



Professional Automotive Reconditioning Guidebook

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Professional Automotive Reconditioning Guidebook is designed to help you consistently achieve the highest reconditioning quality. While not the only method for detailing a vehicle, this process has long been safely and effectively utilized by reconditioning professionals worldwide. Whether you use the process outlined or another method, be sure to follow the same sequence on each vehicle. A consistent approach ensures consistent results.

I. EXTERIOR WORK

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3. Remove grease, tar & wax
4. Wash and clay exterior
5. Dress engine and exterior rubber, plastic & vinyl surfaces

II. PAINTED SURFACE RECONDITIONING

1. Inspect paint and remove scratches & oxidation
2. Level surface and apply protective barrier

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2. Clean and dress interior rubber, plastic & vinyl surfaces
3. Clean all glass surfaces
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IV. FINAL INSPECTION

1. Professional Automotive Reconditioning Checklist

About Us

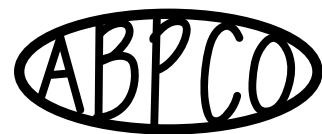
Since 1960, Auto Beauty Products Company has serviced the automotive reconditioning professional with the most complete line of quality reconditioning products in the industry. We offer a comprehensive line of waxes, polishes, compounds, dressings, soaps, cleaners, paints and dyes in addition to all required ancillary products to effectively, safely, and efficiently recondition any vehicle. This includes, but is not limited to equipment (extractor machines, buffers, pressure washers), safety products (gloves, aprons, goggles, OSHA approved bottles), accessories (brushes, towels, chamois), jan/san products (trash liners, paper products, mops/heads), and service chemicals (windshield solvent, brake/parts cleaner, floor soap). Family owned and operated for over 50 years, we understand the value of service in addition to providing great products. With 10 trucks proudly serving north Texas, you can be sure we can always be there for you. Our salesmen are the best in the industry, and are the most experienced professionals compared to any of our competition. Our salesmen, on average, have over 12 years experience in this service-oriented industry. This experience gives Auto Beauty Products Company the capability to provide our customers with efficient service, on-site troubleshooting and training, cost control by reducing product redundancy and inefficient use, and

In addition to high quality reconditioning products, we have an in-house service department dedicated to repairing all types of equipment used in the automotive reconditioning profession. This includes dilution / pump systems, pressure washers, high-speed buffers and orbital buffers. We provide an industry-leading turn around on repairs because we understand the importance of your equipment and what it means to your profitability.

Satisfied customers in auto & RV dealerships, auto auctions, body shops, car washes, detail shops and marinas enthusiastically attest to the quality of product and service that Auto Beauty Products Company provides.

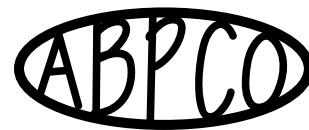
Auto Beauty Products Company

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Exterior Work

Degrease Vehicle



Wet the entire body area around the engine with cool water to prevent the Cleaner/Degreaser from spotting the paint. Do not wet the engine.



Thoroughly wet any painted surface to which the Cleaner/Degreaser will be applied (areas containing heavy traffic film).



Spray the engine and engine compartment with Cleaner/ Degreaser using a consistent pattern to ensure full coverage.



Apply Cleaner/Degreaser to the inner hood (avoiding the hoodliner), wheel wells ...



... door jambs (from the latch level down) ...



... mirror backs, rocker panels ...



... gas cap compartment ...



... and trunk jambs (if the jambs are dirty enough to warrant degreasing - if not, clean by hand when cleaning the tops of the door jambs during Interior Cleaning).



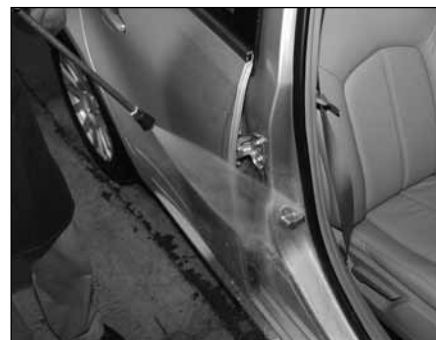
Agitate the grillwork and rocker panels with a pre-soaked Doo All pad to remove road film and bug residue.



Thoroughly pressure rinse all areas degreased, holding the spray nozzle 8" to 12" from the surface.



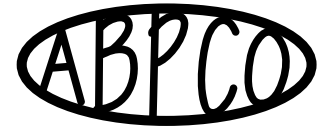
Pressure rinse the door jambs (latch level down) with the nozzle facing downward and slightly outward in order to minimize overspray into the interior.



