

HANDS ON



Detailing: How-to

THANKS AND CONTACT

LAST MONTH, WE CHERRY PICKED A MYRIAD OF DETAILING PRODUCTS FOR DESIGNATED BUDGETS, £50 BEING THE CHEAPEST – £150 THE DEAREST. THIS MONTH, WE PUT SOME OF THEM INTO PRACTICE...

WORDS AND PICTURES Adam Tait

In a previous *Total BMW* news story, some of you may have read about detailing products supplier, Ultimate Finish, and its new detailing studio facility at Brands Hatch where enthusiasts can have their pride and joy taken care of by UF's in-house detailing aficionado, Robert Tomlin.

Keen to try out the products we featured in the April 2011 issue, we set an afternoon aside with UF to

see what kind of transformation we could achieve within a few hours. Which is the sort of timeframe you may set aside the day before a BMW show or to address general car detailing duties at the weekend.

To make it realistic to the DIY enthusiast, we didn't use a machine polisher, just regular applicator pads (as featured last month) but we did have a pressure washer to hand, which many of you will already have in the shed or garage.

UF recommends the use of a Snow Foam lance (around £60) in

conjunction with a pressure washer. It is a pre-wash method that will remove excess dirt or grime before contact is made with the bodywork using, say, a wash mitt.

With the road salt now clear of UK roads, now's the perfect time to apply a protective barrier to the paintwork if it was exposed to the unsympathetic winter months. We will take you through the complete wash, clay, compound, polish and waxing process, all of which will revitalise any BMW, old or new...

The Ultimate Finish for its help in compiling this feature. To book your car in for a detail or to purchase detailing products, just visit the website or give the team a call.

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01

The pressure washer is great for blasting muck off from the inner arches. An area that will develop corrosion if left untreated – remember to get behind those arch lips!



02

The E39s new 18-inch Style-32 wheels were ridden in brake dust after just a week of driving. It's vital to keep on top of wheel cleaning so the brake dust doesn't have time to attack the surface.

