

# 3M Finesse-it™ Clear Coat Repair Kit

Instructions for:

## AUTOMOTIVE AND MOTORCYCLE - CLEAR COAT FINISH REPAIR SYSTEM

### Included in kit:

- 3M Random Orbital Buffer with Wrench
- 3M 3125 Nib Sander
- Finesse-it Purple Polish (1 Quart)
- Scotch-Brite High-Performance Cloths
- Trizact 466LA 1-1/4" Diameter Abrasive Discs
- 3-3/4" Orange Waffle Pads
- Backup Pad for Random Orbital Buffer
- Backup Pads for the 3125 Nib Sander
- Multimedia Instructional CD
- Hard Case

### PREPARE THE SURFACE

1. Clean the surface of the area to be repaired with car wash soap and water. Dry completely with a clean, dry cloth. When working around door handles, mirrors, bumpers, molding, decals, and adjacent panels, protect from potential damage with 3M™ Performance Masking Tape.

### SAND AND REDUCE THE SCRATCH

1. Identify the area(s) to be repaired. It is important to keep the sanded area as small as possible.
2. Attach the backup pad to the nib sander. Apply gentle pressure to ensure good contact.
3. Attach one Trizact abrasive disc to the backup pad. Be sure to center the disc on the pad.
4. Spray water on the repair area and abrasive disc.
5. Place the disc on the surface of the part needing repair. Gently sand the damaged area for no more than 2-3 seconds with light pressure. Use a circular motion to blend the repair into the adjoining areas. (Remember to start and stop the tool on the surface you are sanding.)
6. While sanding, a white slurry or light foam will appear. This indicates the abrasive is reducing the scratch.
7. Wipe the sanded area with a clean high-performance cloth. If the scratch is still visible, spray the area and abrasive disc with water again and repeat the sanding process. Be careful not to sand too deep or too long in one area.

### ABOUT AUTOMOTIVE PAINT AND SCRATCHES

The 3M™ Clear Coat Repair System is designed to remove defects to the clear coat. Examples include fine scratches, marks, and blemishes.

**Scratches that can be removed are in the surface of the clear coat.**



Illustration 1

When removing a defect in the paint surface, you are actually removing a very thin layer of the clear coat paint. This procedure is commonly performed by professional technicians in automotive collision shops, car and motorcycle dealerships, detail shops, and assembly plants.

The 3M™ Clear Coat Repair system will not eliminate deep or wide scratches or scratches that go through the clear coat (see Illustration 2). Some deep scratches, paint damage, or other types of paint defects may not be able to be removed without repainting a portion of the vehicle.

**Scratches that cannot be completely removed go deeper than the surface of the clear coat.**



Illustration 2

**Excessive sanding and/or compounding can remove or cut through the clear coat layer and into the color coat layer. If the clear coat layer is removed, it requires repainting by a professional to properly repair.**

## BUFF AND POLISH THE SURFACE

1. Precondition the buffing pad by applying several small drops of polish to the pad and then folding the pad repeatedly to spread the polish across the pad.
2. Mount the backup pad to the buffer.
3. Once the pad is preconditioned, you will need only a small amount of polish for subsequent areas.
4. Buff area sanded in previous step. Extend beyond repair by approximately the width of the orange pad. This will ensure all scratches are removed from the surface.

Buff area using light-to-medium pressure, using only enough pressure to compress surface of waffle pad by approximately 50%. While buffing, hold the orange pad flat against the surface and buff using an "L" or circular motion to ensure all sanded areas are compounded. Reduce pressure as compound dries and the shine is partially restored. Repeat application if any scratches or hazy/dull areas are still visible.

Polishing time should be approximately 8-12 seconds.

## WIPE AND INSPECT THE REPAIRED AREA

5. Remove any remaining polishing compound from the surface with a clean, dry high-performance. If any polishing compound sticks or smears on the surface, spray with water and wipe with a clean, dry cloth.

Orange pads can be reused for subsequent repairs.

**PRECAUTIONS:** Keep away from heat and flame. Avoid eye and skin contact. Avoid breathing dust or vapors. Use only with adequate ventilation. Do not swallow. Wash thoroughly after handling.

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

**FIRST AID INFORMATION: Eye & Skin Contact:** Flush eyes and/or skin with large amounts of water. If signs/symptoms persist, get medical attention. **Inhalation:** Remove person to fresh air. If signs/symptoms develop, get medical attention. **If Swallowed:** Do not induce vomiting. Get medical attention.

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Instructions Prepared by:  
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Instructional Video Available Online: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stlNYy4g\\_Qg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stlNYy4g_Qg)  
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