Ensure all heavy grime is removed from the door latch area. Use caution when rinsing around electronics and weather stripping.

Exterior Work

Degrease Vehicle



Thoroughly pressure rinse the rocker panels ...



... the gas cap compartment ...



... and trunk jabs (if degreased).



Pressure rinse the engine compartment last (allowing the Cleaner/Degreaser to dwell on the surface longest). Rinse the latch area first, avoiding the hoodliner.



Thoroughly rinse the engine following a consistent pattern. Stand at different angles to ensure hard-to-reach areas are completely clean. Don't saturate engine electronics.



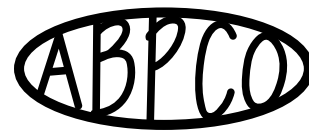
Examine your work. If any dirt or grease remains, re-apply the Cleaner/Degreaser and re-rinse.

Degreasers / General Purpose Cleaners (by cleaning strength)

- Hot Shot
- Motor Degreaser
- Magical Blue
- Clean It All
- Extra Special
- Green Clean
- Nature's Citrus Cleaner
- Bug-A-Way

Exterior Work

Clean Wheels & Tires



Cleaning wheels with an acid-based wheel cleaner



Wet the entire body area around the wheel wells with cool water to dilute the Wheel Cleaner should it come into contact with the paint.



Ensure the wheel is cool to the touch, then test an inconspicuous area of the wheel to confirm that the Cleaner is compatible with the wheel.



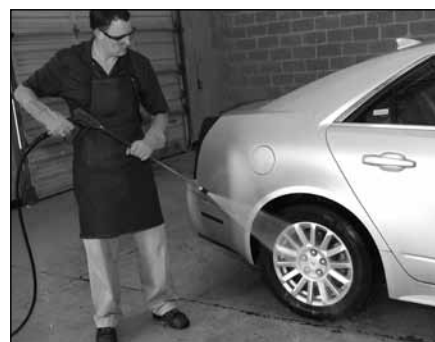
Spray the Cleaner directly on the wheel. Do not allow it to dwell for longer than 30 seconds, or to dry on the surface.



If the brake dust is heavy, agitate the surface with a spoke brush. Don't apply an acid-based Cleaner to all four wheels at the same time if agitation is necessary (the product will dwell too long on wheel surface).



Thoroughly pressure wash the wheel holding the nozzle 8" to 12" from the wheel surface.



Stand at different angles to ensure the product is completely rinsed from the surface.

Cleaning tires after cleaning wheels with an acid-based wheel cleaner



Spray both the wheel and tire with a Tire Cleaner, and allow it to dwell for one minute. The alkaline Tire Cleaner will neutralize any traces of acid left from the acid-based Wheel Cleaner.



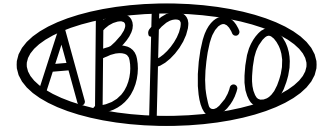
Agitate the Cleaner on the tire with a stiff bristled brush to remove embedded road film.



Thoroughly pressure rinse both the wheel and tire.

Exterior Work

Clean Wheels & Tires



Cleaning wheels and tires with a non-acid wheel cleaner



Wet the entire body area around the wheel wells with cool water to dilute the Wheel Cleaner should it come into contact with the paint.



Spray both the wheel and tire with a non-acid Wheel Cleaner, and allow it to dwell for one minute.



Agitate the wheel with a spoke brush.



Agitate the Cleaner on the tire with a stiff bristled brush to remove embedded road film.



Thoroughly pressure rinse both the wheel and tire.

Wheel Cleaners (Acid-Based) (by cleaning strength)

- Wire Wheel
- Mag-Aluminum

Wheel Cleaners (Non-Acid) (by cleaning strength)

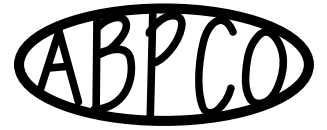
- Mag Wheel NA

Tire Cleaner

- White Lightning

Exterior Work

Remove Grease, Tar & Wax



Spray Body Prep Solvent on both the cleaning tool
(an applicator pad, in this case)...



... and directly on the surface to be cleaned.



Vigorously agitate the Solvent on the surface.



If the petroleum-based soils are especially heavy
(particularly tar), a more abrasive Doo All Pad may
be required for agitation.



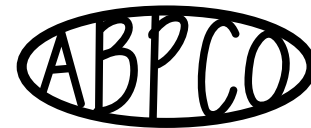
Fenders and fascias are prone to heavy tar.



