Volkswagen Cabriolet DIY Guide Badge Restoration

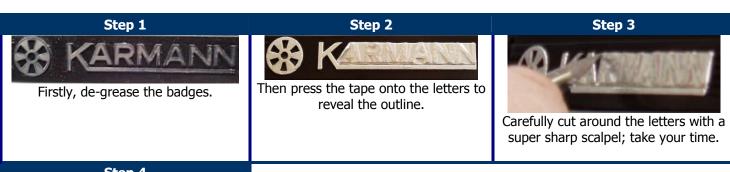
There are four methods for refurbishing your Cabriolet's badges in this how-to. Read through them all first, and then decide which method is best for you.

Method 1

This method is by "Dr. Dub" and is/was hosted at http://website.lineone.net/~dr.dub/karmann-badge-restoration.htm.

Tools needed:

- Degreaser
- Chrome tape (available at hobby stores)
- X-Acto-type knife with new blade





Finished. They look like new, which is good as they are no longer available.

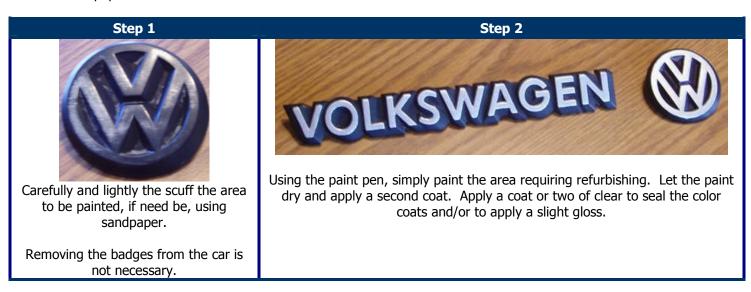
I have used this technique on other badges to great effect. Just be careful when cleaning your car; the chrome can come off if you get carried away with the sponge.

Method 2

This method is by "DaveLinger" and was originally posted on VWvortex.com.

Tools needed:

- Elmer's silver Metallic Painters pen (available at Wal-Mart and other craft stores, or at markersupply.com), or any paint pen with a solid color of your choice
- Paint pen with clear paint
- Sandpaper



Method 3

This method is by "KaeoFLUX" and was originally posted on VWvortex.com:

- 1. Paint the whole piece with 3 coats of durable silver paint.
- 2. Then paint 1 coat of black, and carefully wipe it off the top with something stiff like a sponge and some paint thinner. Repeat this process until the surrounding area is covered well in black. DONE! Or,
- 1. Paint the whole piece with a durable silver paint 3 Coats.
- 2. Then paint it black using Rustoleum Satin Black. Then *carefully* sand the black off the letters with 300 or 400 grit paper. DONE!

Similar to the one above, this method is by "chef.stephen" and was originally posted on VWvortex.com:

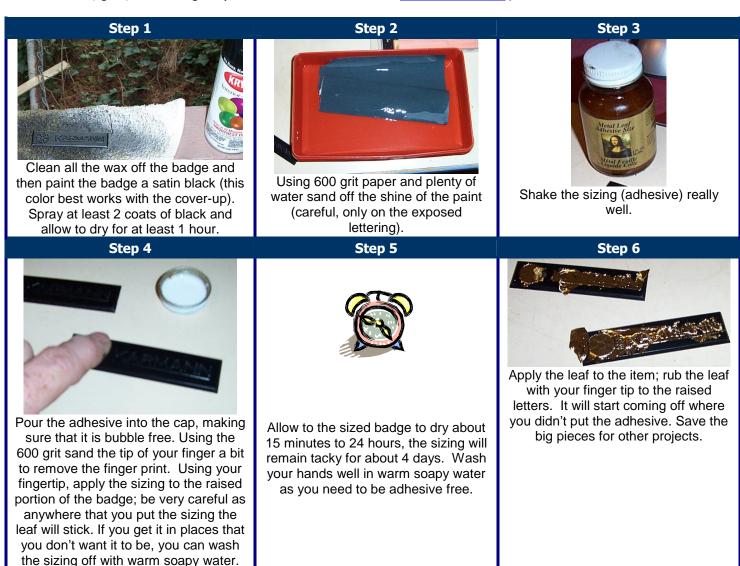
Here is a tip from a friend who did it this way. Spray the badges with the silver paint and let them dry thoroughly for a few days. Before painting with black, roll a light coat of wax on the letters using a cheap waxing roller from the drug store. They sell them in the hair removal section for ladies who want to wax their own legs. He, I understand, stole his wife's. Anyway, apply a light coat of wax and let it harden. Spray with a satin black and let it dry. Use a hot damp sponge to gently wipe the wax and the black paint off of the face of the letters.

Method 4

This method is by "briano1234" and was originally posted on www.ToplessRabbit.com.

Tools needed:

- Satin black spray paint
- 600-grit sandpaper
- Tub of water
- New Sharpie[®] pen (black)
- Small, stiff paint brush
- Clear acrylic sealer (high gloss used in this method)
- Silver, gold, etc. leafing kit (available at craft stores or at www.dickblick.com)







Using a stiff brush, brush the remaining part of the leaf off.





The leaf will only stick to where the adhesive is, or where the paint is still wet.



Where the leaf didn't stick to your lettering, reapply a thin coat of sizing; then apply a little more leaf to cover when dry.

Step 10



Brush off the excess.

Step 11



You will now have the basic letters leafed, and maybe a little ragged looking.

Step 12



Using a new Sharpie[®], cover up the bits that are overages; be very careful to stay off the raised parts of the letters.

Step 13



The finished badge.

Step 14



Now you are ready to spray sealer on the badge - at least 3 coats. I use high gloss; it will appear milky but dry absolutely clear.







CABRIOLET

* * Remember, **you** are responsible for working on **your** car; Cabby-Info.com, "Dr. Dub", "DaveLinger", "KaeoFLUX", "chef.stephen", "briano1234", VAG, VWoA, or anyone else are not responsible if **anything** goes wrong while **you** are working on, in and under **your** car!

Use this information at your own risk!* *