

CARE OF DFI COATED WINDSHIELDS

Understanding Windshield Care Concepts

With proper care, DFI's nanotechnology coating will provide excellent service life. Windshields, coated or uncoated, are constantly being exposed by severe abrasion from gritty dirt and wipers. Over time, abrasion will remove minute particles of the coating and then the glass surface beneath.

There are four distinct areas of hydrophobic coating wear observable on a typical windshield. See how the coating will gradually diminish as follows:

1: A hydrophilic line at the turning point of the wipers is formed as shown by #1 on Diagram A.

2: In the overlapping area of the two wipers, a "shark fin" of reduced hydrophobic effect appears as shown by #2 on Diagram A.

3: Wear in the areas that are only reached by one wiper as shown by #3 on Diagram A.



Diagram A

4: The functionality of the coating in the remaining areas decreases very slowly as shown by #4 on Diagram A.

To maintain the benefits of the DFI nanotechnology coating indefinitely, and to protect the underlying molecular bonds, DFI recommends using our **DFI Revitalizer Nano** to revitalize the glass. It is best to use this product when the contact angle of water on the windshield becomes diminished as shown by #3 on Diagram A.



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IMPROVE THE LONGEVITY OF COATING

Avoid running the wipers dry/nearly dry or "excessively"

Make sure the glass is thoroughly wet before turning on the wipers (either with the windshield sprayer, a water hose, water bucket, or rain). We encourage cleaning the windshield with soapy water, or even a feather duster (if no water is available). Over use of wipers will decrease the life of the coating. With a hydrophobic coating, windshield wiper use should be conserved for when it's actually needed; the less the wipers are used, the longer the coating will remain effective.

New wipers should be installed & high quality wiper blades used

When DFI is applied, wipers should be replaced at regular intervals. Aged wipers become abrasive themselves. There are some new higher quality silicone wiper blade materials that will yield better performance and stay supple much longer than traditional blades.

Revitalize

When challenged with rainy/dusty weather conditions, its important to use your DFI Revitalizer Nano on weakened areas to improve longevity.

Driving habits differ

Some cars are driven only occasionally in nice weather and garaged. Some vehicles are used commercially and driven 24/7, which means exposure to the elements that results in shorter duration of coating effectiveness.

Varied environmental conditions

Areas with more dust and pollution, or more abrasive dust, and frequent rainy conditions will necessitate more frequent wiper use under more abrasive conditions, which will impact the coating longevity.

Air side vs Tin side of Glass

The air side of the glass will fare better against abrasion than the tin side as tin is softer and prone to scratching. The side exposed to the elements on a car windshield can depend on the manufacturers' production process, so cars with different makes of windshields can vary in their resistance to abrasion.



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