

GEAR ON TEST



Colin Jarman and Garth Cooper give all manner of new marine gear a thorough testing. This month there is a special emphasis on cleaning products to help you get ready for the new season

RENOVO BOAT CANVAS CLEANER

£11.95 per 500ml

★★★★★



After a season and two winters without proper cleaning, my blue sprayhood was looking decidedly green over large areas. Time for some serious cleaning – enter Renovo.

The Renovo range of boat canvas care products includes this cleaner, a canvas ‘reviver’, said to ‘re-colour and recondition’ and a waterproofer, which also provides UV protection and contains mildew inhibitors.

The Boat Canvas Cleaner is a water-based product, pale blue-green in colour and quite viscous. It is brushed on, undiluted, using a 2in paint brush and is left to dry before being removed. Work from the centre out towards the sides, covering evenly. The product covers reasonably well and I found that my sprayhood (on a 26-footer) required about 375ml.

Following instructions for heavily soiled canvas, I left the cleaner to dry for an hour before attempting to remove it. This can be done with a damp sponge or cloth, according to the instructions, but I ended up having to use a wet scrubbing brush. It did not need hard scrubbing, but the brush was more effective than a sponge.

Lots of water was used and the transformation was remarkable – from dark and widely covered with green to bright blue with only small areas still shadowed with green. These areas will probably require a second dose, but the overall effect is very good. If used at the beginning and end of the season the cleaner should keep a sprayhood

looking very smart for little effort and at a cost that’s not too far over the top.

Next I will have to try reproofing the canvas. *Colin Jarman*

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The cleaner is brushed on from the centre outwards, towards the edges



Blue-green and viscous



Scrubbing worked best



Beginning to work



The sprayhood largely restored to its former blue colour – a little extra work is needed in a few areas

Sailing Today Verdict

The Renovo Canvas Cleaner was given a tough challenge and proved itself. Regular use would keep sprayhoods and dodgers clean and smart.

Photos Colin Jarman