

CARE FOR YOUR EXTERIOR FINISH

The following information applies to Winnebago Industries products that have Sherwin Williams paint applied to the exterior body panels. Sherwin Williams paint is used on coaches painted at CDI, primarily with full body paint.

Parking

- Parking under trees – When this happens you should rinse the bird droppings and tree sap off as soon as possible. Tree sap is a form of sugar and will dissolve after a couple of rinses. Bird droppings can eat into a painted surface if left unattended and need removed as soon as possible. Lukewarm soapy water can help speed up the cleaning process.

- Parking near salt spray – When this happens you need to rinse off the salt mineral to minimize the corrosiveness of the salt.

- Parking near factories with heavy smoke or industrial fallout can eat into your unit's finish – this is caused by the morning dew or rain that mixes with the fallout and creates nitric or sulfuric acid that gets magnified by the intensity of the sun. As the water evaporates the acid becomes more powerful and attacks the painted surface.

- Rinsing and washing of the surface helps remove the fallout and neutralize the acid. A wax of polish does help protect the surface, after the initial 60-day cure stage, from these types of contaminants.

- Ice or snow should not be scraped from the painted surface. Brush off but avoid being aggressive with the brush. Brush scratches might show once the motor home thaws out and may be removed by hand waxing with a silicone free liquid wax.

Driving

- Antifreeze, fuel or window solutions spilled on the painted surface should be rinsed off immediately with water and allowed to air dry. Wiping dry with a towel may create fine scratches due to

the sometimes aggressive nature of these types of fluids.

- Antifreeze and window solutions can be diluted and will dissolve with water. Fuel will not and needs the attention of a mineral spirit-type cleaner (like Bug-B-Gone) or a silicone free spray wax and micro fiber cloth to remove the stain left by fuels.

Note: When driving in wintry conditions the road surface may be covered with heavy salts or small rocks to improve road traction. These types of road conditions can cause undue surface damage to your RV. Please refrain from driving in these conditions.

Washing

- Commercial vehicle wash facilities should be strictly avoided. This is because the truck-style wash centers have high-pressure wands that emit higher than necessary water pressures. These brushes are designed to clean heavy road films on semi-trailers and are not designed for custom painted RVs. Most truck wash brushes are made from a heavy plastic that increases their lifespan but will scratch the clearcoat finish. Many times the scratches can penetrate the clearcoat finish, causing delamination and/or other paint related issues not covered under warranty.

- Wash with cool or lukewarm water. Use a mild soap such as a baby shampoo to wash your RV. Also, most auto stores carry a car wash soap that is similar and does not have a bleach in the formulation.

- Never use a bristled brush or broom to wash the painted surface. This will cause scratches in the finish. Use a clean lamb's wool mitt, sponge or micro fiber mitt (or mop) to wash your unit. A dirty application can scratch your RV.

Washing Procedure

- Rinse area to be washed with cold water to remove surface residue. Make sure you are not in direct sunlight.

- With area to be washed still wet from the rinse, use the

recommended soapy mixture to clean the area. Use care to make sure that a clean lamb's wool mitt, sponge or micro fiber mitt or mop is used to apply soapy water.

- Rinse washed area before soap evaporates.

- Dry rinsed area before rinsed area evaporates.

Polishing and/or waxing

- After the 60-day cure cycle (RV must experience temperatures higher than 60° for 60 days), we recommend a silicone free polish such as Meguiars M8132 Hand Polish or Machine Polish with an orbital machine and terry cloth applicator.

- Liquid waxes are easier to apply and bring a gloss with fewer residues.

- Please avoid paste waxes. They sometimes have fillers and additives that give a very short-term result. Stay away from silicones in polishes and soaps.

- If you want to use a paste wax, please wait two years so that the paint finish is completely cured. When applying a paste wax for the third time, it is in your best interest to clean off the excess deteriorated wax with mineral spirits and a micro fiber towel to avoid heavy scratches in the clearcoat.

- Since buffing compounds remove some of the film of the clear, we recommend that only very experienced users or professionals apply this product.

- Bug removal – Rinse with water and let soften. Use soap and water to wash the remainder and rinse (may want to repeat and leave soap on longer than normal to help with penetration). For more stubborn areas use an ammonia-based glass cleaner followed by a warm soapy water wash and a rinse. Remember to use micro fiber towels during this process to help avoid scratches. If this does not work, as a last resort, use a produce like Bug-B-Gone in a shady area and follow the directions on the label.