



OWNER'S CARE GUIDE

How to Care for Your Ceramic Coating

The simple, no-nonsense routine to keep your coating glossy, hydrophobic, and protected for years — straight from the pros at Calvert Mobile Detailing.



1. What your coating actually does

A ceramic coating is a semi-permanent layer of protection bonded to your paint. It is not "wax that lasts" — it's a hard, slick shell that changes how you should care for your car.

- ◆ **Hydrophobic:** water beads and sheets off, carrying dirt with it.
- ◆ **Gloss:** a deep, candy-like shine that wax can't match.
- ◆ **Protection:** a sacrificial barrier against UV, bird droppings, bug acids, and light contaminants.
- ◆ **Easier washing:** grime releases far more easily, so washes are faster and safer.

Important: A coating resists damage — it is not bulletproof. It will not stop rock chips or deep scratches, and it still needs regular, correct maintenance to perform and stay under warranty.

2. The first 7 days (curing)

Your coating continues to harden ("cure") after application. Treat the first week gently:

✓ DO

- ◆ Keep the car dry and garaged if possible
- ◆ Park away from sprinklers and trees
- ◆ Gently blot any water spots with a clean microfiber

✗ DON'T

- ◆ No washing for the first 7 days
- ◆ No rain exposure if you can avoid it
- ◆ No car covers, no parking under bird-heavy trees

3. Your ongoing wash routine

The goal is to remove contaminants without scratching the coating. Use the two-bucket method and quality microfiber.

The right way to wash

- ◆ Wash every **2 weeks** (or when visibly dirty) — in the shade, never in direct sun.
- ◆ Rinse thoroughly first to knock off loose grit.
- ◆ Use a **pH-neutral, coating-safe shampoo** — never dish soap or wax-based "wash & shine."
- ◆ Two buckets: one with suds, one with clean rinse water and a grit guard.
- ◆ Use a soft microfiber wash mitt, top to bottom, rinsing the mitt often.
- ◆ Dry with a clean microfiber towel or a filtered air blower to avoid water spots.



4. Do's & Don'ts at a glance

✓ DO

- ◆ Use pH-neutral, coating-safe products
- ◆ Remove bird droppings & bug splatter ASAP
- ◆ Use clean, dedicated microfiber towels
- ◆ Apply a coating-safe topper / booster spray as recommended
- ◆ Book a yearly inspection to keep your warranty valid

✗ DON'T

- ◆ Don't use automatic brush car washes
- ◆ Don't apply wax over the coating (it can hurt hydrophobics)
- ◆ Don't wash in direct sun or on a hot panel
- ◆ Don't let contaminants bake on
- ◆ Don't use abrasive sponges or old, gritty towels

5. Maintenance schedule

How often	What to do
Every 2 weeks	Proper two-bucket wash with coating-safe shampoo
As needed	Spot-clean bird droppings, bug splatter, tree sap immediately
Every 3–4 months	Apply a ceramic booster / topper spray to refresh hydrophobics
Every 12 months	Professional inspection & maintenance (keeps warranty valid)

6. Troubleshooting

Water isn't beading like it used to

Usually a sign of contaminant build-up, not coating failure. A proper decontamination wash and a booster spray typically restore hydrophobics. If it persists, book an inspection.

I see water spots

Mineral deposits from hard water or sprinklers. Remove promptly with a coating-safe water-spot remover; avoid letting water dry on the surface.

Light swirls are appearing

Almost always from improper washing (wrong towels, brush washes, or wiping when dirty). Revisit your wash technique — and we can correct light marring during a maintenance visit.

Need a hand keeping it perfect?

We offer mobile maintenance washes and annual coating inspections — we come to you.

[Book a Maintenance Visit](#)

(443) 624-3767 · calvertmobiledetailing@gmail.com