



# Step-by-Step Automotive Painting Guide

This resource guide includes the steps involved and the supplies you need to Do the Job Right®.



## STEP #1 PREP

1. Strip car to bare metal with Contour SCT®, DA Sander with 80 grit paper, or with chemical stripper
2. Wipe car down with PRE Painting Prep until panels are clean

## SUPPLIES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PRE Painting Prep - #10041z          | <input type="checkbox"/> Contour® Pro 6" Random Orbital Sander - #31251     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Paint Prep Wipes - #15584  | <input type="checkbox"/> Contour® 6" Round PSA Sandpaper - 80 Grit - #15145 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contour SCT® - #21145                | <input type="checkbox"/> Rockwood Valved Dust Mask - #31575                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contour SCT® Abrasive Drum - #21970  | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Glasses                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contour SCT® Finishing Drum - #21971 | <input type="checkbox"/> Nitrile Gloves - #66181                            |

## STEP #2 BODY FILLER

1. Apply epoxy primer to protect panels from rust
  - Using masking paper and tape to cover any areas you don't want primer
  - Ensure panels are clean before spraying
  - Spray 2-3 Coats of epoxy primer on entire car
  - Let dry for 2-3 Days
2. Apply body filler
  - Wipe car with pre painting prep to remove any contaminants on surface
  - Sand entire car with 80 grit to reveal low spots
  - Mix body filler and Hardener on dedicated mixing board
  - Skim coat entire panel using spreader
  - (Optional) Spot fill low spots if you want to save on filler
3. Block sand
  - Allow filler to harden for at least 15 minutes
  - Sand with 80 grit paper using cross hatch pattern
  - This gets messy, check out the Contour DSB (Dustless Sanding System)
  - Wipe down panels and apply guide coat
  - Sand guide coat to clearly identify lows previously missed
  - Apply filler over any residual low spots
  - Apply guide coat while advancing through 80-320 grit paper
    - This will help ensure you remove sanding scratches of previous grit
  - Remember to be patient - it is all worth it in the end



## SUPPLIES

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PRE Painting Prep - #10041z                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Gerson Respirator - #14829 or #54265  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Paint Prep Wipes - #15584          | <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Disposable Paint Suit - #15359  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rockwood Valved Dust Mask - #31575           | <input type="checkbox"/> Concours Pro 0-80 PSI Air Regulator - #31834                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Glasses                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Moisture & Oil Separators - #16148  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nitrile Gloves - #66181                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite Contour DSB® Dustless Sanding Block System - #65500                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quick Mix Board #31273                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite Contour DSB® 5" Sanding Block - #65497                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Body Filler Spreader Set - #59915            | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite Contour DSB® 16" Sanding Block - #65498                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OptiFlow Roll-On Epoxy Primer Kit - #98003ZP | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite Contour DSB® PSA Sandpaper - #65486, #65487, #65488, #65489, #65490, #65491 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sprayable Epoxy Primer - #51127              | <input type="checkbox"/> Guide Coat Black Aerosol - #12416z  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elite P500 Primer HVLP Paint Gun - #54271    |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Universal Mixing Cups - #51202               |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Dekones Paint Strainers - #14749   |  |



## STEP #3 PRIMER

1. Apply epoxy primer
  - Apply another 1-2 coats of epoxy primer to seal any bare metal
  - Wait 2-3 days for primer to dry
  - Block sand entire car with 320 grit
2. Apply primer surfacer (If body work is complete you can skip this step and apply urethane primer)
  - Apply 3 wet coats of chosen primer
  - Allow 15 minute flash time in between coats
    - This will help fill in missed sanding scratches
3. Final block sand
  - Apply guide coat to entire car
  - Sand with 320 grit then 400 and finish with 600 grit
  - Ensure you didn't miss any sanding scratches before moving onto basecoat



