

The Huntington Beach Concours was on June 6th and I really had a good time, although I had to do a little work while I was there. It's nice to see some old friends and make some new ones too. I ran into a couple of people that I haven't seen since the 1900's. There is nothing like a car show to catch up with some old friends.

The White Glove Porsche Car Show was well attended and the cars looked great. It's nice to see all the people doing the final detailing before the judging begins. The racecars are sure cool to look at, and I bet driving a GT3 at speed would be an absolute blast! The classic racecars looked great also.

The Huntington Beach Concours and the White Glove Concours are really two car shows, at the same park at the same time. The Huntington Beach Concours was awesome. They really bring wide variety cars for your viewing pleasure. I love looking at Porsches, but I also enjoy checking out all the other different kinds of cars. The furthest away from the Porsches were the Packards, and then next to them were the Corvettes and the Hot Rods. They had some Ferraris and some classic motorcycles, and they also had a whole bunch of Mini-Coopers. There was something for everyone.

What I'd like to talk to you about this month is how to refine your efforts and create truly a winning car. It is the attention to the small details that can make all the difference between winning and loosing. The competition is so tough that it can be a very minor thing that can push you over the top in points. The judges look at the smallest things and how much time was spent to make it perfect. So all you owners who won or placed in these car shows deserve a big round of applause. The hours spent are immense and your devotion to the sport is admirable.

Here are a few insider tips that just might help next time you gather your supplies to prepare your car for the next show. Even those of you who aren't into the show scene can benefit from a few new ideas to make your driver spectacular.

1. RUBBER TRIM PIECES

Every car has many pieces of rubber trim, and each one will need to be cleaned and treated. The door and trunk seals inside and out will need attention, as well as the window rubber. If you have an early car with pop-out rear windows, be sure to open the windows and clean the seals, this will

make for a nice finished project. Since you are back cleaning the windows...go ahead and polish the chrome window latches. This small detail could be the difference between first and second place.

2. RIMS AND TIRES

It is important to clean the lug nuts and the holes they go into. Make sure there are no water spots or dirt. Sometimes you can touch up these lug nuts and improve their appearance. The tires need to be cleaned completely. Remove any old Armor All buildup. This is a time consuming process but will make a huge improvement in the look of the tires. Simple Green and lacquer thinner will do the job. Make sure that the tires are as clean as possible before applying a new coat of tire dressing. Use the product sparingly and rub off all excess products. If you can feel residue when you run your finger over the tire...you need to keep rubbing.

3. GAS FILLER

Remember to clean and wax all painted areas, polish the gas cap, clean the hinge and the rubber flap.

4. FLOOR MATS AND CARPET

Clean and vacuum all the carpet and fabric areas of your car. Take the floor mats out and vacuum underneath. Take your time and really clean in all the cracks and around the edges, make sure you clean the pedals. A hint here.... do not use Armor All on your pedals! Carpet cleaner can be used to spot clean or completely shampoo the carpets, be sure and follow the directions and used sparingly. If you have floor mats, you may want to take them out when you are showing your car, this leaves the judges just one less thing to look at.

5. THE WINDOWS

You can spend a lot of time cleaning windows. Double-check the glass in the sunshine. Window cleaner, water, paper towels, and micro-fiber towels are all necessary to clean your windows properly.

This is a very short list to keep your detail wheels turning, but it may help. Good Luck and congratulations to all of you who participated in the White Glove Concourse.

Wax on Mark