

- 🔇 1300 171 079
- Support@platinumpotions.com.au
- www.platinumpotions.com.au

# nano-TECH Quartz AU Pro Coat Ceramic Coating Application Guide

# **Professional Trade Secrets, Shared Openly**

# **Before You Begin**

If you're tempted to "do it your own way," we encourage you to set aside any assumptions. This guide is based on over a decade of experience in:

- Automotive detailing
- Chemical manufacturing
- OEM clear coat correction (wet sanding and polishing)
- Custom spray painting and airbrushing, including candy paints and flow coating

We've also collaborated with Australia's leading detailers to refine these techniques. You're receiving insights that many pay hundreds–if not thousands–of dollars to access.

No paid courses. No gimmicks. Just straight, actionable knowledge to help you achieve premium results with our products.

Beyond our own experience, we've consulted some of the most skilled and respected detailers in the country. These professionals have shared their knowledge about training, certification, and the best practices across various coating systems. The result is this straightforward, step-by-step guide, designed to help you get the most from your efforts.

We understand this might challenge your existing methods, however we've compiled invaluable insights here. Many detailing business owners spend hundreds–sometimes thousands–of dollars to access this level of information. We're providing it to you for free because we want you to use our products correctly and enjoy the incredible benefits they offer.

No gimmicks. No unnecessary vetting processes. No paid academies or courses. Just practical, honest information you can use straight away.

Forewarning, our ceramic coatings do have temperature and humidity limitations during application. In short we strongly recommend applying our ceramic coatings under the following parameters.

Temperature: Between 15 - 28 Degrees Celsius

Humidity: Between 0-60%

- If applying under 15deg C, coating may not bond and adhere properly
- If applying over 28deg C, coating will bond too FAST (you may be left with high spots)
- If applying over 60% humidity, coating will bond too FAST.

# **Short Pot-Life Warning**

This coating has an extremely short pot life as it is a real silica quartz-based coating, each time you apply the coating onto the applicator pad, **you must screw the lid back onto the bottle immediately.** If you leave the lid off during coating application, you will have less than 15mins before the coating starts to set and thicken up inside the bottle.



🛞 1300 171 079

- Support@platinumpotions.com.au
- www.platinumpotions.com.au

## Introduction

This application guide provides a straightforward, step-by-step explanation of how to apply a ceramic coating from start to finish.

We'll cover everything you need to know: how to apply, buff, maintain, and protect your ceramic coating, as well as how to maximise its longevity. These steps align closely with our **Maintenance Guide** because ceramic coatings are **not** "set-and-forget" products, nor are they "lifetime coatings." Proper maintenance is essential to ensure their durability. If your ceramic coating isn't maintained or your paintwork isn't cared for correctly, the coating's lifespan **will** be significantly reduced—**no exceptions**!

To achieve the best results, your paintwork must be meticulously prepared before application. This includes:

- 1. Washing
- 2. Decontaminating
- 3. Polishing
- 4. Final wash and surface preparation
- 5. Application

By following this guide, you'll ensure your ceramic coating performs as intended and provides the long-lasting protection it was designed for.

# **Step 1: Clean the Wheels**

Use **nano-TECH Wheel Cleanse** to thoroughly clean your wheels. Follow the instructions provided on the product page for optimal results.

# **Step 2: Pre-Foam the Vehicle**

Apply **nano-TECH Ultra Foam** as a pre-wash foam. This step helps to loosen dirt and debris before the main contact wash. Be sure to follow the instructions on the product page for the correct usage.

# **Step 3: Deep Clean Trims and Hard-to-Reach Areas**

Use **nano-TECH Multi Degrease** to clean the wheel arches, black exterior trims, and areas around window trims, wiper blades, tail lights, and spoilers. Pay special attention to bonnet, door, and boot jambs—these areas often trap contaminants and are prone to watermarks after washing.

For best results:

- Focus on breaking down and removing as much grime as possible from areas where water typically drips during drying.
- Use a soft detailing brush to gently clean these intricate spots without causing damage.



