

CARING FOR YOUR WRAP

Gloss finish *care guide.*

Gloss vinyl is more forgiving than matte — you can use most quality car care products on it, and a good sealant will make it shine like fresh paint for years. The main enemies are automatic brush washes, abrasive contact, and letting contaminants sit. Treat it well and it'll look factory for the life of the wrap.

01 THE WASH WORKFLOW

1

PRE-RINSE

Pressure wash from 30cm+ away. Knock off loose grit before anything touches the panels.

2

SNOW FOAM

Apply a pH-neutral pre-wash foam. Let it dwell 3–5 minutes. Rinse off before it dries.

3

CONTACT WASH

Two buckets, grit guards, soft microfibre mitt. Top to bottom, straight lines, no circles.

4

DRY

Plush microfibre towel or blower. Optional: quick detailer spray as a drying aid for extra slickness.

02 RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS

STEP 2 · PRE-WASH

Bowden's Own Snow Job

pH neutral pre-wash foam that lifts dirt without contact. Works beautifully on gloss wraps and protects against wash swirls. Available at Supercheap & Repco.

STEP 3 · CONTACT WASH

Bowden's Own Nanolicious Wash

pH neutral, salt-free, with polymer additives that enhance gloss and beading. Perfect for vinyl-wrapped panels. Aussie made.

OPTIONAL · PROTECTION

Gyeon Q²M WetCoat

Spray-on ceramic sealant. Adds 3–6 months of beading, UV protection, and makes future washes effortless. Safe on all wraps.

03 DO & DON'T

● **SAFE FOR GLOSS**

- pH neutral car shampoos (most quality products are fine)
- Spray sealants and **ceramic-style coatings** rated for vinyl
- **Soft microfibre mitt** only — never sponges or brushes
- **Two-bucket method** with grit guards
- Hand wash within **1–2 weeks**, sooner if dirty
- **Touchless car washes** are fine occasionally
- Quick detailer sprays between washes (vinyl-safe)

● **WILL DAMAGE THE FINISH**

- **Automatic brush car washes** — destroys the gloss fast
- **Polishing compounds** or cutting pads — these abrade vinyl
- Solvents, petrol, thinners, harsh degreasers
- Hard waxes — they don't bond properly to vinyl
- Pressure washing edges directly (lifts seams)
- Letting **bird droppings, sap, or bugs** sit on the wrap
- Scrubbing dry contaminants without soaking first

Quick test: if a product is rated safe for "clear coat paint" and is wax-free, it's almost certainly safe for gloss vinyl. The big things to avoid are abrasives (polishes, cutting compounds) and brush car washes.

04 IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO THE WRAP

Bird droppings	Remove immediately. They're highly acidic and will etch into the vinyl within hours in direct sun. Soak with warm water for 30 seconds, then lift gently with a microfibre. Don't scrub.
Tree sap	Soak the spot with warm soapy water for a few minutes to soften, then wipe away. If stubborn, isopropyl alcohol (70%) on a microfibre will lift it — spot test first, then wash the area normally afterward.
Bug splatter	Pre-soak with warm soapy water, never scrub dry. The longer they sit the worse it gets. Avoid dedicated "bug & tar" removers unless they're specifically rated as vinyl-safe.
Fuel or oil spill	Wipe off as fast as possible with a clean microfibre, then wash the area with pH neutral shampoo. Petroleum products can soften the adhesive if left to sit — this is a "deal with it now" situation.
Scratch or scuff	Light surface marks sometimes lift with the heat-gun technique or a vinyl-safe polish — but the wrong product makes it worse. Don't attempt at home. Send a photo and we'll advise. Deep cuts usually need a small patch repair.
Edge lifting	Small lifts on edges (door jambs, bumpers) can usually be re-set with gentle heat. Don't try to push it back down cold — it'll crease. Get in touch and we'll sort it.
Stone chip / cut	Cover the exposed area with tape if it's deep enough to expose paint, especially before driving in the rain. Bring it in — small damage can usually be patched invisibly if caught early.

05 A FEW LAST THINGS

● THE FIRST WEEK

- Avoid washing for **72 hours** after install
- Avoid pressure washing for **7 days**
- Small bubbles or moisture under the film? **Normal.** They settle within 7–14 days
- Avoid extreme cold or heat where possible

● LONG TERM

- Park undercover or in shade where possible
- Avoid leaving the car uncleaned for weeks at a time
- UV is the wrap's main enemy — sealant helps
- Most quality wraps last **5–7 years** with proper care

QUESTIONS, DAMAGE, OR ANYTHING YOU'RE UNSURE ABOUT

Get in touch

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If you're unsure whether something is safe for your wrap, message us before you try it. A quick photo or DM beats a permanent shiny patch every time.