## SUPPLIES

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PRE Painting Prep - #10041z                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Moisture & Oil Separators - #16148  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Paint Prep Wipes #15584            | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite Contour DSB® Dustless Sanding Block System - #65500                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OptiFlow Roll-On Epoxy Primer Kit - #98003ZP | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite Contour DSB® 5" Sanding Block - #65497                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sprayable Epoxy Primer - #51127              | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite Contour DSB® 16" Sanding Block - #65498                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elite P500 Primer HVLP Paint Gun - #54271    | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite Contour DSB® PSA Sandpaper - #65486, #65487, #65488, #65489, #65490, #65491 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Universal Mixing Cups - #51202               | <input type="checkbox"/> Guide Coat Black Aerosol - #12416z  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Dekones Paint Strainers - #14749   | <input type="checkbox"/> Contour Polyester Primer Direct-to-Metal Surfacers - #13522                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gerson Respirator - #14829 or #54265         |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Disposable Paint Suit - #15359     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concours Pro 0-80 PSI Air Regulator - #31834 |  |

## STEP #4 PAINT

### 1. Basecoat

- Wipe entire car with pre painting prep until clean (make sure to use lint free rags)
- Mix basecoat and activator if needed and pour through strainer into paint gun
  - Check out our OEM Paint, over 75,000 colors to choose from!
- Wipe car with tack rag to remove any dust or debris
- Spray 3 medium-wet coats with 50% overlap
  - Spray jams and edges first
  - Allow 15 minute flash times between coats (check TDS sheet of paint)
  - If metallic you can add a “drop coat” with lower pressure to allow flake to lay even

### 2. Clear coat

- Mix clear coat and activator
  - Choose activator based on temperature (3 activators available)
- Wipe panel with tack cloth before spraying
- Spray one semi-dry tack coat for better adhesion
- Spray 2-3 wet coats with 50-75% overlap - Allow for proper flash time between coats

### 3. Enjoy the fruits of your labor

- Sit back, let the clear coat cure

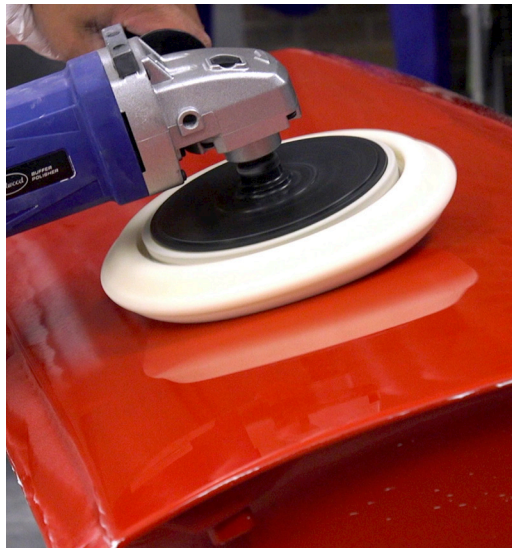


## SUPPLIES

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PRE Painting Prep - #10041z                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Moisture & Oil Separators - #16148  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Paint Prep Wipes - #15584          | <input type="checkbox"/> Elite CC500 Color and Clearcoat HVLP Paint Gun - #54270                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Universal Mixing Cups - #51202               | <input type="checkbox"/> OEM Basecoat Paint - <a href="http://eastwood.com/oem">eastwood.com/oem</a> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Dekones Paint Strainers - #14749   | <input type="checkbox"/> High Solids Urethane Premium Show Clear - #15351                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gerson Respirator - #14829 or #54265         | <input type="checkbox"/> Tack Rag Wipes - #34178   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DeVilbiss Disposable Paint Suit - #15359     | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Paint Gun Cleaning Set - #16186                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concours Pro 0-80 PSI Air Regulator - #31834 | <input type="checkbox"/> Paint Gun and Equipment Cleaner - #16154ZP                                  |

## STEP #5 CUT & BUFF

1. Wet sand the entire car with 1500 grit sandpaper on a DA with an interface pad
  - The interface pad will help eliminate burn through, stay away from body lines
    - Periodically wipe down panel and check progress
    - You are done when texture is gone, and panel is one solid color
  - Hand sand body lines, being careful and apply even pressure
2. Wet sand entire car with 2000 grit
  - Your goal is to remove any 1500 grit sanding scratches
3. Use three step system to polish paint back to mirror shine



### Step 1: wool pad or course foam pad and fast cutting compound

- Apply 4-5 dime size drops of product to the face of the pad. Press the pad to the surface of the vehicle and turn the polisher on. Operate the polisher at 1000-1200 RPM. Work in 2' by 2' sections. Apply more product to the pad as needed when the pad starts to get dry.
- Once completed with a number of 2' by 2' sections on a single panel, increase speed of the polisher to 1200-1500 RPM and overlap all areas of the single panel to blend properly.
- This might take some practice, stay patient.
- Be cautious of edges and don't stay in one place for too long.
- Remove all remaining product from the surface with a clean soft microfiber towel and then repeat this process on the remaining panels of the vehicle.