🔇 1300 171 079

- Support@platinumpotions.com.au
- www.platinumpotions.com.au

# **Step 4: Hand Washing**

Prepare a stronger wash solution by mixing **150ml of nano-TECH Ultra Foam** with 10 litres of water in a bucket. Use this solution for physical hand washing to thoroughly clean your vehicle.

### Tips for effective washing:

- Use a soft detailing brush to access all crevices around window mouldings, body panels, and gaps. This ensures no hidden dirt or debris is left behind, which could reappear during paint correction.
- Rinse the vehicle thoroughly after washing to remove all detergent and loosened dirt.

This step sets the foundation for a clean surface, ready for the next stages.

# **Step 5: First Stage Contact Decontamination**

To ensure your paintwork is fully prepared for ceramic coating, a **two-stage decontamination process** is required after the traditional hand wash.

### First Stage: "Contact" Decontamination

Use a quality **clay bar** to remove bonded contaminants from your paintwork.

### **Clay Bar Selection:**

- Fine grade: For light contamination
- Medium grade: For average contamination (preferred)
- Heavy grade: For heavy contamination

#### **Important Notes:**

- Avoid using cheap clay mitts, cloths, or towels as they tend to mar paintwork more easily. While these tools allow for faster work, they require expertise to avoid excessive micro-marring, which is common if insufficient lubrication is used.
- Create a clay-lube by mixing 50mls of nano-TECH Ultra Foam with 450mls of water into a clean and empty spray bottle. You will require 2-3 bottles of this mixture to do a whole car. Water alone is not a substitute for clay lubrication, as it lacks the necessary lubricating properties.

#### **Clay Bar Tips:**

- 1. Break the clay bar into 2-3 pieces to allow for folding as it becomes loaded with contaminants.
- 2. Discard any clay bar dropped on the floor to avoid scratching the paintwork.
- 3. After claying each panel, rinse the panel and surrounding areas thoroughly to remove any dried clay lube residue.



- 🔇 1300 171 079
- Support@platinumpotions.com.au
- www.platinumpotions.com.au

# **Step 5.1: Second Stage Decontamination**

The second stage is **"chemical" decontamination**, which involves using a high-quality automotive **iron remover** to eliminate embedded iron particles. Choose a trusted automotive iron remover and carefully follow the manufacturer's instructions. Our own iron removal will launch in late 2025.

### Why Perform Chemical Decontamination Second?

- 1. Using the clay bar first reduces the amount of iron remover needed.
- 2. It minimises the corrosive effects of iron removers, which can be detrimental to paintwork with repeated use.

### **Additional Consideration**

- If your paintwork still feels rough after completing both decontamination stages, **do not proceed** with applying the ceramic coating.
- Rough paintwork may indicate the need for heavy paint correction or suggest that the clear coat is failing. Signs of clear coat failure include fading, hazing, or micro-cracks (not swirls). Applying a ceramic coating to such surfaces will worsen their appearance and compromise the coating's performance.

For smooth paintwork with no signs of clear coat failure, you're ready to proceed to the steps below.

# Step 6: Deep Wash (after iron remover)

After using the iron remover, the paintwork must be hand washed and dried again to ensure all residues from the **iron remover** and **clay bar lubricant** are thoroughly removed, especially from the crevices of the vehicle's body.

### Instructions:

- 1. Use nano-TECH Ultra Foam and the two-bucket method to hand wash the paintwork.
- The two-bucket method ensures clean water for rinsing your wash mitt and prevents cross-contamination.
- 2. Carefully dry the vehicle to remove any remaining moisture.

This step is crucial to ensure the surface is completely clean and ready for polishing or ceramic coating application.

# **Step 7: Polishing**

The paintwork must be polished (paint corrected) to remove scratches, marring (caused by claying), and other imperfections such as minor etching, water spots, and fine scratches. This step is essential for achieving a smooth, flawless finish and enhancing the gloss of your paintwork.

### **Tools and Process:**

• Use a dual-action (DA) polisher for ease and safety, or a rotary polisher if you have the experience to handle it properly.



- 🛞 1300 171 079
- Support@platinumpotions.com.au
- www.platinumpotions.com.au
- Select polishing pads and compounds suited to your paintwork.

