

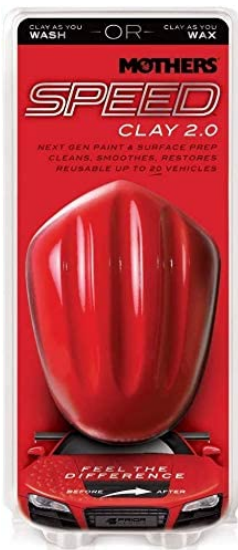
Applying Mr Fix 9H Ceramic Coating

Prepare the Vehicle

- wash/rinse : I bucket-wash using only Palmolive dish soap because it has a nearly neutral PH (and I've have 35+ years of good results, including on one Mercedes that I drove for 27 years) and I use only a soft-bristle brush that has "split-end" bristles – if you have hard water, dry the vehicle ... rags made from 100% cotton or an old/retired flannel sheet are good for drying
- do a thorough paint correction (this can be the hardest part, but ceramic coating highlights imperfections so it's important) : touch up any chips and deep scratches and use vehicle polish to remove any swirl and light scratch marks ... I use Meguiar's Mirror Glaze 205



- wipe the vehicle with 50% isopropyl alcohol/50% H2O mix and dry with 100% cotton (terry towel) or flannel rags (if the vehicle has been waxed, this is a very important step ... be thorough) – Costco sells packs of quality terry towel rags at a reasonable price (50% isopropyl alcohol is my initial "go to" cleaner ... minimal risk of damage and wipes dry without residue)
- deep-clean/clay-bar the surfaces : for the past 5+ years I've been using the synthetic/rubber clay bar tools such as Mothers 3174 (<https://www.amazon.ca/gp/product/B08CBMFMQM/>)



and this product, which I use manually (<https://www.amazon.ca/gp/product/B07D7HVN8V/>)



and I use 50% isopropyl alcohol as the "clay-bar" lubricant and wipe dry with terry towel rags (Costco sells 99% isopropyl alcohol at a reasonable price ... mix with equal parts of water)



Do's and Don'ts When Applying Ceramic Coating

- do apply to all painted, non-flexing plastic (including PPF) and glass areas
- don't apply to any rubber or flexing plastic areas
- *never* apply in direct sunlight ... ideally, always apply to a "room temp" vehicle in a garage
- apply in small areas (start with a few square feet) ... start/learn on an obscure area
- always ensure that no coating dries and leaves a white or cloudy residue ... the only way to correct that is by using polish to "buff it out" (and that's a very time-consuming/risky process)
- apply two coats to all exterior surfaces, including wheel rims
- apply 1 coat to "interior" surfaces such as inside hood/trunk lids, around door sides and entry surfaces, etc.
- pay special attention to "nooks 'n crannies" ... one of the main benefits is the increased ease of cleaning ... and dirt is most likely to get into "nooks 'n crannies" (especially true on wheel rims)

- water "beads" on waxed surfaces but "sheets off" ceramic-coated surfaces ... when the "sheeting off" starts to diminish, it's time to apply a single refresher coat (with my <10K km/year vehicles that are always parked in a garage, this is after about 5 years)

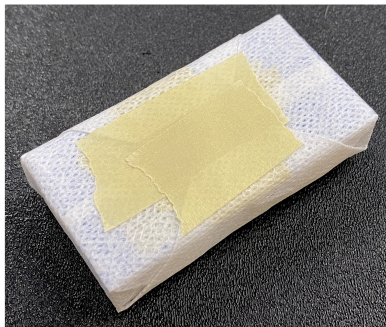
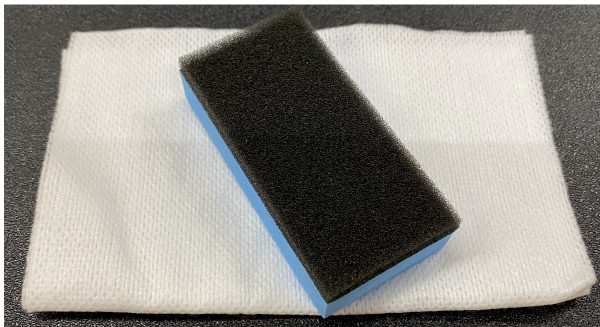
Materials and Equipment for Ceramic Coating Application

- nitrile gloves : wear them, the ceramic coating solvent can be absorbed through your skin
- eye protection : good idea to wear something, even if it's just your normal glasses
- ceramic coating : I've use the inexpensive Mr Fix 9H for over 7 years (<https://www.amazon.ca/gp/product/B07DHDF563/>) ... if the product doesn't have a significant light-end, high VOC, sweet-like chemical odour, then it's a fake product – never a problem with the above supplier, but I have gotten 2 refunds for fake product from other suppliers, over the years



