Paint Identification

THERMOPLASTIC VS. THERMOSET FILMS:

Thermoplastic and thermoset products do not always work well together. If the selected products are not compatible, wrinkling or lifting may occur.

RESIN RULE TEST

Here’s how to quickly determine if the paint film or substrates are thermoplastic or thermoset in nature:

**1.** Soak a clean cloth in a medium-grade lacquer thinner.

**2.** A **thermoplastic** film will soften or dissolve. Lay the soaked cloth on the paint film/substrate for approximately 5 minutes, then rub gently. Lacquer thinner is a very strong solvent. Check the test area for any signs of such deterioration.

**3.** A **thermoset** film will show no effects and should be considered sound.

CONCLUSION

If the film/substrate is thermoplastic, **strip to bare substrate** before proceeding with any repairs or refinishing.

If the films/substrate is thermoset, the repair procedure can proceed as normal.

**NOTE:** If a newer car (1990 & up) with good paint and mild customization is the goal AND the film build is less than 10 mil, it is acceptable to sand and paint over an existing thermoset paint film.