

## Suggested Maintenance for Wire Wheels

Thank you for purchasing wire wheels from us. Wire wheels are the most beautiful upgrade you can make to your special car. A set of four wire wheels may consist of as many as 400 to over 800 parts to it. To keep your wheels looking as brilliant and rust-free as they were when new, special care is required. Our wheels use the finest chrome plating available to us. No water is used during our manufacturing process. We make very certain of this fact. When rust occurs it is due to a maintenance problem and is not covered under our warranty.

Chrome plating, often referred to simply as chrome, is a technique of electroplating a thin layer of chromium onto an object. The chromed layer provides corrosion resistance, ease of cleaning, and increased surface hardness. Most bright decorative items affixed to cars are referred to as "chrome," meaning steel that has undergone several plating processes to endure the temperature changes and weather that a car is subject to. Triple-plating is the most expensive and durable process, which involves plating the steel first with copper, which is polished before the next coat of nickel, which ads brightness and corrosion protection. Lastly, the chromium plating is applied. When rust occurs in a chrome plated wheel, moisture must be or have been, present in order to have produced the rust.

While "Chrome" is very hard, it can be "thinned" over time by polishes containing pumice or other abrasives. Excessive use of polishes will allow moisture to penetrate the abraded plating and cause the underlying steel to rust. We can provide cleaning products that clean the chrome properly, but any mild dish washing liquid will suffice. A coating of wax can increase and maintain the luster of the chrome. Non-abrasive products like Pledge furniture polish have very little or no abrasives and will help protect the chrome without chalking or wax buildup. Products like WD-40 will disburse moisture from the surface and crevices of wire wheels and should be applied especially in damp or humid climates or where the automobile is not used regularly.

The use of soft brushes and mild soap should be used to clean a wire wheel. After a complete rinsing, the wheels must be blown dry with an air hose, shop vacuum or leaf blower. It is most important that the wheels be dried completely. After drying, an occasional, light coat of wax is recommended.

## These are the steps we recommend that you follow:

- 1) Your automobile should be garage-kept. Vehicles parked outdoors are particularly vulnerable to your wire wheels becoming wet, leading to rusting conditions.
- 2) Use only soap and water to wash your wheels. Dawn soap or Windex work well. Some types of detergents have abrasive agents that can harm your chrome.
- 3) After you wash your car, drive it around the block a few times, throwing-off water that might be left in the many hiding-places that wire wheels have.
- 4) Using an air-hose, shop vacuum or even leaf-blower, air-out your wheels as thoroughly as possible. Wire wheels simply hate being left wet and rust can set-in quickly if water is left on your wheels.
- 5) Apply a thin coat of WD-40 to protect against moisture or humidity. Wipe-off the WD-40 when you are going to take your car out for a drive or to show.
- 6) Use a non-abrasive wax like Pledge furniture polish if necessary. Some customers feel an obligation to constantly polish our wheels, however, the more they are polished, the higher the chance that the top coating of chrome can be harmed. We often see this when the chrome looks dull after being polished too many times.

Please enjoy your wheels in the best of health. Please feel free to email or call us with any questions or comments. We love to see photos of our customer's cars. Kindly send us a few photos for us to share on our Customer's Car Show web page. Thank you again for your purchase.



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