MIDNIGHT
AUTOWORKS

AFTERCARE GUIDE

Keep it looking like day one.

How to look after your ceramic coating and window tint: the first few days, how to wash your car, and which products to use and avoid.

Ceramic coating | Window tint | Glass coating | Leather coating

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STEP 1

The first few days.

Your coating and film keep curing after you collect your car. Look after them during this time and they'll perform for years. We'll write your exact cure times below at handover.

Ceramic coating

Cure time: _____ days

DO

- ✓ Keep the car dry and undercover where you can.
- ✓ If it gets wet, gently pat the water off with a clean microfibre towel.
- ✓ Remove bird droppings, sap and bugs straight away with water and a soft microfibre.
- ✓ Park away from sprinklers and trees if possible.

DON'T

- ✕ Wash the car with soap or shampoo until the cure time is up.
- ✕ Use an automatic or brush car wash.
- ✕ Apply wax, polish, sealant or quick detailer.
- ✕ Let water spots dry in the sun.

Window tint

Keep windows up for: _____ days

WHAT'S NORMAL

- ✓ Slight haze or small water pockets while the film dries. They clear by themselves as it cures, faster in warm weather.
- ✓ A slightly darker look for the first few days.

DON'T

- ✕ Wind the windows down until the time above is up.
- ✕ Clean the inside of the windows during the cure time.
- ✕ Stick suction cups, stickers or tags on the film.
- ✕ Use scrapers, razor blades or anything abrasive on tinted glass.
- ✕ Pick at the edges of the film.

Glass and leather coatings: keep glass dry and avoid rain-repellent treatments over the coating. Wipe spills on coated leather straight away with a damp microfibre. If anything doesn't look right during the first week, call or message us before you try to fix it.

STEP 2

How to wash your car.

A ceramic coating makes washing faster and easier, but it isn't a force field. Gentle, regular washing keeps the gloss and water beading going for years.

1 **Wash in the shade**
Wash when the paint is cool to the touch, early morning or late afternoon. Hot panels dry soap and water onto the surface and leave spots.

2 **Wheels first**
Clean wheels and tyres before the paint, using separate brushes and a separate bucket so brake dust never touches your paintwork.

3 **Rinse thoroughly**
Rinse the whole car from the top down to remove loose dirt and grit. Keep a pressure washer nozzle at least 30 cm from the paint, and further from badges, seals and edges.

4 **Pre-wash (optional)**
A pH-neutral snow foam or pre-wash lifts dirt before you touch the paint. Let it dwell, but don't let it dry, then rinse.

5 **Two-bucket wash**
Fill one bucket with pH-neutral shampoo and one with clean water, each with a grit guard. Wash one panel at a time from the top down with a soft microfibre mitt, rinsing the mitt in the clean bucket before reloading it with soap.

6 **Lower panels last**
The bottom of the doors, sills and bumpers hold the most grit. Wash them last, ideally with a second mitt.

7 **Final rinse**
Rinse from the top down. Your coating will shed most of the water by itself.

8 **Dry gently**
Pat or drag a plush microfibre drying towel across the surface, or use a car dryer or leaf blower. Never use a chamois, a squeegee or a used towel.

9 **Top up (every few washes)**
Mist a ceramic (SiO_2) detail spray onto a clean microfibre and wipe over the dry paint to boost gloss and water beading.

Every 1–2 weeks
A regular hand wash. Dirt left sitting on the paint is what wears coatings down.

Every few washes
A ceramic detail spray to top up gloss and slickness.

Once a year
A coating inspection with us, which keeps your BLASK warranty valid.

STEP 3

Products to use, and to avoid.

You don’t need expensive products. You just need gentle ones. If you’re unsure about something, send us a photo of the label and we’ll tell you if it’s safe.

USE	WHAT TO LOOK FOR
Car shampoo	pH-neutral, with no added wax, gloss enhancers or polish.
Wash mitts	Soft, deep-pile microfibre. Use two: one for upper panels, one for lower panels.
Buckets	Two buckets, each with a grit guard in the bottom.
Drying towel	A large, plush microfibre drying towel, or a car dryer or leaf blower.
Ceramic detail spray	An SiO_2 or ceramic detail spray to top up your coating every few washes.
Wheel cleaner	A pH-balanced wheel cleaner, with separate soft brushes.
Glass cleaner	Ammonia-free and tint-safe, used with a clean microfibre glass cloth.
Interior and leather	A pH-neutral interior or leather cleaner and a soft microfibre.

Avoid

- ✕ Automatic and brush car washes.
- ✕ Dishwashing liquid and household cleaners.
- ✕ Strong degreasers or undiluted traffic film remover.
- ✕ Cutting compounds, polishes and “scratch removers”.
- ✕ Waxes and sealants over the coating. They hide its properties.
- ✕ Ammonia-based glass cleaners on tinted windows.
- ✕ Old, dirty or dropped towels and mitts.

Microfibre care

- ✓ Wash microfibres on their own, warm, with a little detergent.
- ✓ Skip fabric softener. It clogs the fibres.
- ✓ Air dry or tumble dry on low.
- ✓ If a towel touches the ground, retire it to wheels or door jambs.

YOUR WARRANTY

Keep your protection valid.

Your coating is registered with BLASK and your SunTek film carries a lifetime limited manufacturer's warranty. Following this guide helps keep both valid.

BLASK ceramic coating

- Follow the aftercare in this guide.
- Book a yearly coating inspection with us.
- Keep your booking receipt and warranty details.
- Let us know before any paint repairs or resprays on coated panels.

SunTek window film

- Use only tint-safe, ammonia-free glass cleaner.
- Don't remove, cut or modify the film.
- Tell us straight away about any lifting, bubbling or peeling after the cure time.

> Manufacturer warranties don't cover damage from accidents, stone chips, harsh chemicals, incorrect washing, or repairs and resprays after our work. Your rights under the Australian Consumer Law always apply.

Not sure about something?

Send us a photo of the product, the mark or the question. We'd much rather help you get it right than fix it later. When your yearly inspection is due, book it in with us and we'll check the coating, clean it properly and top it up if needed.

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