

The clear-plastic cleaners/polishes test panel was left in the sun and salt air to weather for 30 days.

HOW WE TESTED

Comparing Clear-vinyl Products

Practical Sailor applied the products to a variety of used clear-vinyl panels and judged ease of use. Testers then applied each product as directed to 1-foot-square sections of windows from a large dodger. The test panel had some minor scratches and a little hazing. The amount of wear was fairly consistent.

Testers evaluated the convenience and suitability of the container, ease of application, ease of buffing (where directed), and the visible results of each product or prod-

uct combination. The panels were then sprayed with fresh water, and the ability to bead water was rated. The panels were left out in the weather for 30 days, and the water test was repeated.

To test scratch repair capabilities, new vinyl sheets were sectioned off and roughed up with 600-grit sandpaper to create light scratches. Those cleaners that claimed scratch removal qualities were applied with 1 minute of hand rubbing. The results were tabulated.