

# DFB'S LITTLE BLACK BOOK OF DETAILING - UPDATED AUGUST 2025



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By special request, this is a quick reference guide for the detailing products that I grab most often. The products in each category have been tested and trialed against several others, so you can buy with confidence.

I will try to keep each product listing brief to make it quick and easy to reference, however I'm happy to expand on where needed. I will also try to put the categories usage groups, as in wheels and tires, decontamination, paint protection ect. Some categories have two or maybe three options, this means I can't definitively choose one over the other. By no means is this a be all and end all list, in fact it may even be fluid as I continue try new or different products. Hopefully I will be able to update this when something changes.

## CHEMICALS –

You will notice a few common brands here, and for good reason. They work, and they work well!



### Tire Cleaner –

P&S Brake Buster, at full strength (For regular use)

Shine Supply Wise Guy (Stronger for heavy duty cleaning)

Stoner's Tarminator (For occasional use or when preparing brand new tires)

### Wheel Cleaner –

P&S Brake Buster (Dilute for regular use)

NV Purge (Iron removing ability, safe for regular use)

### **Wheel Protection –**

Armour Detail Supply High Temp Wheel Coating (Long term)

Capro Hydr02 Lite (Short term) ([Updated Aug-25](#))

### **Tire Dressing –**

Obsessed Garage Tire Dressing (Satin Finish)

Armour Detail Supply Ghost Tire Sealant (Satin Finish) ([Updated Aug-25](#))

Armour Detail Supply Tire+ (Satin to gloss finish)

### **Rinse-less / Water-less Wash –**

Optimum No Rinse (ONR)

P&S Absolute

Armour Detail Supply Hero

### **Water-less Wash -**

Carpro ECH2o (Can be used as a rinse-less, best used as a water-less)

Armour Detail Supply Adapt ([Updated Aug-25](#))

### **Wash Soap –**

Carpro Reset

Koch Chemie GSF

NV Snow ([Updated Aug-25](#))

All suitable for ceramic coatings or otherwise. All pH neutral. All can be used in a bucket wash or foam cannon.

### **Decontamination Soap –**

Bilt Hamber Touch-less (Heavy-duty pre-wash)

Carpro Descale (Acidic, great for water-spots)

Koch Chemie Active Foam (Alkaline) ([Updated Aug-25](#))

### **Iron Decontamination –**

NV Purify

### **Tar & Adhesive Remover –**

Carpro TarX

Koch Chemie Eulex (The sledgehammer, use with caution)

### **Bug Remover –**

Carpro Bug Out

### **Water Spot Remover –**

Gyeon Water Spot Remover (Acidic)

Koch Chemie Spotless Ceramic Finish (Neutral) ([Updated Aug-25](#))

### **Drying Aid –**

Armour Detail Supply Amplify (Best by a significant margin)

Armour Detail Supply Adapt ([Updated Aug-25](#))

Meguiar's Hybrid Ceramic Detailer (A Surprise value winner)

### **Detail Spray (NEW FOR 2025) -**

P&S Paint Gloss

Koch Chemie Quick & Shine

### **Quick Detailer / Clay Lubricant –**

Gyeon Clay Lube (Dilutable)

### **Glass Cleaner –**

Stoners Invisible Glass

### **Glass Clean & Protect (NEW FOR 2025) -**

Stoners Ceramic Invisible Glass

Opti-Coat Glass Clean & Protect

### **Glass Sealant –**

Gyeon Q2 Quick View

### **Glass Polish –**

P&S Clarity Creme with Lake Country HDO Blue Pad (Light/Medium Duty)

Carpro CeriGlass with Carpro Glass Pad (Heavy Duty)

### **Heavy Cut Polish –**

Griot's Fast Correcting Creme ([Updated Aug-25](#))

Sonax Cut-Max

### **One-Step Polish –**

Sonax Perfect Finish

### **Light / Finishing Polish –**

Carpro Reflect (Very light finishing polish)

Carpro Essence (Light correction/primer polish for coatings)

Rupes DA Fine (Finishing to moderate polishing)

### **Metal Polish & Exhaust Tips –**

P21S Polishing Soap

Mother's Mag & Aluminum Polish

Dr. Beasley's Metal Coat (protection) (Updated Aug-25)

### **Panel Prep / IPA Wipe –**

Carpro Eraser

Rupes Reveal Strong (Heavy Duty)

### **Wax –**

Collinite 845

### **Sealant –**

Wolfgang Deep Gloss Paint Sealant

### **Ceramic Spray Sealant –**

Armour Detail Supply Ceramic Spray Sealant (6-months)

Koch Chemie S0.02 (3-months)

Carpro Reload 2.0 (3-months) (Updated Aug-25)

### **Ceramic Coating –**

Armour Detail Supply Quartz (3+ years)

Gyeon Can Coat EVO (1+ year)

