

WHEEL CLEANING TECHNICAL GUIDE

A comprehensive guide for safely using
Autosmart products on your vehicles
wheels.



ABOUT US

THE AUTOSMART DIFFERENCE



For over 35 years Autosmart International has been at the forefront of the vehicle cleaning industry. We design and manufacture all of our own products to provide users with a range that offers unrivalled performance, quality and value.

Science is the heart of our success.

Autosmart has unrivalled expertise in the science of vehicle cleaning. We have an extensive international research program, conducted in conjunction with industry and government bodies as well as leading universities. As you would expect from experts, we have used this knowledge to formulate a range of products to meet the specific needs of the vehicle cleaning and detailing industry.

Excellence is Recognised

OUR HISTORY...



Autosmart Australia was founded in 1996 and started franchising in 1999. It has since grown to be Australia's largest trade supplier with over 35 franchisees nationwide. We are the only manufacturer to market in every state, from Darwin to Adelaide, Perth to the Sunshine Coast, we have you covered. Our goal is to help customers find the best products to suit their individual needs from our extensive range. We develop and manufacture all of our own products and distribute them exclusively throughout the country by our national network of franchisees.

AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR RANGE

Over the years, we have developed an amazingly comprehensive range of products to keep your vehicle looking its absolute best. Autosmart products are the number one choice for trade professionals in Australia. With the wealth of our experience in the vehicle cleaning industry we understand the need to have products to suit all vehicles in all situations. From mining to rail, and yachts, we have the best product for the job.



OHS & THE ENVIRONMENT

Autosmart Australia has undertaken several reviews to look at reducing our carbon footprint. One of our greatest initiatives has been to reduce the amount of plastic packaging we buy. It is our networks policy for each franchisee to recover empty plastic cubes used to hold our products and reuse/refill where possible. We also only purchase re-conditioned 200L drums and 1000L totes. Along with our packaging initiatives many of our key products are biodegradable and quickbreak. Looking after our environment is key to our business operation and we take it extremely seriously.

We have taken big steps to ensure we comply to current laws and legislations. The new Globally Harmonised System (GHS) that came into effect this year has seen a great deal of change within the industry. All the requirements of packaging, labelling and product classification have been updated relative to this system and we have invested much time and resources into ensuring we are compliant with these changes.



Professional, trade quality products with unparalleled performance.



An amazing range of products for every vehicle on and off the road.



Support from your local franchisee is unmatched in the industry.



Designed under ISO certification to ensure quality and consistency.



Many of our products are biodegradable and quick-break.



All our products are concentrated for high economy.

OUR PRODUCTS

AUTOSMART WHEEL CLEANERS

This is our comprehensive range of wheel cleaners to cover every type of wheel on the market.

ACID BASED



ALI

A highly effective aluminium cleaner & brightener ideal for aluminium wheels and for remedial wheel cleaning. Effortlessly removes brake dust and unsightly oxidation while it cleans and brightens wheels in one action.



ALI KING

Our premium strength aluminium and mag wheel cleaner. Excellent at removing brake dust and red dust from wheels.



ALI KING YELLOW

A powerful aluminium and wheel cleaner ideal for removing corrosion and oxidation stains. Also great for removal of concrete and rust spots.



RED WHEEL ACID

Is a robust and economical acid based aluminium and mag wheel cleaner. Excellent at removing brake dust and red dust from wheels. Highly concentrated for excellent economy.



ALI EXTREME

A highly economical, low hydrofluoric acid, sprayable wheel cleaner. Its powerful high cling formulation makes it ideal for cleaning and renovating aluminium and quality painted wheels.



FALLOUT REMOVER

Safe to use on paint, trim and glass, yet rapidly dissolves metal based fallout.

ALKALINE BASED



WHEEL KING

A heavy duty, acid free wheel cleaner. Foaming 'high cling' formulation with excellent deep cleansing performance. Removes stubborn brake dust and grime. Highly concentrated for excellent economy.



TRUCKSTEAM

A strong degreaser ideal for use on all road grime and fallout.



SMART STEAM

An economical degreaser for fleet operators.



HAZSAFE

An excellent traffic film remover (TFR) designed with operator safety in mind. Highly concentrated for economy leaving a high gloss finish. Ideal on all aluminium and brightwork.

PH NEUTRAL



RED 7

Red 7 is a pH neutral, acid free wheel cleaner, designed for performance, speed and safety. It provides a simple yet extremely effective, deep cleansing, spray and hose off action for bringing your vehicles wheels to an impressive shine.

Its unique formulation reacts with surface contaminants, usually iron particles found in brake dust, and turns these particles into a water soluble solution. This results in its characteristic bright red run-off that bleeds down the wheel providing easy rinse off. It is also highly effective at removing atmospheric fallout & oxidation.

Red 7 is safe to use on all vehicle surfaces and wheel types making it ideal for use on carbon ceramic brake systems.



PRODUCT SELECTION

WHICH PRODUCT TO USE



STEP 1:

CHECK MANUFACTURERS ADVICE

Manufacturers often specify the type of cleaning products that should be used on a particular vehicle. This information is usually found in the owners' handbook or on your wheel manufacturers website.

Products should be selected in accordance with these instructions. Failure to do so may invalidate the vehicle or wheel warranty.

STEP 2:

CHECK FOR EXISTING DAMAGE, CORROSION, WEAR & TEAR AND NON-PROFESSIONAL REPAIRS

This step is critical due to the fact that wheels that have damaged or corroded finishes may have exposed raw wheel material which may be sensitive to acids or alkaline products.

CHECK FOR:

- Scuffs and kerb damage
- Corrosion
- Blisters
- Peeling paint or lacquer
- Faded Paint

Also check brakes, wheel nuts and centre badges.



