

Detailing & Paint Protection Checklist

Understand your options and the right questions to ask before you book detailing, a ceramic coating, PPF or a wrap.

Protecting your paint keeps a car looking newer and holds its resale value. There are a few ways to do it — here's what each one is, roughly how long it lasts, and when it's worth it.

Your options at a glance

Option	What it does	Typical durability	Best for
Wax / sealant	A light, glossy protective layer that beads water	Weeks to a few months	Budget, regular upkeep
Ceramic coating	A hard, bonded layer that resists dirt, water spots and minor swirls	1–5 years	Long-lasting gloss & easy cleaning
Paint Protection Film (PPF)	A clear film that physically shields paint from chips, scratches & stones	5–10 years	Stone-chip / scratch protection
Vinyl wrap	Coloured/printed film that changes the look and protects the paint underneath	3–7 years	A new colour without a respray
Interior detailing	Deep clean & protection of seats, trim and surfaces	Per service	Refreshing a used car / pre-sale

Questions to ask before you commit

Ask the detailer / installer	Asked	Their answer
What surface prep is included? (wash, decontamination, paint correction)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Which product / brand do you use, and what grade?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is there a written warranty — how long, and what does it cover?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
For PPF/coating: full or partial coverage? (full front, full body, high-impact areas)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
How long will the car be with you, and what's the curing/aftercare time?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Can I see before/after photos or examples of past work?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Will I get a written, itemised quote (no hidden extras)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	
What aftercare do I need, and when's the first wash allowed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Tip. Good prep matters more than the product — a coating or film over swirled, dirty paint locks in the flaws. Insist on proper washing and decontamination first, and get the warranty in writing. This is a general guide, not professional advice.

Related free templates from Garisea: [Vehicle Service & Maintenance Log](#)

Free template by **Garisea®** — find trusted detailing, wraps & PPF partners at garisea.com/partners/detailing-wraps-ppf.

garisea.com