

Painting the Center Wheel Caps

For those who need to paint their center caps, I found that Plasti-Kote Import Color paint code “**Datsun 5412**” matches the 94 silver wheels perfectly.

For the 92 "gray" wheels, the color "**Burnished Silver**" works well. I was a little upset with the Burnished Silver when I first painted them, because it looked just a little darker than the wheels themselves. Then, when I bought my second 92, it had brand new centers and they look just slightly darker than the wheels, so, I guess I chose the correct color. Both of these colors should be available at Advance Auto or Autozone.

The thing to do is to sand the old caps down to the yellow, or very close. Then, "mist" them with XIM sealer/primer/bonder (available at most hardware stores, Lowes or Home Depot). I say "mist," because if you put a heavy coat on them, they immediately "blister" and the bonder gives you problems.

After you've misted them with the bonder, let them set for a day for a good "cure." Then, paint. I used toilet paper tubes to sit the caps on for easy painting. Spray the caps as directed. If you're adventurous, you can try painting the "Subaru" in the middle black, by thinning some black paint, and using a very small brush or tooth pick to apply the paint, then "tilt" the cap to allow the paint to flow into the letters (I, by the way, was NOT adventurous).

My caps have been painted for two years now, with no signs of wear.

There's also a Plasti-Cote GM silver that's real close.