Thoroughly pressure rinse all areas cleaned.

Exterior Work

Remove Grease, Tar & Wax

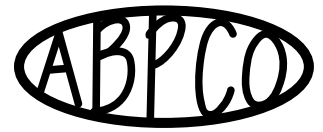


Body Prep Solvents (by cleaning strength)

- Laquer Thinner
- Adhesive Label Remover
- New Car Solvent
- Remove It All

Exterior Work

Wash & Clay Exterior



Move the vehicle out of direct sunlight, and wet with cool water.



Apply Car Soap solution to the vehicle from the top down (either from a bucket or with a foamer).



Vigorously agitate the soap solution with a sponge or wash mitt.



Since Car Soaps are pH balanced (contain no harsh alkalis), agitation is required to break the bond between the soil and the vehicle surface.



Be sure to "mitt out" the wheel wells (using a separate mitt than the one used to agitate the soap solution on the paint).



Rinse the vehicle from the top down, using low pressure.



Examine the Clay Bar to ensure that it's free of contaminants.



Lubricate the surface by generously misting it with a mild Car Soap solution.



Gently rub the Clay Bar over the lubricated surface, working lengthwise with the panel.



Knead the Clay Bar when its face become "saturated" (there is no longer any resistance as you rub the bar on the paint).



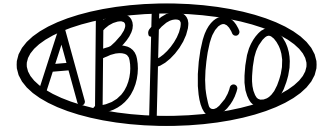
Pressure rinse the areas clayed.



Dry the surface with a chamois.

Exterior Work

Wash & Clay Exterior



Car Soaps (by cleaning strength)

- HD Car Wash Soap
 - Cherry Suds
 - Wash N' Wax
- Car Wash Suds
 - Magical Foam
- Econo Car Wash Soap

Car Soaps (by foaminess)

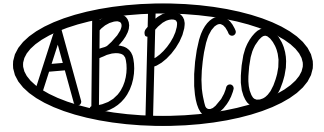
- Wash N' Wax
- Magical Foam
- Cherry Suds
- Econo Car Wash Soap
 - Car Wash Suds
- HD Car Wash Soap

Clay Bars (by aggressiveness)

- Clay Bar Purple
- Clay Bar Gray

Exterior Work

Dress Engine and Exterior Rubber, Plastic & Vinyl Surfaces



Blow any standing water off the engine with an air hose.



Spray the entire engine with a water based dressing, using a consistent pattern to ensure even coverage.



Wipe the engine with a soft cloth or allow to air dry.



Spray the wheel wells with a solvent-based dressing.



To ensure evenness, and reduce product "run off", spray the solvent-based dressing on an applicator pad.



Hand apply the dressing to the tires, using smooth, even strokes. Ensure the dressing is completely dry before moving the vehicle.



Hand apply dressing to the cowl ...



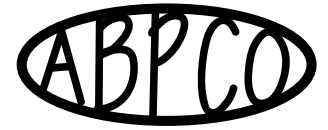
... and all exterior trim.



Once the dressing on the tires is completely dry, move the vehicle and dress the area that was in contact with the floor.

Exterior Work

Dress Engine and
Exterior Rubber, Plastic & Vinyl Surfaces



Water-Based Dressings (by gloss)

- Instant Shine
 - Summit
- Super Dress-It-All
 - Like New
 - Protect It All

Water-Based Dressings (by durability)

- Summit
- Super Dress-It-All
 - Protect It All
 - Like New
- Instant Shine

Solvent-Based Dressings (by gloss)

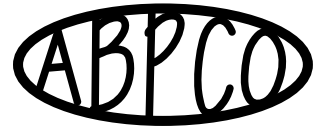
- Bumper Gel
- Ultimate Dressing
- Clear Shine Dressing
 - Vibrance

Solvent-Based Dressings (by durability)

- Bumper Gel
- Ultimate Dressing
- Clear Shine Dressing
 - Vibrance

Painted Surface Reconditioning

Inspect Paint and Remove Scratches & Oxidation



Determine whether the vehicle has a conventional or basecoat/clearcoat paint system by hand applying a compound to an inconspicuous area of the paint. If color appears on the rag, the vehicle has a conventional paint system (which can be compounded aggressively). If not, it has a basecoat/clearcoat system (on which light to moderate buffing products should be used).



Measure the thickness of the vehicle's paint with a paint thickness gauge (if available).



