

RUST PREVENTION

After any sheet metal has been stripped of all paint and primer, by any means, sanding, media blasting, chemical dip or other methods, it must be treated with some type of rust inhibitor. Many home “restorer’s merely apply a coat of regular “primer” over the bare metal thinking it will help to prevent rust.

IT WILL NOT.

If allowed to get wet, regular primer will let moisture reach the metal since it is very porous. All bare metal must first be treated with some type of rust inhibitor. The most common type is a sprayed on rust-resistant etching base primer. It is usually a light green in color. (refer to the Paint Layer page)



You may elect to use a severe-duty rust inhibitor such as RestoMotive’s **POR-15** on certain rust-prone areas under your primer. This is an excellent product and has been proven in its use over many years. It will stop rust! If you haven’t heard about POR-15, I suggest you send for free information. This product can be used on any bare metal subject to rust, not just car parts. It can be used on numerous other items such as metal outdoor furniture, cattle and

horse trailers, metal fencing, etc.

Be sure to follow the directions when applying POR-15. Once applied it is extremely difficult to remove. It cannot be removed by any thinners, lacquer thinner, acetone, paint thinner, or anything else. It is also not affected by oil, gasoline, brake fluid and battery acid. Even media-blasting it off is difficult and a very aggressive media must be used to blast it off.



Eastwood also sells a good rust inhibitor called “Rust Encapsulator.” It is affected by lacquer thinner even after being fully cured so it may not be suitable for certain applications. This trait does make it easier to paint over as no special surface preparation is needed as is necessary with POR-15. POR-15 is not affected by lacquer thinner (or anything else) after it has cured. **CAUTION:** If you use either of these products be sure to follow the instructions for applying primer over them.

There is an on-going controversy over which product is the best, POR-15 or Eastwood's Rust Encapsulator. The truth is neither is "better." Each product has its own use. POR-15 is "bullet-proof" in that nothing affects it - - water, paint thinner, lacquer thinner, you name it. It is extremely difficult to remove even by aggressive media-blasting. You can hammer on it and it will not break off the metal. You can bend the metal and the POR-15 just stays in place and doesn't crack.

The negative side of POR-15 is that it is very difficult to spray. You must thin it only with special POR Thinner. It will usually spray with small bubbles all over which leaves holes in it so it's best to brush it on. If you don't clean your paint gun very quickly the POR-15 will ruin your gun - remember, nothing will remove it once it dries, **nothing**. POR-15 also requires special surface preparation if you intend to spray a finish color paint over it. You must use a special POR primer or apply a very light coat of regular lacquer-based primer just at the right moment, when the POR is just "tacky" but not dry.

Eastwood's Rust Encapsulator, on the other hand, can be thinned with regular lacquer thinner. It can also be easily removed with lacquer thinner. This is a plus if you are going to spray paint over it. There is no special surface preparation required. Treat it just as you would a lacquer-based primer. It is much easier to remove than POR-15. This is also a negative as it will react to most materials just as regular paint will.

As to the long-term protection, POR-15 has been around for many years and has proven itself as a great rust preventative. The Eastwood product is new and does not have that track record although it has received good reviews so far. These are excellent products to use on areas prone to rust such as the top and underside of the floor, inside the rocker panels, etc.