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Protect All Cleaner, Polish, Wax & Treatment

Sensational UV blocker and carnauba wax does everything but apply itself.

Man's natural instincts have evolved over the eons to a point where, while languages and customs are quite different, there is one thing that is universally dreaded by all of mankind — washing and waxing a car.

History shows that in order to improve our standards of living, we make our lives harder. Take recreational vehicles, for example. While the thought of washing and waxing a regular car scares most of us to death, the RV industry has compounded the problem by literally putting houses on wheels. Let's face it, when was the last time you washed and waxed your house?

Sure there are those aberrant individuals in any society who claim they "enjoy" spending a perfectly good Sunday afternoon slaving over a vehicle instead of doing what comes naturally — goofing off. But when it comes to my motorhome, I would prefer having fun on the inside, than working on the outside.

There is one great truth that we all must face, however and that is RVs need maintenance, including an occasional wash and wax.

When it comes to my motorhome maintenance I've always believed that I needed a variety of products to do the job right. I have a collection of various tins, tubes, bottles and jars of all-purpose cleaners, glass cleaners, exterior waxes, interior panel polishes and Naugahyde protectant.

I always thought that's the way it had to be, and I've always had a "prove it" attitude about products that claim to do it all. It's been one of the basic tenets of my philosophy that the more outrageous a product's claims, the more disappointing the results.

For the product called "Protect All," the manufacturer's claims are almost irrational. I wouldn't have been such a skeptic if it said it would protect maybe fiberglass, vinyl, plastic and rubber like everything else. But with brazen disregard for convention, the package adds glass, chrome, stainless steel, wood and paint.

That did it. I decided nothing could do what Protect All claims to do and set about to prove it. I started with the dashboard, and as I expected, it worked well like other vinyl protectants, and brought out the luster. But what about all of the other claims?

Most vinyl protectant manufacturers caution against getting their products on glass and chrome, so I figured this would be my next test. Because my motorhome has aluminum bumpers, I decided to use the family Suburban, which has a chrome front end, to test Protect All's claims.

I was impressed. After washing the vehicle, I applied Protect All conservatively to the chrome, wiped it off with a clean cloth and buffed it out with a dry rag. It looked great. While I was at it, I figured why not try it on the paint. After a little more than an hour's work and some help from my kids, the entire Suburban, top- to-bottom, front-to-rear was done. It had never looked better. Even the windows sparkled.

But the real test of any vehicle polish isn't how good it looks after you apply it, but how long it lasts. After one week, the rig still looked great, but had some dust on it. The clincher

came at the car wash when the rig cleaned up and looked super with just a rinse. Water just beaded up and rolled off of the windows, paint and chrome, and squashed bugs rinsed right off of the glass. It was impressive to say the least.

With vinyl, chrome, paint, rubber and glass all passing the test, it was time to try it on fiberglass, stainless steel, wood and plastic.

What better rig to try it on than a fiberglass-skinned motorhome. The biggest problem with waxing my rig is the fiberglass finish has an orange-peel texture with a fair amount of relief. If you use a normal paste wax like I used to, such a surface is a pain. You can wipe off the wax all you want to with a rag, but you need a WaterPik or something to get the residue out of the cracks. Not so with Protect All.

After thoroughly washing the rig, I lightly applied Protect All to about a 3x4-foot area. After wiping it off with a clean towel, I then buffed it with a dry rag to a gloss. Because Protect All is a liquid, it's easy to remove the remaining protectant from the cracks. The fiberglass and striping looked great, and because Protect All doesn't require as much elbow grease as hard wax, it only requires a fraction of the time to buff.

Inside, Protect All worked great on paneling, appliances and countertops.

What makes Protect All so unique is its ability to work well on virtually any surface. In addition to bringing out the shine in most surfaces, Protect All also has an Ultra Violet blocker that inhibits UV rays and prevents them from fading and oxidizing the surfaces.

According to Adam Huber, inventor of Protect All, once you initially treat a surface, all that's required from then on is an occasional touch up to maintain the protective coating.

Talking to Huber is like talking to a man with a mission. He told me to try it on my drawer runners to free them up. I did, and it worked. We now keep a can in the house instead of three or four different polishes and cleaners.

Available in 13.5-ounce, ozone-safe aerosol cans or 16 oz. bottles or gallon containers, Protect All is one product that should be in (and on) everybody's rig. So throw out all those other exotic formulations and make your life a little easier for a change. I have, and now I'm a one-can man.

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