

NB: It is important to leave your tyres on the rim. Do not take your tyres off the rim as pictured here. Getting the tyre back on the rim will damage the whitewall.

STEP 1: CLEANING THE TYRE

Go over the tyre with a scrubbing brush to ensure there is no grease or dirt left on it. Then use a good degreaser to clean the tyre and give it a good rinse with water afterwards.



STEP 2: REMOVE THE LETTERING (OPTIONAL)

It is really up to you whether you want to keep the lettering on the tyre or not. Most just paint over the tyre lettering, as removing it is hard work. We wanted our tyres to have a totally smooth finish, so we opted to remove the lettering (use a grinder with a sanding disk to do this).

As you sand, clean the tyre with a brush to make sure you don't go too deeply into the wall of your tyres, thus compromising on safety. Also ensure the wall still has a rough surface, so that the paint has something to adhere to. Afterwards, clean the tyre with thinners and make sure that there are no loose bits of rubber anywhere.

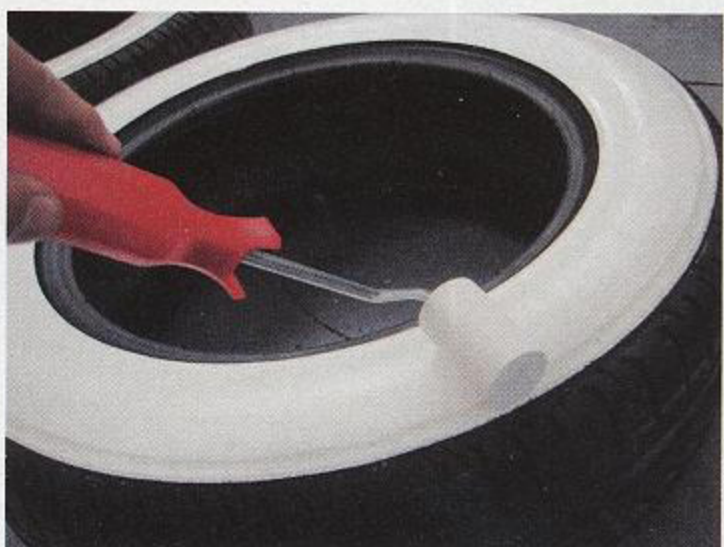


STEP 3: PAINTING THE TYRE

The border of the area to be painted can be laid out with tape. Our tyre had a line to work from, so we used that as our guide.

Shake the can well before opening it and applying the first coat. Use either a good-quality paintbrush or a sponge roller. The paintbrush will apply the paint thicker than the roller, while the roller will give a smoother finish. If using a paintbrush, only three coats of paint are needed, but since the roller applies the paint more thinly, it will require about five coats. Allow 24 hours for each coat to dry before applying the next.

Tip: To save paint, don't rinse out your brush or roller between coats. Instead, wrap it tightly with aluminium foil.



STEP 4: FINISHING

It will take a few days for the last coat to dry completely. Once the last coat is dry, slowly pull up the tape, towards the outside of the tyre to avoid pulling up the paint. Your new whitewall tyres are now ready for your Rod.



STEP 5: CONTINUED CARE

To keep your whitewalls white, wash the tyres with mild soap and a soft cloth when they get dirty. Avoid cleaners that contain bleach, silicon, or harsh chemicals. You may have to do some touch-up coats later on.

Now go on forth and get your Rod a hot new pair of shoes. 🏎️