

## No. 503: Polishing automobile paintwork (highly weathered)

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### Description

During the course of time, an automobile's paintwork becomes older, the paint surface becomes increasingly more dull and matt. This is caused by pigment and binder particles being destroyed by environmental influences with the result that the paint has a dull appearance. Paintwork in need of care and attention is easily recognised by rainwater running off the paint surface evenly, whilst in the case of sound surfaces the water rolls off in beads.

### Previous procedure

Costly labour and time intensive paint preparation by hand or using an angle grinder with danger of:

- overheating and damage to the paintwork (polishing clouds).
- Polish being spun out resulting in time-consuming cleaning of plastic parts, windscreen, seals etc.

### Solution

Mechanical paint treatment using a Festool *ROTEX*<sup>®</sup>. Thorough, time-saving and safe with *ROTEX*<sup>®</sup> rotary/eccentric motion.

### Machinery/Accessories

- *ROTEX*<sup>®</sup> RO 150 E
- STF D 150 polishing pad
- STF D 150 sponge (coarse)
- STF D 150 polishing sponge (fine, honeycombed)
- STF D 150 sheepskin

Other accessories:

- Festool MPA 6 000 (polish/paint cleaner)
- Liquid hard wax
- Microfibre cloth
- Synthetic preservative

Alternative to RO 150 E:

- RAP 150.03 E
- Pollux 180 E
- *ROTEX*<sup>®</sup> RO 125 FEQ
- See Polishing Machines Table as well

### Washing + preparation

- Wash the paint surface to be treated thoroughly and wipe dry with chamois leather. Only use carwash detergents without wax additive.
- As it is hardly possible to prevent the sponge from coming into contact with plastic parts, we recommend covering bumpers, extensions etc. before polishing.

## Polishing procedure



1. Set the side rotary button on the ROTEX® so that it is pointing to the front (coarse sanding) for ROTEX® rotary/eccentric motion.
2. Attach a coarse polishing sponge to the polishing pad. Apply MPA 6 000 polish to the coarse polishing sponge.
3. To spread the polish, set the machine's speed control to setting 1. Accelerate the machine to speed level 4 – 6. Polish the surface using a criss-cross action (resting machine flat on surface).
4. Wipe off dry polish residue using the green microfibre cloth.

Alternative to coarse sponge:  
Sheepskin (greater polishing effect)

## NB:

- The ROTEX® rotary/eccentric motion ensures an intensive polishing action and prevents the polish (paint cleaner) being spun out of the polishing area. The paint hardly warms up because of the low speed in comparison to angle polishers. In order to prevent the polish from being spun off when switching the machine, do not switch it on until it is resting on the surface to be polished.
- The polished surface can be sealed with hard wax in order to provide it with long-term protection.

## Long-term protection – procedure

1. Set the side rotary button on the ROTEX® so that it is pointing to the front (coarse sanding) for ROTEX® rotary/eccentric motion.
2. Attach polishing sponge (fine, honeycombed) to the polishing pad. Apply liquid hard wax to the polishing sponge (fine, honeycombed).
3. To spread the hard wax, set the machine's speed control to setting 1. Accelerate the machine to speed level 4 – 6. Spread the hard wax over the surface using a criss-cross action (resting machine flat on surface).
4. Allow wax seal to flash-off.
5. Place sheepskin on the plate of the ROTEX®. Polish surface to deep gloss using criss-cross action at top speed setting.

## Important

- Polishing is nothing other than fine sanding. Paint cleaners vary in aggressiveness depending on manufacturer. These instructions should only be applied in cases of severely weathered paintwork.
- Because of the heat sensitivity of the paint, we recommend you do not carry out polishing work in direct sunlight.
- The area where polishing is being carried out should be protected from dust (to avoid scratching).

## Recommendation

- We advise carrying out this type of paintwork treatment prior to the winter months. The influences on a car's paint surface are at their greatest during this period. Salt, cold, snow, ice and sun eat away at the paint surface.
- A second treatment can be carried out after the winter months if necessary. In this case, it is usually sufficient to just polish with deep gloss polish MPA 10 000 and follow up with a hard wax seal using Festool MPA-V.

Polishing Machines Table				
	Area of use	Recommendation	Polishing pad Ø max.	Weight
<b>RO 150</b>	Universal use (sanding + polishing)	Non-dangerous to use (even for less experienced users)	150 mm	2.3 kg
<b>RAP 80</b>	Small surfaces (spot polishing)	For daily professional use	80 mm	1.6 kg
<b>RAP 150</b>	Universal use	For daily professional use	150mm	2.7 kg
<b>Pollux</b>	Ideal for medium to large areas	For daily professional use	180 mm	3.6 kg
<b>RO 125</b>	Universal use (sanding + polishing)	Non-dangerous to use (even for less experienced users)	125 mm	1.9 kg

Our sample applications are recommendations that have been tried and tested in practice. The various outline conditions, however, lie completely outside our area of influence. For this reason we are unable to provide any guarantee whatsoever. Legal claims against us cannot be derived from the contents hereof. Please observe without fail the safety and operating instructions included with the product.