

PS VALUE GUIDE ONE-STEP CLEANER-WAXES

MAKER	COLLINITE	★ \$ STAR BRITE	✓ RE-STRUCTURE MARINE PROD.	MEGUIAR'S	✓ SIMONIZ
PRODUCT	No. 870	Heavy Duty One Step Cleaner Wax	Professional Marine Polish	50 Cleaner Wax	Royale Boat Cleaner/Wax
UNIT PRICE (PER OUNCE)	\$16 (\$1/ounce)	\$22 (69¢/ounce)	\$30 (\$2.50/ounce)	\$13 (81¢/ounce)	\$7 (78¢/ounce)
PRICE SOURCE	waxbytes.com	amazon.com	re-structuremarine.com	defender.com	jamestowndistributors.com
TYPE	Liquid	Liquid paste	Liquid paste	Liquid paste	Paste
APPLICATION	Fair	Good	Good	Good	Excellent
CLEANING	Good	Excellent	Good	Excellent	Excellent
INITIAL GLOSS	Excellent	Good	Good	Good	Good
3 MONTHS	Excellent	Good	Good	Good	Good
6 MONTHS	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Good
9 MONTHS	Fair	Good	Good	Poor	Good
12 MONTHS	Poor	Good	Good	Poor	Fair

\$ Budget Buy
✓ Recommended
★ Best Choice

Star brite Leads One-step Wax Test

Last April, *Practical Sailor* compared 10 different one-step cleaner waxes. These products were described as an option for boatowners who want to protect their boat's gel coat, but can't be bothered with a strenuous buffing and wax routine.

For the test, we sectioned off and waxed the hull of a 25-foot 1980 Hunter and rated each of the products on its ease of application, cleaning ability, and initial gloss. We also applied the various products to larger sections of two other test boats. The remainder of the Hunter's hull was waxed with Collinite 885, the winner in our 2004 (Nov. 15, 2004) wax test. At three-month intervals, the waxes were rated on how well they were holding up in the Sarasota, Fla., sun.

The first three-month report recommended five products, Collinite 870, Star brite Heavy Duty One Step Cleaner Wax, Re-structure Marine Products Professional Marine Polish, Meguiar's 50 Cleaner Wax, and Simoniz Royale Boat Cleaner Wax (the only paste). At that time, Collinite 870 was picked as the Best Choice, based on its superior gloss and ability to bead water.

As time passed, most of these polishes lost their protective sheen. The results of the three-month scoring (in the table above), show how the field gradually

shrank. After 12 months, only three products still beaded water: Star brite, Simoniz, and Re-structure Marine Polish. Star brite, because it is far cheaper than Re-structure gets the nod for 12 months of protection, but it will be interesting to see how this duel ends. Re-structure is the only manufacturer who claimed more than a year's protection, and so far, it is holding true to that claim. Although Collinite faded at the nine-month mark, it still earns a *PS* recommendation for those who want the best initial gloss. Next time, however, we'll opt for the paste version, which Collinite claims will last longer.



Star brite One Step



Re-structure Marine Polish

CONTACTS

3M, 877/366-2746, 3m.com/US

COLLINITE, 315/732-2282, collinite.com

INTERLUX, 908/686-1300, yachtpaint.com

MEGUIAR'S, 800/347-5700, meguiars.com

RE-STRUCTURE, 310/639-7069, re-structure.com

STAR BRITE, 800/327-8583, starbrite.com

SIMONIZ, 800/227-5536, simonizusa.com