

Wheel Strip CX Strip Tests

Question

What are the strip times for alloy wheels coated in euro primer when stripped at different temperatures?

Introduction

The purpose of this experiment is to determine the effects of temperature on the stripping time of alloy wheels using Wheel Strip CX (WSCX). The temperature range studied is 65-80°C, as this is the recommended range for optimum strip times while maintaining low running costs.

Materials

Three Audi alloy wheels coated with euro primer were selected for the experiment. The wheels were all similar in age, condition and coated with a similar type of paint. Each wheel was stripped in the same tank containing WSCX.

Method

The experiment was conducted three times with only the operating temperature being changed. The temperatures selected for the experiment were 80°C, 72°C, and 65°C. The wheels were kept in the tank until all the paint was removed and visual confirmation was made. The time taken to strip the paint from each wheel at each temperature was recorded.

Results

The following table shows the results obtained:

Temperature (°C)	Time to Strip (Hours)
80	2
72	4
65	6

Conclusion

In conclusion, the results indicate that higher temperatures lead to faster stripping times. At 80°C, the strip time was 2 hours, while at 72°C, the strip time increased to 4 hours. At 65°C, the strip time was the slowest at 6 hours. The experiment shows that temperature has a significant effect on the stripping times of alloy wheels using Wheel Strip CX. When stripping alloy wheels, temperatures within the recommended range of 80-85°C should be used for optimum stripping times. Lower temperatures can reduce running costs but will result in longer stripping times.

It is important to note that the results obtained are based on stripping Audi alloy wheels. Other alloy wheels, even from the same brand may have different paint types and thicknesses that could have a positive or negative affect on strip times.

Images

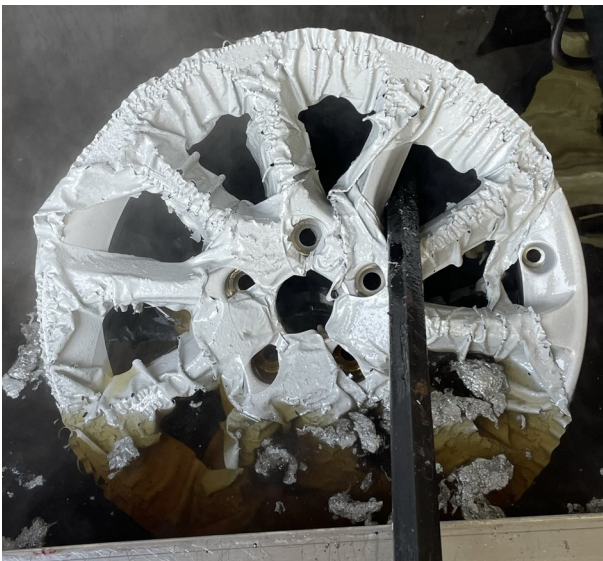


Figure 1: 1 Hour at 80 °C – Note the paint already beginning to lift in a sheet



Figure 2: 2 Hours at 80 °C – After jet washing the paint has been fully removed



Figure 4: 2 Hours at 72 °C – Slight lifting of the paint can be observed. At the half way mark less paint has lifted when compared to Fig.1



Figure 3: 4 Hours at 72 °C – After jet washing the paint has been fully removed with a finish comparable to Fig.2



Figure 5: 4 Hours at 65 °C – Paint is beginning to lift from the wheel



Figure 6: 6 Hours at 65 °C – Paint has fully stripped despite lower tank temperature