

# Epsom Automotive

*'We guarantee to phone before we fix'*

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## How to Fix Cloudy Headlights

Cloudy headlight lenses don't just look unappealing, they can be dangerous. And if your lenses are plastic then chances are they will develop this yellowish haze over time.



### Causes

Plastic doesn't like heat or humidity, and the New Zealand summer means plenty of both. But there are other causes too. There's heat from the bulbs inside, heat from the engine bay, and of course UV damage from direct sunlight. While not too much of a problem in this country, road salt is also a yellowing agent, and you can't discount the effects of years of high speed contact with dust, dirt, and bugs.

### Dangers

Not surprisingly, cloudy yellow headlight lenses make the bulbs' job a lot harder. Your night time and bad weather visibility will steadily degrade as your lenses age, especially in low-beam mode. Plus, if it's harder for you to see the road ahead, other drivers may have difficulty seeing your car too. Hazy headlights aren't just a cosmetic issue; they're most definitely a safety factor.

### Solutions

Fortunately, they can often be cleaned up and you don't have to buy brand new ones when this happens. Repco sell a product specifically for this purpose which also provides some protection against future discolouration. We have also had good success using cutting compound, a soft cloth and some elbow grease.

### Preventive Measures

Slowing the process down means avoiding prolonged sun exposure (so garaging, a carport or even a cover if you are not going to be using the vehicle for an extended period). Some companies even offer clear protective films that provide a buffer between your lenses and the elements, promoting safety and boosting your car's resale value, too.

## Our Services Include:

- Warrants of Fitness (Cars & Trailers)
- Vehicle Servicing
  - Lube Only or Full Annual Service
- Cambelts
- Batteries
- Tyres, fitting and rotation
- Pre-purchase Inspections
- Diagnostic Scanning

Courtesy cars are available (booking required) or a local drop off can be arranged.

**Visit our website [www.epsomautomotive.co.nz](http://www.epsomautomotive.co.nz) for full details of all our service inclusions.**

## Enjoy the Hauraki Gulf this Summer

A reminder from the Outboard Boating Club (OBC), if you're heading out on the Hauraki Gulf this summer – protect our Gulf Islands from unwanted invaders.

- Check your boat/ kayak and gear for rodent and insect stowaways before you leave the mainland.
- Clean your footwear, clothing and gear and check for seeds - weeds are a problem.
- Pack luggage or food you are bringing onto any of our islands in rodent proof containers - no open containers or plastic bags please.
- Leave your dog or other domestic pets at home - dogs pose a risk to our native species.

This will be our last newsletter for 2012, so we wish you a safe and enjoyable Xmas Holiday. Be sure to bring your car/trailer in for a safety check and WOF before heading away and bear in mind we will close the workshop for our own family break on 22nd December and reopen on 7th January 2013.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

*Rhett, Denis, Corne,  
Julian and Sharon*



Don't forget about our movie pass referral scheme. If you have referred someone and we haven't sent you any movie passes, please call or email [Rhett@epsomautomotive.co.nz](mailto:Rhett@epsomautomotive.co.nz)