

## Finishing touches

Posted by liammoo - 2013/04/11 18:35

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Following on from my thread in Introductions, I've got a few pics of my new "2" before I launched it on the roads.

As previously mentioned the car came to me in very good condition mechanically and cosmetically. However I had a few weeks before the start-of-the-month-motor-tax-deadline so I did a few jobs. The cold weather was far from ideal as all paints, lacquers, polishes, sealants, etc prefer to be used in warmer conditions. I ploughed on with the work.

Apologies in advance for the quality of the pictures and presentation. I'm new to this and didn't always remember to take photos at the right time.

First up was the center caps of the wheels which had a little wear on them. I gave them a light sanding, a few coats of primer, a few coats of Anthracite paint and a few coats of lacquer. The paint is not spot-on but the caps are improved.

First the wheels got a good scrub ..

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/2wheels.jpg>

..and a few coats of sealant...

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/wheelcdg.jpg>

Finished wheel back on the car...

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/wheel.jpg>

For good effect I used tyre paint and finally treated the tyres with Perl.

Next were the whatchamacallit rear triangular vents. The lacquer was peeled in places so I decided to freshen them up. Here's the finished product ...

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/vent2.jpg>

I also took some time on polishing this work of art...

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/exhaust.jpg>

The driver's mirror and the front splitter needed a little attention

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/mirrorbefore.jpg>

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/splitterbefore.jpg>

So out with the sandpaper, primer, lucerne silver rattle can and lacquer. I'm fairly happy with the outcome

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/mirror2.jpg>

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/fnssplit.jpg>

To finish up I clayed the car, gave it a light-cut polish and then applied 2 coats of Optimum Opti-Seal followed by 2 coats of Optimum Car Wax...

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/clay.jpg>

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/menz.jpg>

And now for a few final pics...

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/11.jpg>

<http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/5.jpg>

http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/offside.jpg  
http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/rear.jpg  
http://i124.photobucket.com/albums/p24/liammoo/MR2/nearside.jpg

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**Re: Finishing touches**

Posted by Harper - 2013/04/11 19:10

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Nice work, the effort has really payed off. Car looks great.

My wheels are terrible and would need the entire wheel sanded painted and lacquered. How long do you think this would take?

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**Re: Finishing touches**

Posted by liammoo - 2013/04/11 19:30

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At a rough guess I'd say 8-10 hours labour. Cleaning, de-taring, metal-filling, masking, sanding, more sanding, yet more sanding, priming (acid etch), painting and lacquering. There's also a fair bit of expense in the material. Acid-etch primer is pricey and you'd probably need at least 2 500ml cans of paint for 4 wheels.

I did a set of wheels years ago for my Alfa. Three turned out ok but the fourth wasn't good. And after less then a year the lacquer peeled off them.

In summary you can't beat a professional job - dip in acid to clean them, powder coat paint and an oven bake.

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**Re: Finishing touches**

Posted by slipsliderg - 2013/04/11 21:27

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Liammoo, she looks cracking now fair dues to you and Kc'd. Will have to pop in a see her, you want to start on mine soon B)

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**Re: Finishing touches**

Posted by Mister2 - 2013/04/11 23:12

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Nice work Liammoo :-)

**Re: Finishing touches**

Posted by liammoo - 2013/04/12 09:46

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Thanks for the comments.

No problem giving you a hand Ray when yours is ready for a bit of polishing

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