



BMW Car Club
Gauteng, South Africa



Class Outline and Preparation Guide

2023 Classes

SHOW & SHINE

For the first time novice competitor that would like to show off their BMW but doesn't have the time or inclination to prepare their cars for the above more serious Concours classes. Show & Shine entries from the last two years must enter one of the below d'Etat or d'Elegance classes, whether they were judged as winners or not.

d'ETAT

All year model BMWs that are 100% original as it left the factory, including the original radio. Original equipment accessories from the manufacturer's own range are allowed and some aftermarket equipment and accessories such as AC Schnitzer, Alpina or BMW Individual, provided they are of the correct period and from a BMW approved partner at the time. This includes **unrestored** vehicles (only maintenance such as headlights, windscreens, minor pain touch-ups or minor interior touch-ups).

d'ELEGANCE

Car is not 100% original and may have non-factory modifications from aftermarket radios to turbos. Essentially similar to d'Etat, but no restriction on aftermarket accessories. This includes restored vehicles (ie vehicle resprayed and / or interior redone. As an example, fitting an E24 6 Series with E34 rims will not count as an original option.

d'HONNEUR PRESERVED

Past winners of d'Etat classes.

d'HONNEUR RESTORED

Past winners of d'Elegance classes.

OTHER TROPHIES/AWARDS

The judges will award floating trophies for the following cars over and above the class awards (provided there are at least two eligible entrants for that trophy):

Best Classic

Best Classic Coupe

Best 2002

Best E30/325iS

Best M Car

Best 5 Series

Best 7 Series

Best 8 Series

DIY Concours

Things you will need:

- Car shampoo.
- Car and tyre polish
- Various types of metal polish - Brasso, aluminium polish/brightener
- Engine degreaser and Clean Green
- Upholstery cleaner - leather cleaner and cream and carpet shampoo
- Dashboard shine liquid
- Glass cleaner

- Methylated or surgical spirits
- Cloths, Chamois, microfibre detailing cloths, ear buds, pipe cleaner, a soft, new 15 mm paintbrush, used toothbrushes and nailbrush, soft bristle brush, very fine steel wool
- Lots of time, patience, family, friends, and your favourite drink

Method:

Boot:

- Remove all loose items (carpets, spare wheel, tools and jack) and vacuum area
- Clean all paintwork, particularly in hard to reach places
- Vacuum carpets and shampoo if necessary to remove dirty marks
- Fold back rubber seals and clean all exposed areas
- Clean and polish spare wheel, tools and jack.
- If the battery is in boot, remove, clean battery compartment, battery, battery connectors and leads
- Clean the boot lid locking mechanism and latch

Wheels:

- Wheels and tyres are best cleaned off the car, don't use harsh mag wheel liquids; rather use diluted Clean Green and a soft brush
- Clean the area of the rim where it touches the tyre well, with a toothbrush, clean the valve stem and where it joins the rim
- Check all valve caps are present, use tyre detailer on the tyre and buff
- Clean the wheel nuts, around the wheel balancing weights with a toothbrush before replacing the wheel
- Spend 30 minutes cleaning the brake system and exposed suspension parts, use a soft brush and Clean Green or engine cleaner

Engine and engine compartment:

- Cover exposed electronics parts with plastic bags, spray on engine degreaser or Clean Green then spray off with water, don't spray directly onto exposed electronic parts
- Use soft brushes to work the area before spraying with water, the underside of the bonnet can be done at the same time
- Once dry use rubber and vinyl detailer on all rubber and plastic parts, make use of the toothbrush and paint brush to get into all areas
- Use the metal/aluminium polish on all areas previously polished, if you are intending polishing up new metal parts for the first time try using the metal polish with the fine steel wool and then buff up with a cloth
- Pay special attention to the areas where wiring and hoses touch the paint work; wipe and clean underneath all parts even if you can't see underneath
- If you can get your hand under a part clean it, the judge is going to run his fingers under all these hard to see and get to parts
- Use a lead light or torch to check for areas missed

Dashboard & Console:

- First clean with a very diluted Clean Green solution and then dry well
- If you are going to use a dash detailer ensure that it is used in every dash surface, otherwise it will be noticed immediately
- Use the soft paintbrush to clean air vents and around switches and controls - the ear buds and pipe cleaners should come in handy here
- Clean the cubby hole well; check if the service record book and manual are in place
- Move the steering into its different positions and clean in all exposed areas
- Pay special attention to the areas around and near the handbrake, gear lever, aircon and radio controls (especially on older vehicles)
- Clean the areas under the dash and on the sides of the console, also pay attention to the brake, clutch and accelerator pedals
- Use rubber detailer and buff up with a soft cloth