### **Recommendations for Advice:**

If you're unsure which pads, compounds and cloths we strongly suggest you contact a professional detailing supplier as they will know which pads and compounds will be best suited for your paintwork.

# **Step 8: Final Wash Before Coating**

Once the paintwork has been properly corrected, it's essential to **hand wash and dry** your vehicle once more to ensure all polishing dust, oils, solvents, abrasives, and residues are completely removed.

#### **Recommended Process:**

- We strongly recommend the three-bucket wash method:
  - 1. One bucket with detergent (for washing).
  - 2. Two buckets with water (for rinsing the wash mitt twice).
  - Use a clean, high-quality lamb's wool wash mitt for this step.
- For the detergent, use nano-TECH Ultra Foam to ensure thorough cleaning.
- Make sure you dry your paintwork very well with a blow dryer or a CLEAN drying towel.

#### **Important Notes:**

- Do NOT use nano-TECH Hydro Shampu or nano-TECH MVPS Cleanse for this step.
- Avoid any car wash detergents that contain **silicones** or **waxes**, as they can interfere with the bonding of the ceramic coating.

### Why This Step Is Crucial:

While it might seem tempting to skip the wash and go straight to a panel prep spray, we strongly advise against it. Many of these sprays **do not remove all** of the polishing compounds, oils, and abrasives from the crevices of your vehicle yet alone the paws of your clear coat. If residue is left behind, it will **affect the performance** of the ceramic coating. You'll be surprised at how much polishing residue remains in the last two buckets during this wash step—this is a crucial part of the preparation process.

# Step 9: Masking

Before applying the ceramic coating, **mask off** any plastic trims, rubber trims, glass, headlights, tail lights, badges, and surrounds where these surfaces meet the paintwork.

### Why Masking Is Necessary:

This step ensures that you **do not get any ceramic coating** on these surfaces, as it may cause unwanted residue or affect the finish. Use **dedicated automotive painter's masking tape** for clean, precise lines.



- 🛞 1300 171 079
- Support@platinumpotions.com.au
- www.platinumpotions.com.au

# **Step 10: Chemically Prepping**

Before applying the ceramic coating, the paintwork must be **chemically cleaned and prepped**. We **strongly recommend using an automotive "prep-spray".** We will have our own prep spray in late 2025.

### Why This Step Is Important:

While you might think prep sprays are just a gimmick, they are **crucial** for proper coating application. Isopropyl alcohol (IPA) and wax/grease removers are **ineffective** and can cause clear coat swelling, move residue around, and even leave behind micro-scratches or swirl marks since they lack any form of lubricants.

Car spray painters use **prepsol** (wax and grease remover) before **painting**, not before applying coatings. They also work in a **sealed booth** with controlled temperature, humidity, and air pressure, using **tack cloths** to remove dust. This is quite different from the open atmosphere of a detailing environment, which is why using the right prep spray solution matters.

### Instructions:

- 1. Use a Prep Spray with a new, clean microfiber cloth.
- 2. Work in **small sections**, spraying the prep spray directly onto paintwork.
- 3. Gently work the prep spray into the paint, then use a **separate**, **clean**, **dry microfiber cloth** to **wipe** and **polish** the surface, we recommend a 420-500gsm edgeless microfiber cloth for this step.
- 4. Allow the car to sit for **15 minutes** after the entire vehicle has been prepped to allow the chemicals to fully evaporate. Do not touch the paint during this time.
- 5. After the 15 minutes, inspect the paintwork for **smearing**, **streaking**, **or hazing**. If any are present, buff the affected areas with a clean microfiber cloth to ensure the paint is completely clean and pure.

### **Environment Considerations:**

• This step should be done in a **semi-closed**, **ventilated area** (like a garage with a cracked open window or door) to minimise contamination and dust build-up before applying the ceramic coating.

