## **GUIDE**

# Bonnet Lip Removal Priming And Painting Ford Focus Mk2.5

(Model 2008-2011)

Step By Step Instructions

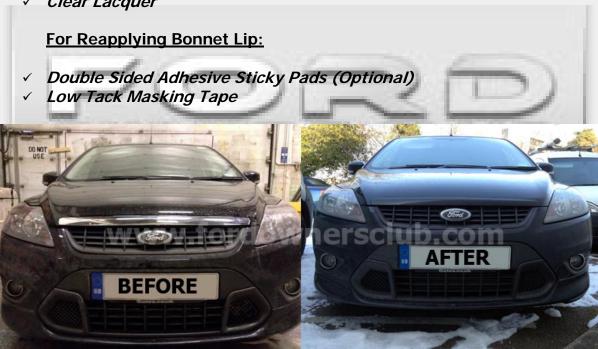
#### The Following Materials are required:

#### For Trim Removal:

- √ Flat Bladed Screwdriver
- √ Kitchen Cloth/J-Cloth
- ✓ Heatgun/Hairdryer

#### **For Colour Coding:**

- √ 400 Grit Wet and Dry Paper
- ✓ 1200 Grit Wet and Dry Paper
- ✓ Degreaser/Isopropyl Alcohol
- ✓ Latex/Vinyl Gloves
- ✓ Plastic Primer
- ✓ Spray Paint (To The Colour Of Your Car, Or Whatever Colour You Want!)
- ✓ Clear Lacquer



To Begin this Modification on your ford focus, ensure the car is in a parked position with the handbrake engaged and the keys are in your pocket!

The Focus Bonnet Lip is known to be a little fragile, however by being gentle and patient you can save yourself the bother of getting a new one! Hopefully this guide will help.

#### **Bonnet Lip Removal:**

Firstly open your bonnet, and secure it with the bonnet stay. You will now see how the bonnet lip is attached; using 3 lugs, but what you can't see is 2 strips of Super Sticky adhesive foam!

Now take your hairdryer and warm the bonnet lip, (If using a heat gun, be careful not to overheat the plastic...) once the lip is warm, wrap the blade of the screwdriver in a J-Cloth, (This minimises the risk of scratches) and starting at one end, gently slide it into the gap between the lip and the bonnet.

At this point, you will need to recruit your Partner, Neighbour, Random Man in the Street or grow a 3<sup>rd</sup> Arm... As its a good idea to keep warming the lip with the hairdryer, and gently prise the lip off with the screwdriver in one hand and lift the lip with the other.

Once you get to the middle. STOP! And start the process again from the other end, It makes it easier to balance the lip until you can get hold of it with both hands to remove it. The centre lug just needs a little tug, and you should now have the bonnet lip in your hands... In one piece...

At this point, Shut your bonnet. Your gonna have to grin and bare the fact you need to drive around like this for a couple of days. Unless at this point your vinyl wrapping, in which case you can have it back on as soon as you like!

#### **Colour Coding:**

Now onto the fun part! Firstly thoroughly clean the Lip, using Isopropyl Alcohol or degreaser. Be careful not to get it on the adhesive strips at the back, or you'll need your optional sticky pads for reapplication!

Once clean, take the 400 Grit Wet and Dry paper, and using it dry, rub down the surface, not too hard that your gouging lines into the plastic, but enough to key the surface to allow the primer to take hold.



Once sanded enough, get friendly with the Isopropyl or degreaser again! And from now on its a good idea to wear some latex/vinyl gloves to stop the oils from your skin affecting the paint finish.

While Drying, start shaking the can of primer. It needs a good couple of minutes of shaking to make sure all the primer is mixed.

Once dry, apply the first coat of primer, use gentle light motions to apply, I sprayed from left to right, from about 20-25cm, using short bursts of spray paint. Spray too much too soon and you'll get runs that are near on impossible to remove! Wait for this first coat to be "Touch Dry" (about 15-20mins will be fine) and apply a second coat of primer using the same method as before.



I applied 3 coats of primer just to make sure.

Once you have a nice even coat of primer, it's now time to leave it for 24 hours to dry. Don't be tempted to go back to it too soon!

Once dry, apply a guide coat, this is a quick pass with the coloured spray, literally just so you can see where you have sanded the primer coat. Let this dry for an hour or so. Get the 400Grit sandpaper again and using it wet this time, rub gently until the guide coat disappears.

### Clean/Degrease and allow to dry!

Its time to get shaking the colour can now! Again shake for 2 minutes, and apply using the same method as earlier. Nice even strokes, about 20-25cm away, short bursts. Again apply a light coat first, allow to dry for 15-20 mins, and apply another coat. I applied 4 light coats of colour just to make sure I had got even coverage. And being a pearlescent paint, I wanted to make sure I got it right!



Again it's another 24 hour wait to make sure the paint is properly dry before lacquering!

The next day, you will probably do what I did, look at it and go "I don't need lacquer!" Whatever you do don't be tempted to do this! I did this on a previous car, and the finish lasted about 2 days once the car had rain, grit, grime and other general rubbish thrown at it!

Now you'll use your 1200Grit Wet and Dry paper to dull the shine of the paint. Don't worry, I'm not going mad, it's needed to make the lacquer stick and to ensure the colour match is right. So wet the paper, and gently take the shine off, go too harsh and you'll have to start all over again!

Once sanded, clean the area with degreaser/Isopropyl.

You know the drill by now, Shake the can of lacquer for a couple of minutes, and again spray light coats. Leaving 15-20mins between coats.

I applied 3 coats of lacquer, again this needs to be left to dry for at least 24 hours. The longer the better really...

Once dry, stand back and admire your handywork! If you've taken your time, and been gentle you'll have a great result, I wasn't too happy with mine, but I'm hoping a quick go-over with a light cutting polish will sort out a couple of blemishes... All this because I rushed to fit it and didn't leave the lacquer to fully harden! Learn from my mistakes!



#### **Refitting the Bonnet Lip:**

So at this point you are ready to refit, gently touch the foam strip and see if it's still sticky. Mine wasn't, it had got primer and paint dust all over it, so I gently rubbed some Isopropyl over it, which luckily removed the dust, but left the sticky behind!

Just to be on the safe side, I applied some new foam pads in various places along the strip. Just to make sure.

Refitting is simple; Leave the bonnet closed and clean the bonnet lip recess with Isopropyl. Push the centre lug into place, once this is in, work one way then the other, applying firm and even pressure along the strip.



I hope this guide has been useful. Any questions feel free to PM me or email me on tdcist@aol.com

Thanks for Looking, email tdcist@aol.com for more Information.