas are the most important requirements.

A general pre-cleaning with high-pressure or steam cleaner ensures a gentle wash.

Note

Strongly alkaline or strongly acidic detergents, sometimes used in car washes, for pre-cleaning or for cleaning the wheels, may cause damage to paint finish and metals.

D. Instructions for the proper care and polishing of MB vehicle paint finish

A distinction has to be made between new and used paintwork:

- new paintwork: wash, preserve
- used paintwork: wash, polish, preserve

1. Paint preservation:

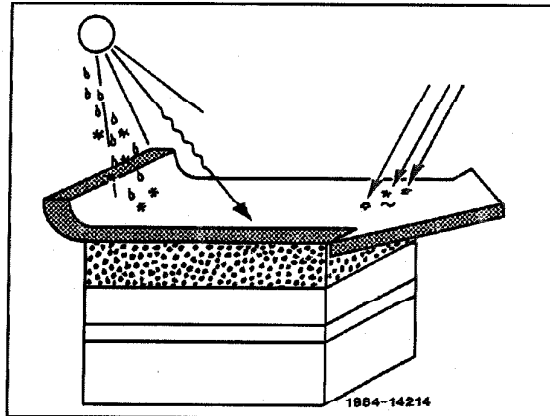
New paintwork has a water-repellent effect. This is recognized by the fact that drops of water do not spread on the surface, but form beads.

Following a certain exposure of the paintwork, i.e. after a certain driving time and several washes, this water bead test becomes negative and it is then necessary to provide the paint finish with a protective film (gloss preservative).

Protective effect of gloss preservation:

- Temperatures (cold, heat)
- Moisture/ultraviolet rays
- Aggressive contaminants
- Mechanical influences, e.g.
dust
sand
scratches

Top-coat
Filler
Dip primer
Paint substrate



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The gloss preservation agent that we recommend contains excellent wax combinations which have a water-repellent effect when properly used, maintaining the elasticity of the paint film. The depth of the gloss is also increased by means of a special additive.

A vehicle wash with thorough drying and removal of tar stains and insect traces must precede every preservation. This treatment should be repeated every 3 to 6 months depending on vehicle use.

2. Polishing:

If, after cleaning the paint finish, it is noticed that the gloss has suffered through environmental influences, the created haze must be removed by polishing. The attacked surface is brought into an optically perfect condition in this way. Dull areas, discolorations and stains are removed by polish and a haze-free pure gloss depth is obtained on the paint film surface due to the effect of the cleaning and polishing components.

After this treatment it is vital to protect the paint film with MB gloss preservative.

00-8070 Cleaning and maintenance of vehicle paint finish

E. Use and purpose of MB paint care and polishing agents

Instructions:

MB material designation	Application/aids	Paint condition			
		New paint finish	Slightly dulled paint finish, formation of stains	Significantly dulled paint finish	Severely dulled paint finish ¹⁾ , industrial deposits, fine surface scratches
Paint cleaner	By hand, polishing pad, Molton polishing cloth		•		
Abrasive paper P 1200	By hand				•
Polishing paste	By hand or with machine, polishing machine (max. speed 2000/min.), lambskin and Moltopren disk, polishing pad			•	•
Polish	By hand, polishing pad, Molton polishing cloth	•	•	•	•
Gloss preservative	By hand, polishing pad, Molton polishing cloth	•	•	•	•

1) We recommend that our specialist workshop is consulted.

For cleaning and care of the vehicle paint finish, use materials which are tested and approved by us so that we can always guarantee consistent quality.

F. Material

Designation	Part no.	Container	
1. Cleaning			
MB shampoo	000 986 15 71	Bottle	250 ml
MB tar remover	000 986 02 71	Can	250 ml
MB insect remover	000 986 76 71	Bottle	250 ml
MB metal dust remover	001 986 13 71	Bottle	1 l
MB cleaner for light-alloy disk wheels to remove stubborn dirt	000 986 94 71	Bottle	250 ml
	000 986 97 71	Bottle	1 l

2. Care

MB paint cleaner	000 986 82 71	Flat can	300 ml
	000 986 83 71	Can	1 l
MB fine polishing paste	000 986 33 74	Can	500 g
MB polish	000 986 38 74	Canister	250 ml
	000 986 38 74/11	Can	1 l
MB gloss preservative	000 986 06 74	Flat can	100 ml
MB agent for regular care of light-alloy disk wheels	000 986 95 71	Spray bottle	1 l
	000 986 98 71	Canister	5 l
MB polishing pad	000 986 02 62		250 g
	000 986 03 62		100 g
MB polishing cloth	000 986 04 62		

3. Paint restoration

Only for temporary restoration of minor paint finish damage, e.g. stone chips, for customer use. Not to be used for MB original repair paint finish on the outer skin.

MB paint sticks

For metal parts

- Priming sticks, red-brown with rust scraper 000 986 06 50 12 ml
- Unicolor top-coat stick, depending on color 000 986 00 50 12 ml
- Metallic top-coat stick (metallic base and clear varnish), depending on color 000 986 04 50 2 × 12 ml (Set)

00-8070 Cleaning and maintenance of vehicle paint finish

Designation	Part no.	Container
For plastic parts		
● Unicolor top-coat stick, for colors 7129 and 7167 (satin finish)	000 986 09 50	12 ml
● Metallic top-coat stick (metallic base and clear varnish), for contrast colors of attachment parts depending on color (satin finish)	000 986 08 50	2 x 12 ml (Set)