# **Step 11: Coating Application Preparation (Do Not Apply Yet)**

Before you begin applying the ceramic coating, ensure you have the following supplies ready for an average sedan to properly buff the coating:

- 1. x6 380-420gsm Edgeless Microfiber Cloths (for bulk removal):
  - These cloths will be used to remove the **bulk** of the ceramic coating during the first pass.
  - Fold each cloth into quarters.
  - After each panel, or when you notice the cloth is no longer effectively removing the coating, flip to a fresh side.
  - **Discard these cloths** once all sides have been used, as reusing them will cause **scratching** once the coating fully cures and hardens on the cloth. These cloths will essentially become **like glass shards** after curing.
- 2. x5 420-600gsm Edgeless Microfiber Cloths (for polishing and levelling):
  - Use these cloths to **polish** and **level out** any remaining coating.
  - You will use 4 cloths for this step, and the 5th cloth will be used for a **final once-over** on the entire car.



- 🔇 1300 171 079
- Support@platinumpotions.com.au
- www.platinumpotions.com.au
- Dispose of these cloths after use, as reusing them will cause scratches once the coating has cured onto them.

### 3. x4 Applicator Cloths (provided in your kit):

- Use 1 cloth per quarter of your car for the application process.
- After each section, dispose of the cloth and applicator block to avoid scratching.
- o If you notice the cloth becoming too stiff midway through, switch it out to ensure no scratches are caused.

### 4. Protective Gear:

- Wear chemical-resistant gloves (have 3-4 pairs handy in case they tear).
- We recommend wearing safety glasses and a respirator (especially if working indoors).

### 5. Dual layers:

- If applying 2 layers of coating, you need 2 ceramic coating kits and double the amount of edgeless microfiber cloths.
- You must apply the second layer of coating within 45mins 1hr of first applying, we strongly recommend you have a stop watch/timer handy as you may not be quick enough to coat 1 entire car within 45mins.

The moment the 45min mark is reached, finish buffing the section you are working on and go back to the first section you applied to start applying the second layer.

When you reach the last panel of your first layer application (ie 75% of the paintwork), then start applying the first layer as normal to the remaining 25% of the paintwork, wait 45mins, then apply the second layer to the remaining 25% paintwork.

# Step 12: Coating Application (Begin Coating) < read all before applying.

## 1. Prepare the Applicator:

- Shake the ceramic coating bottle very well for 1 minute.
- **Wrap** the applicator cloth around the foam block, ensuring the cloth is slotted into the slits on the sides of the block. This keeps the cloth in place. You can use a plastic card to help slot the cloth in properly.
- **Prime** the cloth by applying 10-20 drops of the coating across the cloth in a straight line. This primes the applicator for the first use.
- Important: Always screw the lid back on and close the bottle immediately after applying the coating onto the applicator cloth. Leaving the bottle open for too long will cause the coating inside to start curing, affecting its durability and ease of buffing.
- **Warning**: Never hold the bottle with your thumb sealing the lid, as the chemical formulation of the coating will melt through disposable gloves.

### 2. Apply the Ceramic Coating:

- Work in no more than **50cm x 50cm sections** at a time.
- Use light-medium **pressure**. The applicator block will slightly compress under this minimal pressure.
- **Do not lift the block** until the section is finished, as lifting it will create high spots.
- Use a crosshatch pattern (horizontal then vertical) to ensure even application and full coverage of the section.
  Make sure to overlap your passes.
- After completing the section, place the applicator block aside. You will notice a high spot where you lifted the block, which is normal.



- 🛞 1300 171 079
- Support@platinumpotions.com.au
- 🕅 www.platinumpotions.com.au
- Do not overwork the coating; simply place the applicator block aside and ensure the coating bottle is properly sealed.