### **Exterior Trim Protectant / Restorer –**

Armour Detail Supply Trim+ (Long term protectant and restorer) (Updated Aug-25)

303 Protectant (Short term light enhancement and protection)

Solution Finish (Longer term restoration, no protection)

### **Engine Bay Dressing –**

Meguiar's Hyper Dressing (Dilutable, I'd suggest 4:1 for natural finish)

Koch Chemie Motorplast (Ready to use) (Updated Aug-25)

### **All Purpose Cleaner (Engines, Heavy Interior Cleaning, Degreasing) –**

Koch Chemie GS Green Star (Dilutable to suit needs)

### **Rubber Floor Mat Care -**

McKee's 37 Floor Mat & Cargo Liner Rejuvenator (Cleaner)

P&S Swift (Non-slip dressing)

### **All-round Interior Cleaner –**

P&S Xpress

Griot's Interior Cleaner (Non-scented) (Updated Aug-25)

### **Interior Quick Detailer (Mild cleaning/dusting) -**

Armour Detail Supply Pilot

Optimum No Rinse (At 256:1)

P&S Swift (Mild dressing potential)

### **Leather Cleaner –**

Colour Lock Mild or Strong Leather Cleaner (Ready to use)

Koch Chemie Pol Star (Dilutable) (Updated Aug-25)

### **Leather Protectant –**

ColourLock Leather Shield (for leather up to 3 years old)

ColourLock Leather Protector (for leather 3 years and older)

### **Fabric Cleaner (Carpet, Alcantara, Cloth) –**

Koch Chemie PO Pol Star (Dilutable)

### **Interior Dressing –**

Koch Chemie TS Top Star

### **Interior Scent –**

Angelwax Eden or Angelwax Bliss

## **MICROFIBER TOWELS –**

Apart from a few odd bods, my microfiber collection is all from The Rag Company. To save writing The Rag Company several times, I will simply refer to them by their product names. You will notice a lot of duplication here, with colour used to differentiate towels into usages. I probably have a lot of unnecessary categories here, but I think it's clear I do everything "overboard"!



## **Microfiber Cleaner / Detergent –**

P&S Rags To Riches.

## **Wash Mitt / Pad -**

Cyclone Ultra (Available in mitt or pad)

QTY : At least 2, I have 6

## **Bug Sponge –**

Jersey Bug Scrubber

QTY : 1, I have 2

## **Water-less / Rinse-less Washing –**

Eagle Edgeless 500 16" x 16"

QTY – At least 10, I have 10

### **Drying Towel / Drying Aid Towel –**

#### **Larger Drying Towel –**

The Gauntlet 15" x 24"

QTY : 1 per car, I have 4

#### **Smaller Drying Towel –**

Microfiber Madness Chipmunk Jr.

QTY : At least 1 per car, I have 4

#### **Door Jamb Drying Towel –**

Dry-Me-A-River Jr. 16" x 24" (Pale Blue)

QTY : At least 2 per car, I have 6

#### **Glass Towels –**

Dry-Me-A-River Jr. 16" x 24" (Dark Blue)

QTY : At least 2 per car, I have 6

#### **Ceramic Coating Removal/Leveling Towel –**

Edgeless Pearl 16" x 16" (Orange and Grey)

QTY : At least 10, I have 15

(These towels are single use, they need to be binned or demoted once used for this task. I suggest having them in both colors so you can easily decipher which is the initial wipe and which is the final wipe)

#### **Polish/Wax/Sealant Removal Towels –**

Creature Edgeless 16" x 16" (Grey)

QTY : At least 10, I have 15

#### **Large Multi-Purpose Towels (Dirty jobs, tyres, wheel arches, bench cleaning) –**

The Car Wash Terry 41" x 69" (Grey)

QTY : At least 10, I have 10

#### **Small Multi-Purpose Towels (Dirty jobs, tyres, wheel arches, bench cleaning) (NEW FOR 2025)–**

Rip-n-Rag 12 x 12

QTY : 80 count roll

#### **Wheel Towel -**

The Gauntlet 12" x 12"

QTY : 2 per car, I have 6

### **Engine Bay Towel -**

The Car Wash Terry 41" x 69" (Red)

QTY : At least 4, I have 10

### **Interior Towel (General interior cleaning, dressing ect) –**

The Car Wash Terry 41" x 69" (Dark Green)

QTY : At least 6, I have 10

### **Interior Towel (Delicate surfaces) –**

Creature Edgeless 16" x 16" (Green)

QTY : At least 2, I have 4

### **Applicator Sponges (For applying sealants, coatings, dressings ect on interior and exterior surfaces) –**

Pearl Applicator Sponge (Orange)

QTY : At least 2, I have 6

Carpro Microfiber Finger Mitts (Ideal for applying leather protector) (Updated Aug-25)

QTY : 5 Pack

Gtechniq AP2 Applicator (Ideal for wheels) (Updated Aug-25)

QTY : At least 4

### **TOOLS / BRUSHES -**

These listings are more complex, a lot will be subjective.



