

Helpful Hint - “Road Wrap”

Road Wrap

Earlier this summer while planning for the trip to the 2016 Porsche Parade at Jay Peak, I was trying to decide how to minimize stone chips and bugs on the way to and from Parade. The easy and expensive answer would have been to have a professional apply one of the protection films such as Xpel or 3M, however having a low value car such as our Boxster that did not seem like an appropriate solution. Next I explored the possibility of buying a pre-cut kit from one of the film companies and applying it myself, on the theory I can do anything. After some household discussion this was also deemed to be an idea whose time had not yet come.

The price was reasonable approximately \$20 for an 18 inch wide by 100ft roll. They also offer smaller widths but I thought the 18 inch wide roll was the way to go.

This is a temporary solution and the instructions clearly state that it is not to be left in place more than seven days. Prior to application the car should be free of all dirt and I would recommend a good wax job to insure clean removal.

The day before we left I applied the Road Wrap and as we gassing up for the trip, I took the following picture. Not very pretty but hopefully a better than not having any protection.

So how did it work?? Well everything was fine for about 40 miles at highway speed when it started to



So what to do? I was left with the blue masking tape option or the not so sticky tape bought from FedEx, both of which did not resonate with my sensibilities (or lack thereof). I considered carpet protecting plastic type wrap or pallet stretch wrap, however I could not be sure either could be adequately held in place at speed.

Thanks to Google and some more searching I found *Road Wrap* on Amazon (also at other places but more expensive).

pull up on the frunk hood due to wind getting under the leading edges of each of the Road Wrap pieces. A brief stop by the side of the road during which we removed the pieces on the frunk hood and the re-applied new pieces from rearward to the front so as not have leading horizontal edge of the pieces exposed to the airflow. Off again with no problems and the Road Wrap staying place until we arrived a Jay Peak.

Off to the Firehouse at Parade to wash the car , the removal of the Road Wrap was quick and easy. The car did not need to have bugs scrubbed of and I could not find any additional stone chips. All in all a success, of course everything has its downside and in this particular there was of course

one.....several of my Chesapeake Region friends took to calling the Boxster “the condom car”. Oh well, it was a good laugh and at least I was spared the effort of scrubbing bugs.

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