



# Cape Cod British Car Club

## WINTER STORAGE

As you put your car away for the winter, here are some tips/things to think about and do:

- Clean the car.
- Interior Upholstery
  - Clean the upholstery. If vinyl, treat with 303 Protectant (available from West Marine).
  - Treat the Shift knob boot with 303 Protectant.
- Gas tank
  - Fill it.
  - Additives/Fuel Stabilizer: some use, others don't. Suggest Stabil
  - Ethanol will soak up any liquid water.
- Battery:
  - Disconnect cables – at least the positive, or both cables
  - Don't need to remove, but if you do, store in a cool & dry place.
  - Attach trickle charger- a member likes this charger, <https://a.co/d/dfod9JE>
    - This link is US version. (Some chargers are ok for a few weeks of storage but eventually the battery fails. These are good for long term storage.)
- Coolant
  - Top coolant up with water/anti-freeze mixture.
  - Check for temperature rating. Make sure coolant can withstand the worst temperatures that you would expect.
- Engine Oil
  - Change oil and filter BEFORE storing.
  - Run engine to operating temperature before storing.
- Top
  - Put the top up so it stays stretched out.
  - If you can remove top, then store in warm area to keep it pliable
  - If Top is Vinyl, treat it with 303 Protectant as it prevents fading & cracking (keeps vinyl flexible) and repels dust and dirt. 303 is available at West Marine
- Tires:
  - pump the tires up maybe a few psi (+4psi) over normal.
  - A member runs normally at 23 so goes to 26/27.
  - Lifting the car: some do, some don't, depends on whether you hope to use the car. Usually not necessary unless you're not going to use the car for a very long period.
    - Modern tires do not develop permanent flat spots.
- Car Covers
  - Some do, some don't.
  - Remove all dust on car before installing the cover.
  - Make sure cover material is compatible with your paint job.

- Tail Pipe:
  - Plug to stop dampness and mice. Use foam plug, bronze wool, steel wool. Bronze wool available at West Marine. (Mice don't like steel wool as it hurts their skin).
  - Will usually get blown out, but you may want to put a tag on steering wheel as a reminder to remove before starting.
- Rodent prevention in storage area.
  - No food in storage area
  - No bird food – keep the mice out of the storage area.
  - Moth balls in car: some do, some don't. Smell can be a problem.
  - Dryer sheets in car: some do, some don't.
  - Fresh Cab Rodent Repellent- <https://a.co/d/0q2QEzf>
  - Ultrasonic pest repeller- <https://a.co/d/4sY2a3L> .
- Should you exercise the car during the shut down period ??
  - You can if you want to, but.....
  - Make sure you get up to running temperature.
  - 10 minute running will cause more harm than good. Recommend 30 minutes.
  - Obviously, do not take on snow, wet roads, salty roads.

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- Doesn't leave a mess
- Is quite small, 10.75" x 1.2", about the size of a flare cartridge
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- Is easy to store, so easily close by when you need it.
- Super simple to operate
- Effective against ALL the major fire classes
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