

## Driving Passions

For many, the idea of owning a classic car, (Chevy or Ford, take your pick), is the ultimate dream but for those with restoration works-in-progress there's often a downside.

An inherent element of most rebuild & restoration projects includes keeping a 2nd model for spare parts, hunched in the corner of the yard. Aside from being an eyesore, these rusting monsters can pollute the environment & be quite dangerous to our health.

For instance, a leaking car battery will change a soil's alkalinity & motor oil is not only non-biodegradable but also carcinogenic. So too is brake fluid which is also poisonous & many brake pads still contain a percentage of asbestos in order to keep them from heating up too much when applied. Used tyres are made from vulcanised rubber which doesn't break down & releases toxic smoke if inadvertently set alight. Even headlight & windscreen glass won't break down in the environment but the good news is that these can be recycled.

In fact, many car parts can be reused, recycled or repurposed. Your local auto-wrecker will dispose of dead batteries responsibly as well as drain a disused vehicle of its fluids including transmission, power-steering & brake fluid, coolant, oil & fuel which may be filtered to make it clean for redistribution. Plastic items can be recycled & used tyres can often be modified to be reused as re-treads.

In addition to the above there will always be many serviceable parts like fuses, bulbs, steering wheels, dashboards, door-cards & panels. Auto-wreckers can separate these component parts for resale & in the case of safety items, (eg seat-belts, car seats & chassis), ensure first they are still viable for reuse.

Don't let that 2nd leaking hulk take the shine off your dream's gleaming grills & duco. Take just as much pride in how your restored her as in the classic herself.

### References

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