

CLEAR FILM PROTECTION

By Bill Sanders

Jill and I just bought a new 2009 Boxster and wanted to protect the front paint finish from stone chips and immolated bugs.

After talking to several club members and the folks at Euroclassics, we chose to go with Richmond Roadblock and the Haartz product, which is a bit thinner than the 3M product. These are pretty much your choices. Prices range from \$695 to \$795 for the front-end treatment, which is much less than what a repaint of just the front bumper would cost.

After taking delivery on Monday, we arranged for the installation in our home garage for Saturday morning. The process took about 4 hours. Joe showed up at 10am as promised and started to work, shortly after I had washed and dried the car. The front hood already had a couple of bug spots that were tough to remove. With such a clean dark blue metallic to start with, we didn't want to end up with lots of stone chips on the paint finish.

The whole process involved careful application of the pieces which covered the front bumper, including horizontal intake slats, lower half of the front hood, side mirrors and the head light lenses.

If you are buying a new car, or a used one in great condition, I'd seriously consider having this treatment done to the front of your car.



The film is applied as a wide sheet, covering the entire front bumper. Joe carefully sprayed a water and ammonia solution on the paint and adhesive side of the film, and then used a 3" wide rubber squeegee to squeeze the liquid and air bubbles from beneath the film. A razor cutter was used at body seams, with the excess peeled away.