Determine the condition of the paint by examining the vehicles horizontal surfaces for scratches, oxidation and swirl marks.



Mask the wiper blades and cowl area with a damp towel to simplify residue removal.



If the depth of the scratches and extent of the oxidation warrant it, compound the surface with a high speed buffer and cutting pad. Buff slowly in a 2' x 2' area, using a side-to-side motion.



Apply light pressure, keep the pad flat on the surface and limit buffing speed to 1600 - 1800 r.p.m.



Monitor the amount of paint being removed with a paint thickness gauge.



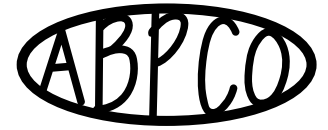
Clean the pad regularly, and establish a schedule for pad changes.



Remove all compounding residue with a soft, clean cloth.

Painted Surface Reconditioning

Inspect Paint and Remove Scratches & Oxidation



Compounds (by aggressiveness)

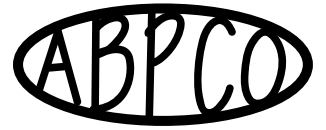
- Workout
- Workout 1000
- Workout 1500

Paint Condition Reference Chart

STAGE	CONDITION	PRODUCT	PROCESS
1	No oxidation No scratches	Wax or Paint Sealant	Orbital buffer or by hand
2	Mild oxidation Light scratches	Glaze/Polish	High speed buffer with polishing pad, then Stage 1
3	Heavy oxidation Deep scratches	Compound	High speed buffer with cutting pad, then Stage 2 & 1
4	Primer oxidation Primer scratches Clearcoat penetration	N/A	Repaint vehicle

Painted Surface Reconditioning

Level Surface and Apply Protective Barrier



Mask the wipe blades and cowl area with a damp towel to simplify residue removal.



Polish the painted surface with a high speed buffer and polishing pad. Follow the same buffing techniques used when compounding (except the buffer can be run up to 2800 r.p.m.).



Remove polishing residue with a soft, clean cloth.



Sparingly apply a thin, even layer of Wax or Paint Sealant to the paint by hand with a clean, soft applicator pad ...



... or with an orbital buffer (which is excellent for ensuring application evenness).



Be sure to apply wax to clearcoated wheels, as well.



Once the product has dried to a haze, remove the residue with a clean, soft cloth ...



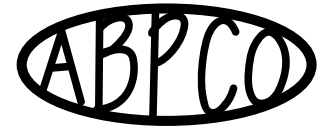
... or with an orbital buffer.



Be very thorough when removing wax residue. A detail brush is effective when cleaning cracks and crevices.

Painted Surface Reconditioning

Level Surface and Apply Protective Barrier



Polishes & Glazes (by aggressiveness)

- Cut-N-Glaze
- Crystal Luster
- Liquid Ebony

Polishes & Glazes (by durability)

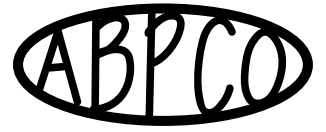
- Crystal Luster
- Liquid Ebony
- Cut-N-Glaze

Waxes & Paint Sealants (by durability)

- Paint Sealant
- Ultimate Carnauba
 - Fast Wax
- Easi-Off Yellow
 - Quick Seal
- Carnauba Speed Wax
 - Finish Shine

Interior Work

Detrash Interior



Remove and store all personal items.
Then remove all floor mats.



Blow dirt and debris from under the seat
(forward) with an air hose.



Remove dust from the vents with a detail brush.



Thoroughly vacuum the floor mats
and all fabric surfaces in ...



... the interior compartment ...



... and the trunk.



Empty the ash trays and soak them in
a mild General Purpose Cleaner solution.



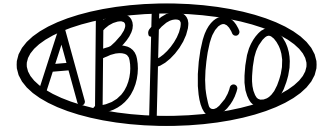
Inspect all fabric surfaces for stains, then dry brush
the areas to be treated in order to separate the fibers.



Lightly apply the Spot Remover to the stained areas,
and allow it to dwell until the fabrics are deep cleaned
later in the process.

