

BODY WORK CARE

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BODY WORK CARE

CORROSION PREVENTION

It is important to take good care of your vehicle to protect it from corrosion.

Listed below are instructions for how to maintain your vehicle to prevent corrosion. Please read and follow these instructions carefully.

Important Information About Corrosion

Common causes of corrosion

- 1) Accumulation of road salt, dirt, moisture, or chemicals in hard to reach areas of the vehicle underbody or frame.
- 2) Chipping, scratches and any damage to treated or painted metal surfaces resulting from minor accidents or abrasion by stones and gravel.

Environmental conditions which accelerate corrosion

- 1) Road salt, dust control chemicals, sea air or industrial pollution will all accelerate the corrosion of metal.
- 2) High humidity will increase the rate of corrosion particularly when the temperature range is just above the freezing point.
- 3) Moisture in certain areas of a vehicle for an extended period of time may promote corrosion even though other body sections may be completely dry.

- 4) High temperatures will cause an accelerated rate of corrosion to parts of the vehicle which are not well ventilated to permit quick drying.

This information illustrates the necessity of keeping your vehicle (particularly the underbody) as clean and dry as possible. It is equally important to repair any damage to the paint or protective coatings as soon as possible.

How to Help Prevent Corrosion

Wash your vehicle frequently

The best way to preserve the finish on your vehicle and to help avoid corrosion is to keep it clean with frequent washing.

Wash your vehicle regularly during the winter and immediately after the winter. Keep your vehicle, particularly the underside, as clean and dry as possible.

If you frequently drive on salted roads, your vehicle should be washed at least once a month during the winter. If you live near the ocean, your vehicle should be washed at least once a month throughout the year.

For washing instructions, refer to the "VEHICLE CLEANING" section.

Remove foreign material deposits

Foreign material such as salts, chemicals, road oil or tar, tree sap, bird droppings and industrial fall-out may damage the finish of your vehicle

if it is left on painted surfaces. Remove these types of deposits as quickly as possible. If these deposits are difficult to wash off, an additional cleaner may be required. Be sure that any cleaner you use is not harmful to painted surfaces and is specifically intended for your purposes. Follow the manufacturer's directions when using these special cleaners.

Repair finish damage

Carefully examine your vehicle for damage to the painted surfaces. Should you find any chips or scratches in the paint, touch them up immediately to prevent corrosion from starting. If the chips or scratches have gone through to the bare metal, have a qualified body shop make the repair.

Keep Passenger and luggage compartments clean.

Moisture, dirt or mud can accumulate under the floor mats and may cause corrosion. Occasionally, check under these mats to ensure that this area is clean and dry. More frequent checks are necessary if the vehicle is used off road or in wet weather.

Certain cargos such as chemicals, fertilizers, cleaners, salts, etc., are extremely corrosive by nature. These products should be transported in sealed containers. If a spill or leak does occur, clean and dry the area immediately.

VEHICLE CLEANING

Store your vehicle in a dry, well-ventilated area.

Do not park your vehicle in a damp, poorly ventilated area. If you often wash your vehicle in the garage or if you frequently drive it in when wet, your garage may be damp. The high humidity in the garage may cause or accelerate corrosion. A wet vehicle may corrode even in a heated garage if the ventilation is poor.

⚠ WARNING

Do not apply additional undercoating or rust preventive coating on or around exhaust system components such as the exhaust pipes, etc. A fire could be started if the undercoating substance becomes overheated.

Cover your vehicle

If you cannot regularly park your vehicle in a garage, we recommend you use a vehicle cover. Years of exposure to midday sun can cause the colours in paint, plastic parts, and fabrics to fade. Covering your vehicle with a high-quality, "breathable" vehicle cover can help protect the finish from the harmful UV rays in sunlight, and can reduce the amount of dust and air pollution reaching the surface.

⚠ WARNING

When cleaning the interior or exterior of the vehicle, NEVER USE flammable solvents such as lacquer thinners, petrol, benzene or cleaning materials such as bleach or strong household detergents. The materials could cause personal injury or damage to the vehicle.

Cleaning the Interior**Vinyl upholstery**

Prepare a solution of soap or mild detergent mixed with warm water. Apply the solution to the vinyl with a sponge or soft cloth and let it soak for a few minutes to loosen dirt. Rub the surface with a clean, damp cloth to remove dirt and the soap solution. If some dirt still remains on the surface, repeat this procedure.

Fabric upholstery

Remove loose dirt with a vacuum cleaner. Using a mild soap solution, rub stained areas with a clean damp cloth. To remove soap, rub the areas again with a cloth dampened with water. Repeat this until the stain is removed, or use a commercial fabric cleaner for tougher stains. If you use a fabric cleaner, carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions and precautions.

Seat Belts

Clean seat belts with a mild soap and water. Do not use bleach or dye on the belts. They may weaken the fabric in the belts.

Vinyl floor mats

Ordinary dirt can be removed from vinyl with water or mild soap. Use a brush to help loosen dirt. After the dirt is loosened, rinse the mat thoroughly with water and dry it in the shade.

Carpets

Remove dirt and soil as much as possible with a vacuum cleaner. Using a mild soap solution, rub stained areas with a clean damp cloth. To remove soap, rub the areas again with a cloth dampened with water. Repeat this until the stain is removed, or use a commercial carpet cleaner for tougher stains. If you use a carpet cleaner, carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions and precautions.

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Cleaning the Exterior**CAUTION**

It is important that your vehicle be kept clean and free from dirt. Failure to keep your vehicle clean may result in fading of the paint or corrosion to various parts of the vehicle body.

Washing**⚠ WARNING**

- **Never attempt to wash and wax your vehicle with the engine running.**
- **When cleaning the underside of the body and fender, where there may be sharp-edged parts, you should wear gloves and a longsleeved shirt to protect your hands and arms from being cut.**
- **After washing your vehicle, carefully test the brakes before driving to make sure they have maintained their normal effectiveness.**

When washing the vehicle, follow the instructions below:

- 1) Flush the underside of body and wheel housings with pressurized water to remove mud and debris. Use plenty of water.

CAUTION

When washing the vehicle, avoid directing steam or hot water of more than 80°C (176°F) on plastic parts.

- 2) Remove dirt and mud from the body exterior with running water. You may use a soft sponge or brush. Do not use hard materials which can scratch the paint.
- 3) Wash the entire exterior with a mild detergent or car wash soap using a sponge or soft cloth. The sponge or cloth should be frequently soaked in the soap solution.

CAUTION

When using a commercial car wash product, observe the cautions specified by the manufacturer. Never use strong household detergents or soaps.

- 4) Once the dirt has been completely removed, rinse off the detergent with running water.
- 5) After rinsing, wipe off the vehicle body with a wet chamois or cloth and allow it to dry in the shade.
- 6) Check carefully for damage to painted surfaces. If there is any damage, "Touchup" the damage following the procedure below:
 - a) Clean all damaged spots and allow them to dry.
 - b) Stir the paint and "touchup" the damaged spots lightly using a small brush.
 - c) Allow the paint to dry completely.

Waxing

After washing the vehicle, waxing and polishing are recommended to further protect and beautify the paint.

- Only use waxes and polishes of good quality.
- When using waxes and polishes, observe the precautions specified by the manufacturers.