

Understanding Collision Repair Lingo 2

Hank's 2nd installment of Auto Body Repair terms is here to help you assist your clients in navigating the world of collision repair. Remember, you can also call us with any questions you or your client may have about a repair.

DRP: Acronym for Direct Repair Program. These programs often involve a contractual agreement between an Auto body Repair Center and an Insurance Company. For the most part, the agreements set the rules of repair and standardized procedures such as lifetime guarantees, billing practices and record keeping.

Drying: The process of change of a coating from the liquid to the solid state by evaporation of solvent, chemical reaction of the binding medium, or a combination of these processes. When drying takes place during exposure to air at normal temperatures, it is called 'air-drying'; if it can be accelerated by the application of a moderate degree of heat it is called 'Force-drying' (or Lowbake), as distinct from High-bake. Alternate Term(s): Binder, Airdrying, Force-drying, Stoving, Low-bake, High-bake

Edge-to-edge repair: A term denoting a complete panel repair as opposed to a touch-up or spot repair. Alternate Term(s): Spot repair

FEA: Acronym for Front End Alignment. Generally appears as a line item on a repair estimate or repair order. It will sometimes be accompanied by 4-W or 4-Wheel alignment. This simply means that the vehicle needs to have all wheels aligned.

Gloss: The degree to which a painted surface possesses the property of reflecting light in a mirrorlike manner.

Hazardous Waste: Any unusable by-product derived from the repair and/or painting process that cannot be disposed of through normal waste disposal streams. These products can be potentially harmful to the environment and require special handling as well as professional disposal. Federal, State and Local laws apply and may differ in their scope.

LKQ: Acronym for Like Kind and Quality. Refers to a used part salvaged from another vehicle. It is inspected by the seller and re-inspected by the shop upon receipt and accepted if it is deemed appropriate.

Masking: Temporary covering to protect areas not to be painted.

Metallic: A term used for finishes incorporating fine metallic particles, usually aluminum, in the paint.

Mica: A naturally occurring mineral, based on silica, which after treatment, is used as an effect pigment in coatings. Their special property is that light falling on a mica particle, depending on the angle of illumination, reflects the light with a change in color. Because of this they are sometimes referred to as pearls. Alternate Term(s): Pearl

Motor Manufacturer's Primer: An undercoat system applied by the manufacturer to the metal surface of a commercial vehicle or to new automobile panel parts to give protection during transit, storage, etc. and which, depending on its type, age and condition, may be able to support the finishing system. It may consist of more than just a simple primer coat. Alternate Term(s): OE Primer