Interior Work

Detrash Interior



Interior Cleaners & Spot Removers (by cleaning strength)

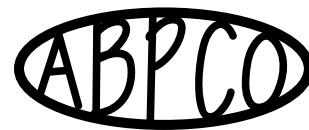
- Carpet Spotter
- Extra Duty Plus
- Orange Magic
 - Extra Duty

General Purpose Cleaners (by cleaning strength)

- Hot Shot
- Motor Degreaser
 - Magical Blue
 - Clean It All
 - Extra Special
 - Green Clean
- Leather and Plastic Cleaner
 - Nature's Citrus Cleaner
 - Solution
 - Extractor HD
 - HD Shampoo

Interior Work

Clean and Dress Interior Rubber, Plastic & Vinyl Surfaces



Thoroughly clean interior rubber, plastic & vinyl surfaces with a General Purpose Cleaner or Interior Cleaner by agitating the cleaning solution with a Doo All Pad ...



... or a detail brush. Apply the solution with the cleaning tool, and do not allow it to dwell for more than two minutes or dry on the surface.



Remove the solution from the surface by blowing the excess into a towel with compressed air, then wiping the surface thoroughly.



Hand clean the tops of the door jambs (latch level up).



Ensure all dirt is removed from the folds of the weather stripping on both the door jamb ...



... and the door itself.



Spot clean the visors and headliner by hand-applying a mild General Purpose Cleaner solution or lightly spraying an Aerosol Interior Cleaner.



Do not saturate or over-agitate the headliner. Either can loosen the adhesive causing it to sag.

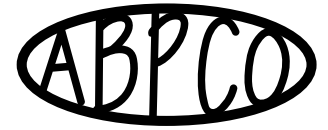


Hand apply a Water-Based Dressing to all rubber, plastic & vinyl surfaces cleaned (except those areas that shouldn't be slippery).

Interior Work

Clean and Dress

Interior Rubber, Plastic & Vinyl Surfaces



Interior Cleaners & Spot Removers (by cleaning strength)

- Carpet Spotter
- Extra Duty Plus
- Orange Magic
 - Extra Duty

General Purpose Cleaners (by cleaning strength)

- Hot Shot
- Motor Degreaser
 - Magical Blue
 - Clean It All
 - Extra Special
 - Green Clean
- Leather and Plastic Cleaner
 - Nature's Citrus Cleaner
 - Solution
 - Extractor HD
 - HD Shampoo

Water-Based Dressings (by gloss)

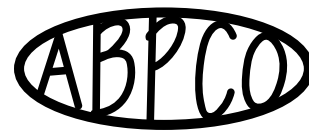
- Instant Shine
 - Summit
- Super Dress-It-All
 - Like New
 - Protect It All

Water-Based Dressings (by durability)

- Summit
- Super Dress-It-All
 - Protect It All
 - Like New
 - Instant Shine

Interior Work

Clean Glass Surfaces



Lightly mist Glass Cleaner on glass surfaces.



Agitate the cleaning solution with a lint-free cloth, microfiber towel or paper towel.



Wipe the glass clean with a second towel.



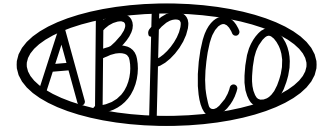
Wipe consistently in the same direction ... vertically on interior glass and horizontally on exterior glass. This simplifies locating any streaks.



Clean all exterior, rearview & vanity mirrors.



Roll down the window and clean both sides on the window top.

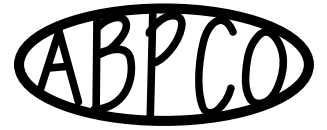


Glass Cleaners
(by cleaning strength)

- Glass Cleaner Aerosol
 - Glass Cleaner RTU
- Glass Cleaner Concentrate

Interior Work

Clean Carpets, Seats & Upholstery



Clean with an extractor



Deep clean the carpets, seats, upholstery and trunk compartment with an extractor and properly diluted extraction fluid.



To minimize soaking, apply the cleaning solution (pull trigger) on the first pass, then vacuum area twice without applying more solution.



To deodorize while extracting, add several ounces of Air Freshener or Counteractant to the extractor reservoir.

Clean with a "bucket & brush"



Mix a General Purpose Cleaner solution in a bucket and agitate to generate foam. Vigorously clean fabrics with the foam (not solution) using an upholstery brush.



Thoroughly vacuum all fabric surfaces cleaned.



To deodorize interior, lightly spray air freshener or counteractant under seat.

Clean & condition leather surfaces



Either hand apply (if lotion) or spray (if liquid) Leather Cleaner to surface and gently agitate.



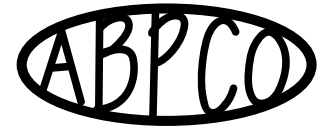
Let the cleaner dwell for several minutes, then wipe dry with a clean towel.



