

# WASHING WINTER AWAY

Winter has finally slowed for many parts of the country, leaving in its wake a hoard of dirty vehicles. And although happy at the sight of melting snow and sunny skies, drivers may be less than pleased to deal with the salt and dirt buildup on their cars from a long battle with winter.

## THE AFTER-EFFECTS

Road salt is used to create a lower freezing temperature on road surfaces, which leads to less ice on roadways. It is an effective tool in keeping motorists safe in otherwise austere conditions. And while this salt can save countless lives during snowstorms, it also could shorten the life of your car.

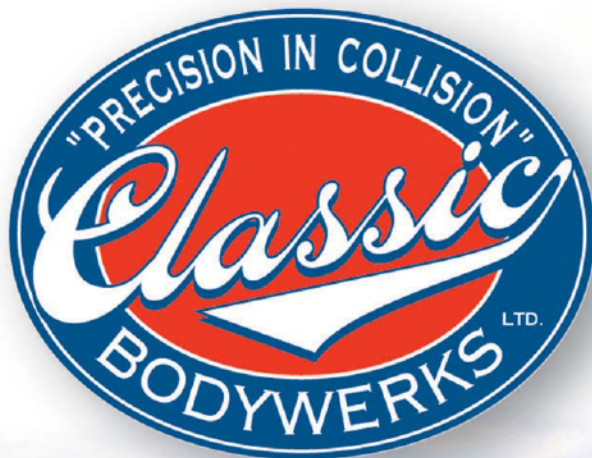
Salt is corrosive and can eat away at the paint of your vehicle. This can lead to rusting problems on the frame and damage the undercarriage. The appearance of white, chalky salt lining the bottom of your car is also visually unappealing and is best removed sooner rather than later.

## CAR WASH

It is imperative to thoroughly wash the undercarriage of your car. This is because salt sucks up the moisture in the humid air of the summer, which could lead to even more problems when the heat comes.

Even in chilly springtime conditions, it is good practice to head to your local car wash for regular spray downs. This will help cut down on some of the buildup while keeping your car looking great.

Just be careful not to wash your car in freezing conditions, which could lead to frozen doors or dangerous ice buildup while you're driving.



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