

No. 503

Restorative polishing of automotive paintwork (heavily weathered)

A

Description

As a vehicle's paintwork ages, the surface of the paint becomes increasingly

dull and faded if not properly maintained (after about 6-8 years).

This has to do with pigment and binder particles being broken down by environmental influences, giving the paintwork a dull appearance.



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Poorly maintained paintwork can be easily identified by the way rainwater runs off it evenly (see Fig. 503/2), whereas the water beads up and rolls off when the surface is sound (see Fig. 503/3).



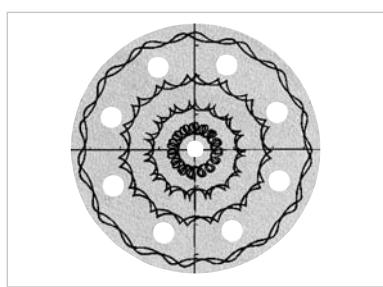
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503/03

B

Previous procedure



503/04a

Laborious and time-consuming paint restoration by hand or with an angle polisher, with the risk of:

- Overheating, thus damaging the paint surface (cloudiness).
- Polish flying off the polishing pad, leading to time-consuming cleaning of plastic parts, windscreen, rubber seals etc.

Solution

Paint restoration using Festool ROTEX.

Thorough, time-saving and reliable due to the ROTEX rotary motion.
(see Fig. 503/04a and 503/04b).



503/04b

C

Tools/accessories



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503/07



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Name	Order No.
Gear-driven eccentric sander RO 150 FEQ-Plus 240V (see Fig. 503/5)	571592
FastFix backing pad PT-STF D150 FX-RO150	493914
Foam polishing pad PS-STF-D150X30-M-OCS/5 (see Fig. 503/6)	493853
Foam polishing pad PS-STF-D150X30-SF-OCS/5 (see Fig. 503/7)	493888
Sheepskin polishing pad LF-STF-D150	484131
Polish MPA 6000/1	492424
Sealant MPA-V 0.5L (see Fig. 503/8)	495223
Microfibre cloth MPA-Microfibre/2 (see Fig. 503/9)	493068
Polish MPA 11000	492427

Preparation

- Thoroughly wash the areas of paint to be restored and wipe dry with chamois leather. Use only detergents without wax additive.
- Since it is virtually impossible to avoid touching plastic parts with the polishing pad, it is advisable to treat bumpers, wheel arch extensions etc. with plastic protectant before polishing or cover them where needed with masking tape (see Fig. 503/10).



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D

Polishing procedure



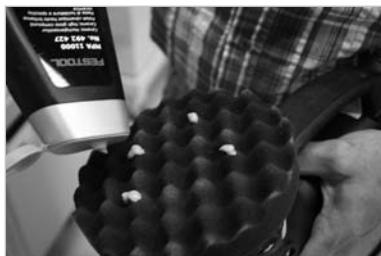
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- Set to coarse sanding on the head of the ROTEX (see Fig. 503/11).
- For greater flexibility you can remove the ROTEX's extraction channel (see Fig. 503/12).
- Place foam polishing pad PS-STF-D150X30-M-OCS on the backing pad and apply dots of fine sanding polish MPA 6000. (Shake the polish well before use.) (See Fig. 503/13 - example only)
- To distribute the polish, set the speed on the tool to level 1. Then increase the tool speed to level 4-6. Polish the sanded surface with the tool flat against the surface.
- Wipe off dry polish residue with the grey microfibre cloth.

Alternative to foam pad, PS-STF-D150X30-M-OCS:
Sheepskin pad (stronger polishing effect)



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Note:

- The ROTEX rotary motion ensures intensive polishing and prevents the polish from flying off the pad. Its low speed in comparison to an angle polisher means that the paint barely heats up, preventing swirl marks. To prevent the polish flying off the pad when the tool is switched on, it is important to start the tool only when it is lying on the surface being polished.
- For long-term protection of the polished surface, it must be treated with a high-quality sealant MPA-V as a final step.

Long-term protection procedure



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- Set to coarse sanding on the head of the ROTEX (see Fig. 503/14).
- For greater flexibility you can remove the ROTEX's extraction channel (see Fig. 503/15).
- Place foam polishing pad PS-STF-D150X30-SF-OCS on the backing pad and apply MPA-V sealant to the foam pad (see Fig. 503/13 - example only)
- To distribute the MPA-V sealant set the speed control to level 1. Then increase the tool speed to level 4-6. Use a cross-coat technique to distribute the liquid sealant on the polished surface.

Attention:

Treat only one section at a time so that the sealant does not become too tacky.

- Allow the MPA-V sealant 1-2 minutes to flash off.
- Wipe off dry polish residue with the grey microfibre cloth.

Caution:

- Polishing is simply very fine sanding. Paint cleaners vary in aggressiveness depending on manufacturer. These instructions should only be applied in cases of severely weathered paintwork.
- Due to the heat sensitivity of the paint, we recommend you do not carry out polishing work in blazing sunlight.
- Polishing should be done in a dust-protected area (to prevent scratches). In professional automotive paint shops, this is achieved by having a separate, dedicated area for finishing.

Recommendation:

- It is a good idea to do this kind of paint restoration before the winter months, since that is when the factors damaging the paintwork of a car are at their greatest. Salt, cold, snow, ice and sun all eat away at the surface of the paint.
- If necessary, you can do a second treatment after the winter months. It is often sufficient at that point to polish with ceramic high gloss polish Festool MPA 11 000 and to follow up with hard wax sealing using Festool MPA-V.

F

Overview of polishers



RO 150 FEQ

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Area of application	Recommendation	Backing pad Ø max.	Weight
All-purpose (sanding + polishing)	Can be used without risk (even by less-experienced users)	150 mm	2.3 kg



RO 125 FEQ

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All-purpose (sanding + polishing)	Can be used without risk (even by less-experienced users)	125 mm	1.9 kg
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RAP 80 E

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Small surface areas (spot polishing)	For professionals, for everyday use	80 mm	1.6 kg
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RAP 150 E

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All-purpose	For professionals, for everyday use	150 mm	2.7 kg
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POLLUX 180 E

503/20

Ideal on medium to large surface areas	For professionals, for everyday use	180 mm	3.6 kg
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