# How to fix autobody dents and cracks

Use automotive body filler to fill in gaps, cracks, dents and even some large scratches.

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# INTRODUCTION

Automotive body work or body part replacements can be prohibitively expensive. Many smaller and medium sized blemishes can be covered using automotive body filler. This guide shows how you can use automotive body filler to fill in gaps, cracks, dents and even some large scratches. A 1998-2002 Honda Accord was used to make this guide, but the principles apply to any car or truck body.

## 🔧 TOOLS:

- Sand Paper (1)

  **Grit depends on deisred finish**

  *A sanding block may help make smoother contours*

## ⚙ PARTS:

- Automotive Body Filler (1)

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## Step 1 — How to fix autobody dents and cracks



- Clean the area around the spot you wish to repair with water and if necessary, soap.

- ⚠ Always wear disposable gloves when working with Bondo. A painters mask and full length clothing is also recommended to help prevent breathing noxious fumes and skin irritation.

- Mix the body filler and its hardener per the instructions on their containers.

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Page 3 of 4

## Step 2



- Fill the dent, gap or crack with the body filler and hardener mix. You can use paper, tape or your hands to smooth out the filler while it is still in putty form.

- *(i)* It is recommended that you apply several thinner layers of filler to deep dents and cracks to prevent having a porous finish.

- *(i)* It is recommended that you wipe off excess Bondo and smooth out the Bondo as much as possible before it dries to minimize the sanding required.

- Once the Bondo has fully dried, typically around 20-30 minutes, sand the area so that it to the desired contour.

- If the Bondo you bought isn't the color you want, follow our  hand-painting guide to help match the color of your part.