

BODYSHOP AWARDS

PRODUCED BY **PAINT & PANEL**

30
YEARS
1996-2026

Shining a
spotlight
on **industry**
excellence

2026 Entry Kit

paintandpanel.com.au/bodyshopawards

Nominations close
4pm, Friday 22 May 2026

About the awards

Celebrating its 30th year in 2026, the Bodyshop Awards continue to celebrate stars of the collision repair industry, recognising innovative bodyshop owners and managers and their outstanding achievements.

To Enter

Visit bodyshopawards.com.au

Submit entries via online portal:
thebodyshop.awardsplatforms.com

- **Nominations open:** Monday 13 April 2026
- **Best Shop in-person nominations close:** Friday 1 May 2026
- **Nominations close:** Friday 22 May 2026
- **Event:** Friday 27 November 2026
- **Entry fees:** Free to enter

For queries contact: events@twodeforce.com.au



Save the date
Gala Awards Dinner
Friday 27 November 2026
Movie World, Gold Coast

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Categories

Award categories
are as follows:

Best Shop Awards

- Best Medium Shop (UP TO \$5M TURNOVER)
- Best Large Shop (OVER \$5M TURNOVER)
- Best New Shop
- Best Country Repairer
- Best Multi-Site Operator
- Best Corporate Shop
- Best Dealer/Prestige Shop
- Specialist Repairer

Best Practice Awards

- Business Excellence
- Best Customer Experience
- Best Workplace MSO
- Best Workplace
- Community & Social Responsibility

Individual Awards

- Manager of the Year
- Emerging Leader (under 30)
- Apprentice of the Year (under 26)
- Parts Manager of the Year
- Hall of Fame

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Judging Criteria

This judging criteria is applicable to the awards below:

- **Best Medium Shop**
(UP TO \$5M TURNOVER)
- **Best Large Shop**
(OVER \$5M TURNOVER)
- **Best New Shop**
- **Best Country Repairer**
- **Best Multi-Site Operator**
- **Best Corporate Shop**
- **Best Dealer/Prestige Shop**
- **Specialist Repairer**

Weighting is as follows:

Business vision and strategy (20%)

- Demonstrate the vision for the business, expansion plans, work source strategies & marketing strategies.

Future proofing (20%)

- What initiatives do you have in place to future-proof your business to ensure your continued success? e.g. cybersecurity, recruitment strategies, sustainability initiatives.

Operational framework (25%)

- Explain the operation of your internal network and communication methods utilised by your site teams.
- How would you describe the culture at your business?
- How do you measure customer and work provider satisfaction?
- Outline any areas of where you excel operationally such as key to key times, customer satisfaction, profitability.

Staff care and development (25%)

- How does your business prioritise and ensure a safe work environment for your team?
- How do you develop your staff, including office personnel?
- Outline any additional staff care initiatives e.g. mental health, 4 day week, bonuses.

Community engagement (10%)

- Outline your business' involvement in in your local community and any charitable work you or your team undertakes.

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Judging Criteria

This judging criteria is applicable to the award below:

- **Business Excellence**

Weighting is as follows:

Vision for the business (35%)

- Give an outline of your vision for the business. Describe any innovative business practices in place and aspects of the company culture that you consider to be industry leading.

Efficient operating procedures (35%)

- Detail any efficient operating procedures and existing strategies for specialisation or diversification, environmental responsibility. Tell us how you market the business.

Staff welfare, culture and community (30%)

- Describe the company's focus on staff well-being and culture, training initiatives, succession planning, and efforts towards industry or community.
- Are you involved in any community initiatives that we should be aware of? If so, please provide more information.

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Judging Criteria

This judging criteria is applicable to the award below:

- **Best Customer Experience**

Weighting is as follows:

Customer involvement in the business (40%)

- Describe the methods used to keep customers informed, such as phone calls, emails, SMS, and online tracking.
- Explain the procedure for managing complaints and compliments.
- Specify any platforms utilized for ongoing customer engagement, e.g. Facebook, Instagram, newsletters or special offers.
- Tell us about what facilities you offer your customers on site.

Feedback (20%)

- Detail strategies employed to encourage reviews and feedback from customers.
- Tells us about your online ratings including Google reviews and any work provider ratings.

Business brand (40%)

- Describe efforts made to enhance the appearance of your shop and other marketing strategies employed to promote your business brand.
- Outline specific improvements implemented in your services or processes to enhance customer experience and satisfaction.
- Explain how you have cultivated and maintained a culture of customer service within your business.
- Detail any initiatives or programs in place to recognise and reward employee contributions to customer service excellence.
- Describe the training programs or development opportunities provided to employees to enhance their customer service skills and knowledge.

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Judging Criteria

This judging criteria is applicable to the awards below:

- **Best Workplace**
- **Best Workplace MSO**

Weighting is as follows:

Employee support, benefits, care and community engagement (50%)

- What measures has the business undertaken to prioritise the physical and mental well-being of its staff, including the provision of facilities, benefits, and supportive initiatives?
- Do you involve your teams in any community initiatives, if so tell us about it?

