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PAINTING CARBON FIBER

With more carbon fiber being used in the automotive market we have had questions on refinishing. So what is the best way to refinish carbon fiber?

Whether you're painting new or refinishing previously painted carbon fiber parts, always start with a thorough hot, soapy water wash and rinse. Follow this with a second cleaning using SX103 MULTI-PREP™ cleaner or SWX350 H2O-SO-CLEAN® waterborne pre-cleaner. Then follow the simple process outlined here:

For Un-Painted Gel Coated Carbon Fiber:

- Finish sand to 320 or 400 grit
- Re-clean with SX103 or SWX350
- Seal with an epoxy primer. Either DPLF Epoxy Primer or DPLV 2.1 VOC Epoxy Primer are excellent choices
- Apply basecoat color and clear

For Pre-Painted Parts:

- It's best to mechanically remove the existing finish then treat as new un-painted gel coated carbon fiber.
- Finish sand to 320 or 400 grit
- Re-clean with SX103 or SWX350
- Seal with an epoxy primer. Either DPLF Epoxy Primer or DPLV 2.1 VOC Epoxy Primer are excellent choices
- Apply basecoat color and clear

For more information on carbon fiber and other substrates, check out the *Custom Restoration Guide* on ppgrefinish.com for more great tips and tricks!

IS YOUR SHOP APPEALING TO CUSTOMERS ?



What does your body repair shop & lobby look like? Is it clean, inviting and appealing to customers? Every survey ever done about collision repair indicates

that the consumer is favorably impressed by a clean facility. Looks ARE everything. Do you have a clean place for your customer to sit with fresh beverages or snacks & current magazines to read? Think about it - for most customers, a vehicle is their second most valuable asset. Unless you look like you'll take good care of their car, they'll go to the super clean looking shop verses your unkept facility. So, take a few minutes, look at your place and make the necessary changes. Remember, physical presentation is the required first step in a profitable close rate!



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