

Paint Stripping

(The proper procedure for removing paint with Liquid Stripper)

Before you can begin to do body and paint work on your vehicle you have to face those hidden horrors under the paint. You will need to strip off all the old paint down to the metal to prepare it for new paint. The main emphasis on this step by step procedure is that you remove all remnants of the old so that in the future you will have a perfect surface to prime and paint which will enhance adhesion and endure the test of time.

13 PHOTOS



1. This body has the basic parts disassembled. You can do this procedure to any car with the parts still attached by making minor adjustments in taping procedures. We have taped off the edges about 1/4 of an inch onto the main body of the sheet metal around the trunk lid. The 2 inch tape works well for this. It keeps the stripper from seeping into an area that you don't want affected. Note that there is also newspaper spread out all over the floor. This is to catch any remnants of stripper/paint that is sheared off the vehicle and aids in clean up time when finished. If your car is still assembled you merely use 3/4 inch tape and place it over all the gaps between the deck lid and quarter panels, hood to fenders and doors to quarter and fenders. This will keep the stripper from going inside the edges. Aluminum tape is the ultimate way to get protection, but it is more expensive. Check hardware stores in the A/C Duct Work Isle.

2. As you can see, that the windows and door jams have been taped off. This will keep the liquid stripper from going into those hidden areas.



3. Some of the tools you will need for this process are:

- A. A gallon of air craft stripper by Klean Strip(800) 238-2672.
- B. A replaceable razor blade scraper by A and I Supply (800 555-5592)
- C. Plastic Saran Wrap for placing over the panels so that the chemicals don't evaporate so quickly in hot weather climates.
- D. A Norton Respirator with replaceable cartridges to avoid the fumes.
- E. Gloves, A Paint brush. Marson has 5 inch brushes that work excellent for this.



4. Take the can and pour a nice trail of the stripper over the area you are working. An alternative method is to take a container which will not be melted by the acid and fill with stripper for easier dispensing. NOTE1 This product will burn your skin if contact is made! Keep a bucket of water nearby for quick rinse if it touches your skin, this will take care of it. Keep your clothing and shoes out of it also. Put down more news paper on floor if needed.



5. Use a wide brush by Marson or a 3- 5 inch hardware paint brush made for chemicals such as horse hair and dip the brush into the bowl for the needed amount, stroke the panel lightly leaving a 1/16 inch layer of the stripper. If you push down too hard the paint will roll up under your brush and you will be pushing it around rather than laying out an effective coat.

IF IT IS VERY HOT AIR TEMPERATURE #6 IS GREAT!

6. We are using Saran Wrap and laying a piece over the quarter panel where we just put the liquid stripper on. Let the stripper sit for 10 to 15 minutes under the Saran Wrap which prevents evaporation so you won't have to recoat the surface. In hot temperatures it may take 2-5 applications for the stripper to work so it is best to apply in the cooler morning or evening hours to prolong it's drying time.



7. Another problem that can arise is Old Bondo. You want to remove this. Bondo is very porous so it may take 5 or 4 applications of the stripper to remove this old menace. You can also grind out old bondo with 24-60 grit grinder if you prefer, but it is a dustier method.

8. Take your razor blade scraper and slice the paint into piles.



9. Once all the stripper/paint is in piles, take a flat bondo spreader and an old dust pan, scrape the remnants from the pile onto the pan, and discard into a plastic garbage bag. (If left on newspaper on the floor it will dry out by itself then you can roll up the newspaper and dispose of it properly.)

Note: Do not proceed to the next step until all the paint has been scraped off as much as possible.



10. As seen in this top view of the quarter panel, you should wash down the stripped panels with lacquer thinner and a clean cloth. This will remove small remnants of the acid stripper and paint residue. The cleaner it is, the better the adhesion will be later. 3M Scotch Brite scuff pads #7447 will speed up this process considerably if your not on budget restraints!

11. Here we are cleaning up the drain gutter with a Makita drill and Weiler wire wheel knotted brush. These effective tools can remove the old caulking in the channels within minutes.



12. Now that the paint has been all removed with the Klean strip you must clean up the steel and any remnants of paint or body filler left. Use a sander with 36-Grit Disc. This is the most efficient way for cleaning up the paint remnants and old body filler.



13. Before priming the steel needs to be sanded smooth and acid prepped. National Detroit DA with 80 grit scuffs the surface super- clean and smooths it to the right level for acid cleaning.