### 3. Buffing the Coating:

- The **buffing window** depends on the temperature and humidity and will range from **30 seconds to 2 minutes**.
  Hotter temperatures will cause the coating to react faster, while cooler temperatures will take longer.
- You may or may not see a rainbow effect in the coating. This depends on the paint colour and lighting conditions-this is completely normal.
- Do not let the coating sit longer than 2 minutes, especially in cooler weather, as it will lead to high spots.
- Buff the coating using your first **clean 380-420gsm edgeless microfiber cloth**. Use **light to medium pressure** to remove the **bulk** of the coating. You will notice smearing, but this is normal.
  - For flat surfaces such as the roof and bonnet, start from the furthest point away from your body and work towards you.
  - For vertical surfaces such as the doors, start from the top and work down, always lifting the cloth after each wipe to avoid rubbing the coating back into the paint.
- After removing the bulk, switch to a **clean 420-600gsm edgeless microfiber cloth** and buff with light pressure in circular motions to **level out the coating** and increase the gloss and shine.
- o If high spots remain, apply light to medium pressure in circular motions to knock them down.
- Use a **bright light** to inspect your work for missed areas or high spots. If you notice high spots that won't come off, you may need to **reapply** coating to the area and buff again.
- 4. Repeat the steps above for the entire car until all panels are coated.
- 5. Buffing the coating with a quick-detailer (optional):
  - With our R&D with detailers here in Australia, we learnt that to help reduce with buffing efforts (after the initial bulk removal), you can very lightly mist a tiny amount of our **nano-tech MVPS detailer** onto the paintwork to help the final removal and polish even easier and faster.

# Step 13: High Spots

If high spots are present and won't buff out-don't panic just yet! Simply follow these steps:

## 1. Reapply the Coating:

- Reapply the ceramic coating to the affected area.
- After 5 seconds, **buff off** the coating as usual. The high spots will self-level when re-hydrated and buffed off within **1 hour** of the initial application.

## 2. Inspect the Whole Car:

- Once the entire paintwork is coated and buffed, **peel off the masking tape** from the trims and carefully inspect for any remaining high spots.
- Use a **new and clean microfiber cloth** for the final wipe-down. Ensure to check every area, especially in hard-to-reach places.
- o Bright LED lighting can help with inspecting the surface and spotting any missed spots.

## 3. Addressing Stubborn High Spots:

• If a high spot does not easily buff off, **rehydrate** it by reapplying the coating to that section. Allow it to dwell for **5 seconds**, then buff off as usual.



- 🛞 1300 171 079
- Support@platinumpotions.com.au
- www.platinumpotions.com.au
- Working in 50cm x 50cm sections makes it easier to manage and mitigate the risk of high spots.

### 4. If High Spots Are Noticed Later:

- If high spots are noticed the **next day**, light-medium machine polishing and re-coating will be required within the **first 24 hours**.
- If high spots are still present after **24 hours**, **heavy polishing** and re-coating will be necessary for the affected areas.

### 5. Dispose of Used Items:

- Once high spots are eliminated and the paintwork is perfect, **dispose of the used microfiber cloths**, applicator cloths, and applicator block.
- Never reuse these items, as they will scratch the paintwork once the coating has fully cured.

# **Step 14: Vigilant Maintenance During Curing**

### 1. Avoid rain for 1-2 Days:

- Do not allow the freshly applied ceramic coating to get wet for at least 1-2 days.
- If you cannot park undercover, apply the coating when no rain is forecasted for 2-3 days.

#### 2. If Steps 1-13 Span Across 2 days:

- o If you cannot complete all the steps in a single day, it is recommended to complete steps 1-8 on the first day.
- Then the next day, repeat Step 8 if the car has been exposed outdoors, then proceed with steps 9-13.

### 3. No Washing for 2 Weeks:

 Avoid washing the freshly applied coating for at least 2 weeks. The coating needs time to fully cure before being exposed to detergents.

#### 4. Remove Contaminants Promptly:

- If you encounter contaminants such as **tree sap**, **bird droppings**, **road tar**, **egg splatter**, **brake fluid**, or other corrosive substances, remove them quickly using **nano-Tech Hydro Detailer**.
- o These elements can damage the ceramic coating if left to sit, especially when exposed to heat and UV rays.

### 5. After 2 Weeks:

- After 2 weeks, wash the car with any of our nano-TECH detergents.
- Follow up by using our blue **nano-TECH Hydro Detailer** or nano-TECH MVPS Detailer (do not use the green Quick Detailer) to boost gloss and slickness on your fully cured ceramic coating.

# **Final Step: Maintenance**

For ongoing care and longevity of your ceramic coating, refer to our **maintenance guide**. This guide provides detailed instructions on how to properly maintain the coating and keep your paintwork protected for years to come.

This concludes the full ceramic coating process.

If you have any questions, simply reach out to us via sales@platinumpotions.com.au | www.platinumpotions.com.au