Employee growth and safety measures (50%)

- How does the company promote staff development while ensuring a safe working environment, and what specific programs or initiatives are in place to support both aspects?

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Judging Criteria

This judging criteria is applicable to the award below:

- **Community & Social Responsibility**

Weighting is as follows:

Community involvement (50%)

- Describe the ways your business engages with the local community, such as through sponsorships and offering special rates for elderly individuals etc
- Outline any involvement in organisations that benefit the collision repair industry.
- Explain any interactions with local schools, including offerings of school-based apprenticeships.

Social responsibility (50%)

- Provide examples of how your business demonstrates a commitment to social responsibility, such as through charity work, staff involvement in community or charity initiatives, and environmental projects.
- Describe any efforts to promote inclusivity, such as employing people with disabilities.

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Judging Criteria

This judging criteria is applicable to the award below:

- **Bodyshop Manager of the Year**

Weighting is as follows:

Responsibilities and achievements (50%)

- Provide a description of the individual's responsibilities.
- Outline any key successes and/or achievements.

Attributes and skills (50%)

- Why do you think this person should be considered for the Bodyshop Manager of The Year Award? For example: someone with a love of learning, evidence of being a team player, a person who has achieved something that can be recognised such as being promoted or winning an internal award; examples of initiatives taken and improvements undertaken.

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Judging Criteria

This judging criteria is applicable to the awards below:

- **Emerging Leader (Under 30)***
- **Apprentice of the Year (Under 26)†**
- **Parts Manager of the Year**

Weighting is as follows:

Responsibilities description

- Provide a description of the individual's responsibilities.

Successes and achievements (50%)

- Outline any key successes and/or achievements.

Qualifications and attributes for award consideration (50%)

- Why do you feel this individual should be considered for this award? For example: someone with a love of learning, evidence of being a team player, a person who has achieved something that can be recognised such as being promoted or winning an internal award; examples of initiatives taken and improvements undertaken.
- If you're nominating an apprentice please give us examples of the individual going above and beyond. This can involve outside activities such as community participation. Please also explain how they handle problem solving and setbacks.

*Below 30 years of age as of Friday 1 May 2026

†Below 26 years of age as of Friday 1 May 2026

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Supporting materials

Please supply the following with your nomination.

Best Shop Categories

- Images: Exterior, reception, panel shop, paintshop, parts area, staff facilities. Please also include a team photo and any imagery that demonstrates your local community involvement. You may also upload documentation supporting your entry. Upload JPEG or PDF files. Maximum file size is 5MB per piece. A maximum of ten pieces can be uploaded with your entry.
- Video walkthrough: Your video may be uploaded directly to the portal. Alternatively they can be hosted on a video sharing site such as YouTube or Vimeo.

Individual Awards

- Images: please provide 2-3 images of the nominee, preferably in uniform [clean].
- Upload JPEG or PDF files. Maximum file size is 5MB per piece.

Best Practice Awards

- Images: Please provide relevant images to support your nomination/s. E.g. front of shop, customer service area
- Upload JPEG or PDF files. Maximum file size is 5MB per piece.
- A maximum of ten pieces can be uploaded with your entry

Note – images do not need to be taken by a professional and can be taken on a smart phone.

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Terms and Conditions

The 2026 Bodyshop Awards are open to Australian-based companies. Note the entry deadline for the Best Shop in-person nominations is 4pm Friday 1 May 2026. This date is final and there will be no extensions provided. The deadline to submit own shop nominations is 4pm Friday 22 May 2026.

You can enter more than one category but if the entries are deemed by the organisers as significantly difference and tailored to the specific category. Entries cannot be edited after submitting. If you notice an error in your entry, please contact events@twodefence.com.au. Please note: no changes will be permitted after the entry deadline. Please make sure all entry details are entered accurately, including grammar. Details collected through the online entry portal will be used in the Awards presentation and in print if selected as a finalist.

If a nominee in the Manager of the Year, Parts Manager of the Year, Emerging Leader or Apprentice of the Year category leaves the business after the nomination and before the awards night, they will be disqualified. The entrants in the Parts Manager, Manager or Apprentice must all work in a collision repair/specialist repair business.

The decision of the judges will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into. All entries are treated as confidential. Judges reserve the right to move an entry to another category if deemed more suitable. Judges reserve the right to disqualify entries that do not follow the entry requirements. The entrant grants *Paint & Panel* permission to show the entries at Bodyshop Awards presentation and in the magazine in print and online at such times as deemed appropriate. Finalists and winners will be covered in the *Paint & Panel* winners supplement using information from the entry. The scores and comments are confidential and will not be disclosed.

If there is specific information in your entry that is commercially sensitive and should not be published, please make this clear at the time you submit your entry. Any attachments containing sensitive information should include 'JUDGESEYESONLY' in their title. The entrant agrees that *Paint & Panel* and Two de Force will not accept responsibility for errors or omissions reproduced in the presentation or the winners supplement or for work lost or damaged under any circumstances.

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EVENT MANAGEMENT

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Contact

For any queries regarding sponsorship, entries, judging or the event itself, contact our Awards Managers at Two de Force

events@twodefence.com.au

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