### **Buckets –**

To be brutally honest, a bucket is a bucket, although there are a few specifics. You need one for wheels, two for washing. All will have a grit guard and a gamma seal lid. I also use rolling bucket dollies. Buckets should ideally be 15 litres / 4 Gallons or bigger for sufficient water volume.

### **Tire Brush –**

Detail Factory Tire Scrub Brush

### **Tire Applicator –**

Maxshine Hydro-Tech / Speed Master Tire Applicator

Detail Factory Curveball Brush

Detail Factory Screwball Brush

### **Wheel Cleaning Brushes/Mitts –**

Microfiber Madness Incredibrush Flat

EZ-Detail Brush Small (For where Incredibrush won't fit)

EZ-Detail Brush Large (For where Incredibrush won't fit)

EZ-Detail Brush GO (For wheel arches)(Updated Aug-23)

TRC Ultra Wool Mitt (Updated Aug-25)

Lug Nut Brush – Detail Factory Boars Hair or Ultra Soft Synthetic (Long handle)

### **Interior Brushes –**

Detail Factory Boars Hair Brush (Long handle) (Also suitable for exterior surfaces)

Detail Factory Ultra Soft Brush (Long handle) (Also suitable for exterior surfaces)

Lily Brush (Pet hair)

Detail Factory ProGrip Interior Brush (Carpet)

Colour Lock Leather Cleaning Brush (Firm bristles)

Wheel Woolies 5-Piece Brush Set (Good for intricate work)

### **Bottles and Sprayers –**

Kwazar Mercury Super 360 Pro 500ml (There is a larger size, 500ml is nicer to use)

Kwazar NIX (For heavy duty chemicals like strong APC or Tar Remover)

Carpro Dilute (Makes dilution ratios easy)

Chemical Guys / Adam's EZ-Fill Funnel (Screw on funnel)

### **Lighting –**

Scangrip iMatch 2 (Headlamp)

Scangrip SunMatch 3

Scangrip MultiMatch R

### **Clay Bar/Mitt/Block –**

To be honest, all do a similar job. Just make sure to choose one for the level of decontamination you are dealing with, always use the least aggressive as possible to avoid unnecessary marring. Keep in mind a traditional clay bar will be more effective, a mitt or block less aggressive. At the moment, I'm liking the TRC Ultra Clay Scrubber.

### **Miscellaneous –**

EGO LB-765 Leaf Blower with 5.0ah batteries

Stoner Reach and Clean Tool (For easy windscreen cleaning)

Tornador Basic (Blowing out pads or cleaning engine bays)

Detail Guardz Wheel Guides (Prevents hoses snagging on tyres)

Fur-eel Vacuum Attachment (Helps lift pet hair)

Maxshine Detailing Cart (Don't lock in a brand for this, but you will need one)

Karcher WD6 Premium Vacuum with Obsessed Garage Accessory Kit

[Milwaukee M18 Compact Vacuum](#) (Quick clean ups)

### **Pressure Washing –**

This category is very complex, I will list what I use but this is not really universal and needs to be matched to your specific pressure washer. Happy to advise if required.

Kranzle KHD-10/122 Pressure Washer

Cox Reel

MTM CobraJet Hose (Blue)

Mosmatic OG Spec Spray Gun

Mosmatic OG Spec Wand

Mosmatic OG Spec Rubber Tipped Nozzles (25deg and 40 deg)

MTM PF22.2 Foam Cannon

MTM Foam Cannon spare bottles

## Paint Correction –

Again, a complex subject that should be matched to the sort of polishing you expect to do. For me, I don't do polishing regularly, so my choice of machines reflects that. Scale up or down depending on budget and expected use. For polishing pads, I use Shine Mate or Rupes in appropriate sizes and grades.



Rupes Claw Pad Tool (For pad priming and cleaning)

Carpro Masking Tape (Various sizes)

Rupes Apron (Just good to have)

Door Jamb Prop Bar

Rupes iBrid Nano Kit (Long neck) (1-inch / 2-inch machine)

Rupes LHR75 Pneumatic (3-inch machine)

Shine Mate EB212 (3-inch machine) (Updated Aug-25)

Shine Mate EB351-5/15 Cordless Polisher (5-inch machine, 2 batteries)

Rupes HLR15 Cordless Polisher (5-inch machine, 2 batteries)

Of those machines, I would recommend having the iBrid Nano, ShineMate EB212, and ShineMate EB351 5/15.

### **Final Note -**

That list is only scratching the surface of what I use overall but, as mentioned, these are the ones I like to use the most or find easiest to use. Hopefully this makes shopping a bit easier, most of those product listings can be Google searched to find your preferred online supplier.