

## 2.2 Engine Bay Cleaning & Drying



Engine bays are prone to becoming greasy and grimy. There are specific products available to clean these tough areas, usually called 'engine cleaners' or 'engine bay degreasers', but good All Purpose Cleaners (APC) will also work. Prior to starting an engine cleaning process it is absolutely vital to protect air intakes, the ECU and all electrical components using detailing tape and plastic shopping bags in order to prevent water damage to these sensitive items (see [2.1 Protecting Engine Bay Electrics](#))

### Equipment:

- Degreaser / APC in bottle with trigger spray head
- Medium sized soft bristle brush
- Small sized soft bristle brush
- Microfibre drying towel(s)

## Method:

- Step 1 – Ensure engine and components are cool to the touch
- Step 2 – Ensure air intake and electronic components are protected
- Step 3 – Using a non-caustic degreaser spray the engine bay and engine, including the underside of the bonnet (unless soundproofing is present)
- Step 4 – Allow to dwell for as long as the manufacturer recommends
- Step 5 – Agitate with a soft-bristled brush to tackle any stubborn areas of grease
- Step 6 – Using a spray / shower setting on a hose attachment, gently rinse off the engine bay. Do not use high pressure as this may force water and loosened contaminants in to the wrong areas!
- Step 7 – Remove all the protective coverings from air intake and electrical components
- Step 8 – Start your engine and leave it running for 2-3 minutes to encourage the engine surfaces to dry out
- Step 9 – Switch the engine off and complete the drying process using clean microfibre towels