Hand apply or spray on Leather Conditioner, wipe into surface and let dry. If using Leather Cleaner & Conditioner, the entire process can be done in one step.

Interior Work

Clean Carpets, Seats & Upholstery



General Purpose Cleaners (by cleaning strength)

- Hot Shot
- Motor Degreaser
- Magical Blue
- Clean It All
- Extra Special
- Green Clean
- Leather and Plastic Cleaner
 - Nature's Citrus Cleaner
 - Solution
- Extractor HD
- HD Shampoo

Leather Cleaners & Conditioners (by cleaning strength)

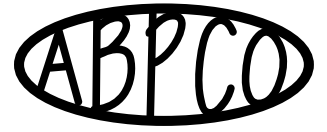
- Leather & Plastic Cleaner
- Leather Cleaner & Conditioner
 - Lexol Cleaner
 - Lexol Conditioner

Air Fresheners & Counteractants (by durability)

- Odor Foggers
- Malodor Counteractant
 - Wafers
 - Air Fresh

Interior Work

Dye Deeply Stained Fabrics



Thoroughly vacuum and towel dry the fabric surfaces to be dyed.



Spray a light coating of dye directly on the fabric.



Brush the dye into the nap of the fabric with an upholstery brush.



Allow the dye to dwell for several minutes.



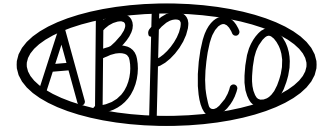
Lightly spray a second coating.



Rebrush the surface, blending the color with the surrounding fabric.

Interior Work

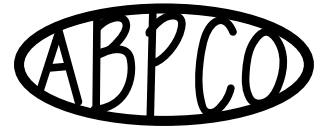
Dye Deeply Stained Fabrics



ABPCO Leather, Vinyl, Carpet and Hard Plastic Refinisher - available colors

- Beige
- Doeskin
- Desert Tan
- Cappuccino
 - Sand
 - Tan
- Chocolate
- Light Blue Metallic
 - Sky Blue
- Medium Blue
 - Blue
- Dark Metallic Blue
 - Deep Blue
 - Light Gray
- Silver Metallic
- Gray Metallic
 - Gray
- Carbon Gray
- Dark Gray
- Charcoal Gray
 - Black
- Autumn Red
 - Dark Red
 - Burgundy
- Deep Green
 - Brown
- Off White
- Light Brown
 - White
 - Red
 - Khaki
 - Chestnut
 - Dove Gray
- Dark Gray Metallic
 - Flagstone
 - Tawny Gray

Professional Automotive Reconditioning Checklist



I. Exterior

Yes

No

A. Painted Surface

1. Surface Contaminants Removed
2. Metallic Fallout & Acid Rain Spotting Removed
3. Scratches, Swirl Marks & Oxidation Removed
4. Residue Removed
5. Final Finish Evenly Applied
6. Comments: _____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

B. Engine Compartment

1. Contaminants Removed from:
 - Engine
 - Engine Compartment
 - Inner Hood (hoodliner not saturated)
2. Engine Dressed
3. Comments: _____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

C. Wheels, Tires & Wheel Wells

1. Wheels Cleaned
2. Tires & Whitewalls Cleaned and Dressed
3. Wheel Wells Cleaned and Dressed
4. Comments: _____

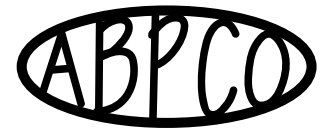
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

D. Critical Details

1. Grillwork, Air Dam & Bumpers Cleaned
2. Door Jambs, Trunk Jamb & Gas Cap Compartment Cleaned
3. Exterior Rubber & Vinyl Trim Cleaned and Dressed
4. Exterior Glass & Mirrors Cleaned
5. Comments: _____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Professional Automotive Reconditioning Checklist



II. Interior

Yes

No

A. Rubber, Plastic, Vinyl & Glass Surfaces

1. Dashboard, Console & Instrument Panel (dressed)
2. Steering Wheel, Foot Pedals & Vinyl Seats (not dressed)
3. Glove Box & Storage Areas
4. Door Frame Weather Stripping
5. Interior Glass & Mirrors
6. Rear Window Deck
7. Ash Trays
8. Comments: _____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

B. Leather & Fabric Surfaces (damp - not saturated)

1. Carpets
2. Cloth or Leather Seats
3. Cloth or Leather Seat Backs
4. Headliner & Visors
5. Floor Mats
6. Trunk Compartment
7. Comments: _____

_____	_____
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III. Additional Comments:
