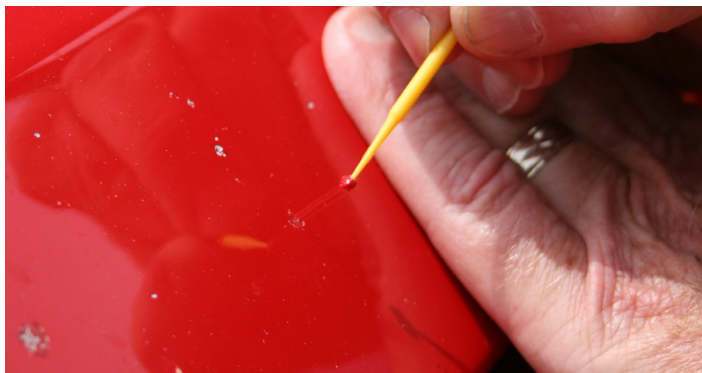


# FINE CAR CARE

Number 4

## Stone Chips

This is one of the biggest irritants that we have with our beautiful Porsches – stone chips. There are various products and systems on the market but you must be prepared to take time and have patience. You will be rewarded with a finish that is almost as new. You will do things that may seem to be damaging your beautiful paint but take heart, it does work. Like any skill or art it requires practice and there are options for you as well. When I first started I bought an old Porsche door at a junk yard and used that as my test bed. If this doesn't interest you then move to option 2 – test on your wife's car. I cleaned, filled chips, sanded, polished and waxed using different products until I got the results I wanted. It was a journey to learn the techniques as well as which tools to use.



Small short dabs of paint work best

## Sources of Paint

Porsche dealers sell touch-up tubes but you can also buy from online sources that have a wide range of colors for all years and models. The one that I have had the most consistent best quality is AutomotiveTouchup at [www.automotivetouchup.com](http://www.automotivetouchup.com). Don't use the brush that is attached to the top with any paint.

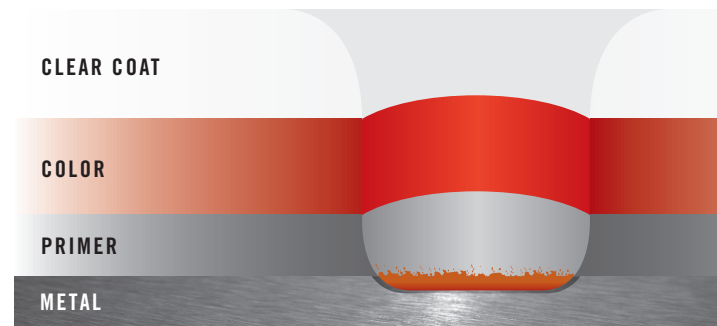


These tools and patience are all that are required

## Tools Required

Remember you are working down at the minute level so glasses, Q tips, micro-sponge applicators, dental tools, 2000 grit sandpaper, polish and microfiber cloth are all required for a good finish. Each trip I take to the

dentist I ask for a couple of broken dental tools. These strong sharp edge instruments are perfect for cleaning out any rust or loose paint that may be in the cavity. The micro- applicators that the dentist uses for applying to your teeth and gums are perfect for applying the paint. They come in different sizes and are a fraction of the cost of the larger applicators offered in the auto or paint market. Get regular and fine. A pack of 100 Microbrush brand will last you a lifetime. 2000 grit sandpaper will be used to sand the area flat. It is as fine as a cotton cloth so don't worry. And a good polish to take out the micro scratches from the sandpaper will bring the shine back to the desired shine. The secret in this entire process is to use micro amounts of paint so you don't create domes above the paint surface. A few mini amounts will stay below the surface and minimize the amount of sanding necessary.



Small drops only

**Preparation** Firstly you must clean the area with Simple Green or a diluted mineral spirits. Use a Q Tip to clean the area and then dab with clean water.

**Remove rust** Using your dental tool (or a big needle) remove the rust or loose material from the cavity.

**Prime** If you removed rust or see bare metal then a micro drop of primer is required.

**Color** The color paint is applied next but is a super small amount. You do not want to put so much in that you create a dome above the surface. Leave a little room for the clear coat.

**Clear** Apply a small amount of clear and then let it dry overnight. Do all of the chips before sanding.

**Sand** Use lots of spray water as you are sanding with 2000 grit. The surface around the chip area will start showing a dull scratch area but don't panic. When it is perfectly flat you are done.

**Polish** Now use a good polish to work out the scratched area. A small surface you can do by hand or if it is a large area a DA orbital polisher will do the job.

If you are not happy then you can go back and add clear to some of the spots, sand and polish again. There is plenty of paint on Porsches so just be gentle and it will come out like new. But please practice first. If the area shows heavy abrasion, like a front spoiler, then it is better to take it to a professional paint shop. We have several in this area that work on Porsches and can match the color exactly.



Contact | Pat Yanahan | [pyanahan@comcast.net](mailto:pyanahan@comcast.net) | 312.718.0732