Vehicle interior, seats and carpets:

- Take out all loose carpets, vacuum and clean with shampoo if needed, vacuum under and next to the seats
- Vacuum seats, get into all the joints and crevices and also use the different seat positions to ensure that you get into all areas
- Wipe off all the areas under the seat and the seat controls as well as the seat rails which normally collect a lot of dust
- Use leather cleaner/restorer and buff up with a soft cloth
- Sun visors and sunroof always need cleaning so don't forget them
- Door panels and door compartments, clean and then use either the vinyl or leather detailer, use a soft brush around the door handle area
- The rear window area must be cleaned and vacuumed, check that you have your current licence disc on the lower left side of the windscreen and that you have the BMW Car Club sticker on one of the rear windows

Vehicle exterior:

- Clean and polish the exterior about a week or two before the show and on the day before the show
- Shampoo the car dry, wipe detailer on every part of the exterior using the Shield microfibre cloths to buff up the exterior
- Check for excess polish (white powder) in all joins and where door seals meet the paintwork, use a toothbrush to remove and then buff again
- Check under each door that it is perfectly clean (you may need to lie on your back on the ground and clean under the car doors) check that drain holes are open and clean the rubbers then use dash detailer
- Use dash detailer on all rubber window seals around all windows, apply using a small corner of a soft cloth and only apply to the rubber
- Open the sunroof and clean the rails and exposed area from the outside
- Using the soft paintbrush, ear buds and pipe cleaners clean the front grill and lights area - give a lot of time to cleaning between the trim and paintwork
- Check that number plates are clean. Check and clean tail lights and the trim between the lights and the paintwork.

- Exposed exhaust pipes should be cleaned with metal polish and if need be use some fine steel wool with the polish
- Glass is tricky best to clean all the windows inside and outside as the last job
- Use a clean, moist chamois to wipe the window and then before it dries immediately use a clean Shield microfibre cloth or you can use commercial window cleaners
- Always clean the car in the shade, once done move it into a sunny area and then check for spots and marks as the judging is usually in the sun

Vehicle undercarriage:

- This is the most difficult to clean, if you are able to get the car on a hoist or trestles it makes it easier – if possible start by cleaning the entire undercarriage with a high pressure hose
- The car will not be on a hoist or over a pit, so judges will primarily be looking at the exposed parts of the undercarriage
- Ensure you clean under the front valance, and the rear exhaust silencer and the entire exhaust from the rear silencer, including the inside of the exhaust using a metal polish

General:

- Check that all lights, indicators, tail lights etc are working as well as the hooter
- On the day of the Concours, take a plastic bucket, chamois, microfibre cloth, soft cloth and some quick mist detailer with you, just to clean off any dirt that your car picks up from the road

Some last tips to remember:

Remove all polish and dirt from around badges and beadings with a tooth brush. Sparkling glass and polished chrome/aluminium always draws attention. Remove all wheels including the spare and polish the entire tyre. The rims must also be spotless. The wheel arches and suspension (including the callipers) behind the wheels must look like new. Avoid aftermarket pirate lenses especially if they look different to the originals. Try to replace all visible service items with original BMW parts such as the battery, oil filter, HT leads, air box, etc.

Replace any broken clips and plastic bits under the bonnet and around the entire car. These are usually inexpensive but easily noticed if absent or broken. Make sure the fluids are all clean and at the correct levels. All tools and spares (bulbs, fuses, etc.) must be in the boot. The jack must also be spotless. The cigarette lighter must be unused and the car must not smell of smoke. If the judges smell smoke they will look for cigarette burns. Spare keys, service books, BMW key rings, original BMW mats, original product brochures, magazine articles with regards to the original launch and the like all make a good impression with the judge. The tyres should all be the same make and the correct size.

Remove all the seats before you begin the interior clean. You will see the dirt on cloth seats and on the carpets when the seats are out. Drive your car to the show slowly and choose a route with the least amount of stops. This avoids unnecessary brake dust and bugs on the front of the car. Give yourself enough time for preparation or you won't enjoy the experience. A rushed job will not get you the results you hoped for and you will not want to do it again. Involve your friends and family. Encourage them to look for faults. They won't be as critical as the judges but they may just find something you have missed. And on that clean note, all the best with your Concours preparation!