

FLA COE
FLB COE
FLD Conventional
Business Class
FLC 112 Conventional

> Century Class Conventional
> Argosy COE
Cargo
> Columbia
> 122SD and Coronado

> Business Class M2
> Cascadia
> 108SD/114SD
> New Cascadia

Freightliner
Service Bulletin

General Information

Use the following guidelines when washing a vehicle to properly care for the paint finish.

Within 30 Days of the Manufacture Date

A new vehicle may have accumulated dust and grit on its surface during travel to the dealership. This can be abrasive to the new clear coat finish, if not properly removed. Do the following within 30 days of the manufacture date.

- Rinse the vehicle with water **only** and avoid the use of a high-pressure washer within 30 days of the vehicle manufacture date while the paint finish is still fresh.
- **Never** dry-wipe the paint surface to clean it.
- Thoroughly rinse the vehicle's surface with clean water to remove loose dirt and grime before starting the wash procedure.
- When washing the vehicle, remember to always go from top to bottom, never the opposite. Generally the dirtiest parts of the vehicle are those closest to the ground. Wheel wells, rocker panels, and bumpers tend to have the largest accumulation of grime and you don't want to bring that dirt back onto the paint surface and risk scratching it.
- Use top-quality wash mitts, sponges, or micro fiber cloths to apply car wash soaps. Wash mitts can be made of long or short nap micro fiber, sponge material or sheepskin that can be either synthetic or genuine.
- If using brushes, stay clear of brushes with stiff nylon bristles that will quickly damage, dull, and scratch the paint. High quality, soft micro fiber brushes are recommended.
- Be sure to use clean water.
 - In order to guarantee a swirl-free finish, use of the two-bucket washing method is recommended. As the name implies, two separate buckets are used to wash the vehicle. One bucket holds the soapy car wash solution; use only a water-based non-abrasive, neutral pH (non-acidic or non-alkaline) detergent. The other bucket holds clean, clear rinse water to rinse the applicator after each pass over the vehicle. This keeps dirt particles just picked up on the surface from going back into the clean wash solution and being picked up again by the wash mitt or brush. Rinse the applicator frequently in the second bucket. Always store washing applicators (brushes or cloth) in a clean environment. Never store them directly on the floor or on dirty surfaces.
- Use gentle pressure with the wash mitt or brush on the first pass. The first pass picks up the majority of the dirt and loosens the remaining dirt for pick up on the second pass.
- Bird droppings and sap should be washed off as soon as possible to avoid acid etching of new topcoat.
- Do not wax the paint finish within the first 60 days.

After 30 Days of the Manufacture Date

Do the following after 30 days of the manufacture date:

- Wash the vehicle, especially when exposed to a dusty, acidic, or alkaline environment.
- Use only a water-based non-abrasive neutral pH (non-acidic or non-alkaline) detergent.
- Avoid using extremely hot water when washing the vehicle. Best results are achieved when water temperature is below 120°F (49°C).

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- The following settings must be complied with when cleaning with a pressure washer:
 - The distance of the nozzle to the vehicle body must be greater than 4 inches (102 mm).
 - The pressure must be less than 1700 psi (11 722 kPa).
 - The water temperature must be less than 120°F (49°C).
- Do not wash the vehicle if the paint finish is hot due to sunlight exposure.
- Avoid the use of brushes with stiff bristles. Use of a soft cloth or felt brushes is highly recommended.
- When using an automated wash system, ensure that it is working correctly. Pay careful attention to soap effectiveness, lubricity and dispensing, brush pressure, water hardness, and the overall cleanliness of the wash system.
- Do not allow anti-freeze, gasoline, hydraulic fluid, oil, or windshield washer fluid to stand on the paint for any period of time. Remove immediately by rinsing with warm water. Exposure time for hydraulic fluid and oil is greatly reduced if the paint surface is hot.
- Repair any paint chips, nicks, or scratches as soon as possible to prevent further degradation to the paint finish.
- Should the vehicle become damaged, have it repaired as quickly as possible. Contact a reputable repair facility and specify the use of Axalta Imron® to assure the best possible color match, appearance and durability to the original OEM finish.
- For further information call 1-855-6-AXALTA (629-2582) or visit axaltacs.com/us/Imron.

Warranty

This is an informational bulletin only. Warranty does not apply.