STEP 3:

WHEEL TYPES

WHEEL		CLEANING PROCESS			
		ACID	ALKALINE		NEUTRAL
Wheel Type	Common Issues	Ali	Wheel King	Hazsafe	Red 7
		Ali King	Trucksteam		
		Etc.	Smartsteam		
FACTORY FITTED - PAINTED • Usually smooth, consistent light silver finish					
FACTORY FITTED - TRIM • Plastic wheel trim					
AFTERMARKET - PAINT INCL. POWDER COAT • Rough to touch • Speckled or uneven finish • Non-typical colour i.e. Dark Grey	• Paint quality can vary • Low specification finishes can fade or start to lift				
AFTERMARKET - POLISHED "CHROME LOOK" • Check for presense of lacquer by applying a small amoun of cutting polish. If cloth turns black and the surface becomes shiny then the wheel is not lacquered.	• Susceptible to corrosion / lacquer peel • Check for damage before cleaning	LACQUER	LACQUER		
		NO LACQUER	NO LACQUER		
DIAMOND CUT - DARK WITH POLISHED FACE • Check that polished face is lacquered	• Susceptible to corrosion • Check for damage before cleaning	LACQUER	LACQUER		
		NO LACQUER	NO LACQUER		
SPLIT RIM • Bolts around wheel rim	• Susceptible to corrosion around rim bolts • Check for damage before cleaning				
UNFINISHED • Rare and usually only found on older vehicles • Usually dull with white corrosion spots	• Will dull / corrode in use • Require polishing with PEEK to restore shine				
CHROME • Now rare and usually only found on classic cars	• Acid can dissolve chrome • Prone to rusting and flaking				
D.I.Y. (AEROSOL) - PAINT • Rough to touch • Speckled or uneven finish • Non-typical colour i.e. Dark Grey	• Paint quality can vary • Low specification finishes can fade or start to lift				

OKAY	TEST BEFORE USE	DO NOT USE

...CONTINUED

ALSO CONSIDER...

	ISSUES	CLEANING PRODUCT TYPE			
		ACID	ALKALINE		NEUTRAL
		Ali	Wheel King	Hazsafe	Red 7
		Ali King	Trucksteam		
Etc.	Smartsteam				
CONCRETE / BLOCK PAVING (DRIVEWAY)	Hydrochloric acid will dissolve / discolour concrete and stone surfaces	Yellow	Blue	Blue	Blue
BRAKE DISCS	Washing with acids can cause surface rust	Yellow	Blue	Blue	Blue
BRAKE CALIPERS - STANDARD FINISH		Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
BRAKE CALIPERS - PAINTED	Can fade in use. Check before cleaning	Yellow	Yellow	Blue	Blue
BRAKE CALIPERS - POLISHED	Can dull in use. Check before cleaning	Red	Red	Blue	Blue
WHEEL NUTS - STEEL / CHROME	Repeated washing with acids can cause corrosion	Yellow	Blue	Blue	Blue
WHEEL NUTS - ALLOY	Repeated washing with acids and alkaline products can cause corrosion	Yellow	Yellow	Blue	Blue

OKAY	TEST BEFORE USE	DO NOT USE
Blue	Yellow	Red

PRODUCT USAGE

- Always read the product label and SDS before using product for the first time and conduct necessary risk assessments.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, such as gloves and safety glasses/goggles.
- Do not use acids with pressurised sprayers.
- Ensure that appropriate first aid facilities are available (including a supply of Calcium Gluconate gel to treat hydrofluoric acid burns).

- Ensure the wheel, brakes and surrounding bodywork are cool before applying product.
- Dilute and apply the product in accordance with the directions for use on the label.
- Avoid or minimise over-spray onto surrounding bodywork. Do not allow acid or strong alkaline products to come in contact with brightwork or polished trim.
- **DO NOT ALLOW PRODUCT TO DRY ON THE VEHICLE SURFACE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.**
- Rinse with plenty of water.

Special precautions for damaged wheels or DIY finishes:

- Do not brush corrosion blisters or damaged areas.
- Do not apply high-pressure water from close range as this may cause the paint / lacquer to flake off.



OUR PRODUCTS

WHEEL CLEANING ACCESSORIES

A sample of our exclusive range of wheel cleaning accessories.

Along with our comprehensive range of cleaners, degreasers and detergents, we have an amazing range of accessory items to assist you with your wheels. We have a complete range of brushes, sponges, cloths, sprayers, applicators and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to clean up your vehicle efficiently and safely.

Speak with your local Autosmart franchisee about choosing the best accessory items for cleaning your vehicle.



MORE WHEEL & TYRE PRODUCTS

- **Tyre Dandy** - Aerosol based high gloss wheel dressing.
- **BCE** (Brake, Clutch & Electrical) - Solvent based brake, clutch and electrical component cleaner.
- **Silicone Spray** - Aerosol based scented silicone spray.
- **Rubber Dressing** - High performance tyre dressing, water based.
- **Jet Degreaser** - Powerful, low caustic degreaser ideal for tyres, wheels and engine bays.
- **G101** - Excellent multi purpose cleaner and degreaser.
- **Engine & Tyre Dressing** - Heat resistant dry finish lacquer for engines and tyres.
- **Promenade** - High shine, long lasting dressing & sealer.
- **Purple Stuff** - Aluminium cleaner & polish.
- **TW39** - Powerful TFR and vehicle cleaner.
- **TW66** - Heavy duty vehicle wash and degreaser.
- **Tardis** - Powerful solvent based tar and glue remover. Also ideal for removal of tree sap.
- **Treads** - Water based, classic black tyre & rubber paint.

Contact your local franchisee for more information regarding our amazing range of vehicle care products.





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www.autosmartaustralia.com.au

The professionals' choice for
vehicle cleaning products.