### Step 2: Medium or fine foam pad and finishing polish

- This product can be used with a rotary or a orbital polisher. Attach a proper foam polishing or finishing pad to the polisher.
- Apply 4-5 dime size drops of product to the face of the pad. Press the pad to the surface of the vehicle and turn the polisher on. Operate the polisher at 1000-1200 RPM. Work in 2' by 2' sections. Apply more product to the pad as needed when the pad starts to get dry.
- Once completed with a number of 2' by 2' sections on a single panel, increase speed of the polisher 1200-1500 RPM and overlap all areas of the single panel to blend properly.
- Remove all remaining product from the surface with a clean soft microfiber towel and then repeat this process on the remaining panels of the vehicle. Move on to applying wax or ceramic coatings.

### Step 3: Fine foam pad and carnauba cream wax or spray on wax

- An orbital polisher is highly recommended. Apply 3-5 nickel size drops of wax to a clean and soft foam finishing or waxing pad.
- Press the pad to the surface of the panel and turn the polisher on. Operate the polisher at a 2500 RPM. Spread the wax over the panel in a overlapping cross hatch pattern. Repeat this process over all panels of the vehicle adding more product to the polishing pad as needed. Allow to dry to a haze.
- Remove the wax starting at the same place that you started application using a clean soft microfiber towel. Continue to each panel of the vehicle in the order that product was applied and wipe to a brilliant shine. Make sure to turn the towel over or fold to a clean side periodically and it is recommended to use multiple towels in this process to ensure best results.

4. Wipe down with microfiber cloth and remove any leftover compounds

(see supplies list on the next page)

## SUPPLIES

- ☐ Contour Pro 6" Random Orbital Sander - #31251
- ☐ Interface Pad - #11362
- ☐ Sandpaper (1500 & 2000 grit)
- ☐ Spray Bottle , Variable Speed Buffer Polisher - #32488
- ☐ Concours Fast Cutting Compound - #67065
- ☐ Concours Finishing Compound - #67066
- ☐ Concours Super Cherry Wax - #67068
- ☐ Concours 8" Buffing Pad - #66348 or #66345
- ☐ Concours 8" Foam Buffing Pad - #66346 or #66347
- ☐ 6" Orbital Sander Polisher - #32489
- ☐ 6" Foam Polishing Pad - #66341 - #66342 - #66343
- ☐ Concours Exterior Microfiber Towels - #66306

## GLOSSARY

### What is guide coat when doing bodywork?

Guide coat is a coating that helps identify low spots on your panels. A light misting of guide coat over primer will highlight low and uneven areas. Keep sanding and applying guide coat until the guide coat disappears. We also offer perfect panel check fluid that gives your coating a temporary gloss finish that will help you identify blemishes that are unseen to the naked eye.

### What is a tack coat when painting?

A tack coat is when you apply a very light coat of your coating to help form an adhesive bond between your previous and current coating. This can be used when spraying primer, basecoat or clear coat.

### What is a tack rag?

A tack rag is a tacky cloth that will pick up loose debris or contaminants. Use a tack cloth prior to painting to ensure a clean work surface.

### What is basecoat paint? What is single stage paint?

A single stage is an all-in-one system. Your color coat and clear coat are mixed into one coating. This makes the process much easier for the beginner. A basecoat paint is just the color coat and still requires a clear coat on top for UV protection and the gloss. A basecoat system will typically have better depth than a single stage system.

### What is a wet coat when painting?

A wet coat means the paint will be glossy when you are applying it with little to no texture.

### What is wet sanding?

Wet sanding is a process that uses water to wash away dirt or sanding dust when sanding.

### What is body filler?

Body filler is a putty-like substance that helps fix minor dents or scratches on a vehicle.