I find that I use 4-6 of the 30 ml bottles of coating to do 2 coats on a vehicle ... the method I describe/use possibly uses excess coating, but it's inexpensive and I like the results so I don't really worry about how much I'm using

- coating applicator : for large-area coating application, I cut the little paper-like cloths that come with the Mr Fix 9H product then wrap a 2-layer covering over the sponge applicator, which I attach using masking tape (for irregular/small areas, use a small 100% cotton cloth)



- water in a misting sprayer : it's important that you can spray a light mist, not big enough to be considered droplets ... if you get drops or bubbles as you're wiping on the ceramic coating (as opposed to a sort of slimy looking surface), then you're applying too much water spray

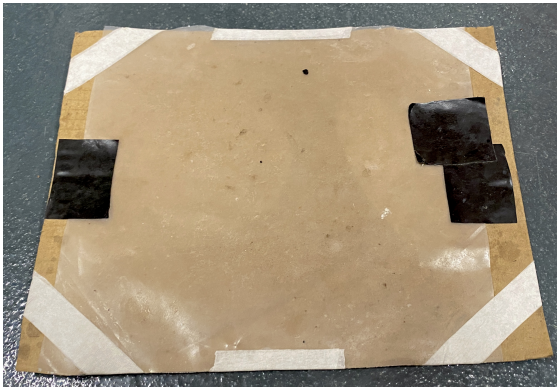
- a small slightly dampened cotton cloth (wet it then gently squeeze out the excess moisture with one hand ... I use the 100% cotton material from retired ol' T-shirts (pen is size indicator)



- dry micro-fiber cloth(s) : Costco sells quality packages of these at a reasonable price (pen is size indicator)



- (optional) work palette : I use a piece of cardboard, onto which I've taped some vapour barrier, as a "work palette"/area where I can place the bottle of ceramic coating, the coating applicator and the dampened rag so they're never sitting directly on any vehicle surface



Applying the Ceramic Coating

- lightly mist water onto a small section of the vehicle's surface
- apply a number of drops of ceramic coating to the coating applicator
 - overall, I probably use about 1 drop per square foot ... use enough to keep the coating applicator wet enough that you can see the ceramic coating being applied
 - for the next 3 steps, work quickly ... if the ceramic coating dries before being wiped smooth with the dry micro-fiber cloth, you're likely to have a cloudy/streaky finish
- wipe the ceramic coating in one direction then at 90 degrees to that direction ... or just wipe thoroughly in a circular motion, being sure to cover and spread evenly
- immediately (do NOT wait, like is normally recommended), very lightly wipe the just-applied area with the slightly dampened cotton cloth (intermittently, lightly mist this rag to keep it slightly dampened) ... this wiping will remove any excess liquid and any droplets/bubbles that may exist
- immediately, with almost zero pressure, gently wipe the coated area with a dry micro-fiber cloth until you feel the cloth begin to glide smoothly and there is a uniform sheen with no spotting, streaks, haze or clouding ... as you wipe, you'll notice a decrease in "drag on the rag" (you're not "polishing", you're wiping dry and catching any excess that would cause clouding, etc.) – be sure to keep turning the micro-fiber cloth and change it when you feel it's taking longer to get the smooth/dry finish (for example, I generally change cloths after a hood-sized area and I place the used cloths in a bucket of slightly soapy water to sit until I machine-wash them ... then I re-use them)
... repeat this process until you're done.

When Done

- wait at least 1 day between coats
- ideally, don't drive the vehicle for at least a day
- don't wash the vehicle for at least 1 week ... though it doesn't seem to hurt it to drive it in the rain after a day

Some Comments

- a ceramic-coated vehicle is much easier to wash, especially wheels ... in general, most dirt does not stick very well and a quick wash/rinse (as described above) will do the job – for road tar, bird poop and some other stubborn/sticky stuff, I generally first try 50% isopropyl alcohol and, if that doesn't do it, I'll next try cleaning with a rag wetted with carnuba wax
- if you swap between summer and winter wheels, it's a good time to clean and refresh the ceramic coating, when required
- if you're applying paint protection film (PPF), in spite of what some will tell you, PPF will stick if Mr Fix 9H ceramic coating has been applied ... in fact, it sticks very well and very quickly but, since the slip/tack solution will quickly flow off ceramic-coated surfaces, it's harder to apply the PPF to a ceramic-coated surface
- Mr Fix 9H can/should be applied over PPF, after it's installed