



180MPH CORVETTE ZR-1A bargain supercar contender



LIGHTWEIGHT LEGENDMost original E-type racer?



LOST VAUXHALL REVEALED C&SC discovers amazing photos



REAR-ENGINED SALOONSThe Imp meets its Euro rivals



Chemical cleaners sparkle in dry

We take a shine to seven of the most effective ways of using less water to wash classics

With a well-documented water shortage in parts of the UK, the burning question is: how do you clean your car during the show season?

Many dry areas, such as parts of continental Europe, Australia and the USA face the same problem when it comes to cleaning and detailing classics, so we've lined up seven of the newest products and tested them to find out whether they live up to their claims - to see if you really can get a show shine without washing your car. Each product uses trick chemicals that coat dust, dirt and debris before removing it from the paint surface, preventing scratches. Some add wax too, but which are the easiest to use and which give good results? Heavier soiling will need more work, so a little and often is the key to car cleanliness this summer.

What's obvious is that these waterless formulations mean a different approach to keeping your car clean, so be prepared to modify your usual method to get the best results.

WAXFANTASTIC/CLEAN & WAX

8/10

Quantity four cloths Approx washes per pack four Availability forecourts and motor factors; 020 8614 6580, www.carix.co.uk

These large triple-layer microfibre towels are impregnated to combine cleaning

with a layer of silicone wax. The cloths lift dirt superbly and each has enough surface area for an averagesized car. The moisture residue left can be buffed to a high shine. They've just been repackaged so also look for Clean & Wax.



TOP TIPS

Car cleaning tips in a dry summer

- If your car is outside, leather it off during
- or after rainfall or when there's heavy dew
- Keep your car well-polished the dirt sticks less to waxed paintwork
- Frequent rub-downs with a damp chamois
- Use a car dust-mop impregnated with dirtretaining fluid to remove light particles from
- Clean your car in the early morning or late evening when the paintwork is cool
- Use brake pads that avoid black dust to help
- Polish glass regularly because clean glass and

TURTLE WAX NO HOSE WASH

Size 1000ml Price per 100ml £0.50 Approx washes per bottle 15 Availability motor factors, Halfords; 01695 716610

This product is formulated for low water use. Its active ingredients are a blend of non-ionic, cationic and amphoteric surfactants for effective cleaning, coupled with a rapid rinse formula. It's the usual bucket and sponge routine, though there's not much in the way of suds in the bucket, but sponging a couple of panels at a time, then rinsing, easily lifts and washes away dirt. The bonus of using real water is that gutters, 'screen mouldings and trim strips are flushed out too.



8/10

MEGUIAR'S SPEED DETAILER

7/10

Size 710ml Price per 100ml £1.27 Approx washes per bottle six Availability motor

factors, Halfords; 08702 416696 The pump spray makes it easy to layer a fine mist of the clear liquid on to the car, a panel at a time. Considering this is a detailing product, it's not out of its depth with cleaning. The formula softens light dirt and road soiling and helps it lift off as you buff with a clean stockinette. The paint surface comes up easily, the product leaving a conditioned, waterrepellant glossy surface shine. It's good for light cleaning, after a single journey or to remove dust when you arrive at a show.



CARPLAN TRIPLEWAX DRI-WASH £7.99

Size 1000ml Price per 100ml £0.79 Approx washes per bottle four

This thick white cream feels like a polish as you pour it on to a clean stockinette. It cuts through even quite heavy dirt with little effort, and deals readily with tree sap plus sundried insect splatter. It can be polished off when wet, or after it's dried to a haze. Paint looks and feels smooth. It is great for treating dirt-created staining.



MIRACLE DRYWASH

7/10

Size 500ml Price per 100ml £1.99 Approx washes per bottle six Availability 08008

818062; www.miracledrywash.com The trigger applicator bottle sprays a film of cleaner over a panel surface with just a few pumps. The waxy white liquid encapsulates dirt well and spreads over paintwork leaving a decent thin film that seems to pull filth from the paint, but when wiping off it is difficult not to leave slight smears in darker colours. It's a doddle to use though, and there's definitely a wax-like finish that forms water droplets when it rains after application, but it's easier to achieve a good result on lighter colours.



From £9.99

Quantity 120 wipes Approx washes per pack four Availability motor factors, Halfords;

01628 894374 You get 40 wipes each for exterior, interior and

glass. The lightweight saturated cloths tear off easily, but are guite small when faced with a large panel such as a roof. Exterior cloths clean readily and soak up surface dirt, but can't remove stains. And the glass cloths struggled with tree sap and insects.



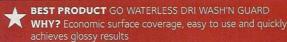
5/10

GO WATERLESS DRI WASH'N GUARD £7.95

Size 500ml Price per 100ml £1.59 Approx washes per bottle six Availability 01256 889001;

www.go-waterless.co.uk Using the pump spray bottle, it is easy to apply an even mist with this formulation. The light purple liquid covers evenly and sticks well on initial application. It quickly soaks into dirt and hardened detritus such as dead insects and bird droppings,







BUDGET OPTION WAXFANTASTIC/CLEAN & WAX WHY? Great quick-fix answer to basic car cleaning - ideal

with a clean towel, leaving a great shine.