DRUID DRIBBLE

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Edition 1 Volume 2 – Topic: Plexiglass, Lexan, Polycarbonate and Plastic Type Material Water Repellent Treatments





NO **YES**

A lot of you have **GLASS** Rain-X or a similar treatment product in your cage or in your garage. You might be tempted to put it on your helmet visor, the windscreen on your bike/trike, your polycarbonate safety glasses, or like application. HOWEVER, don't do this as the GLASS version of these water repellent treatments will ruin your non-glass products. Basically, any glass application that contains ammonia to include Windex or a like product will ruin plastic. Some of these odd brands of GLASS treatments may or may not contain ammonia but I would highly encourage you to steer clear of them anyway. They work wonders for your cage windshield and other glass applications and if you have ever driven in a light misty rain, the water will bead up and will quickly roll off the glass. In a heavy downpour, they make your windshield wipers more efficient. Unfortunately, these specific GLASS treatments are formulated only to work on GLASS and will damage or destroy other products.

The PLASTIC version of Rain-X or a similar treatment product is specially formulated to work on these other plastic-like materials without compromising or damaging them. Read the directions and follow the guidelines they provide but by and large, these products work quite well on all types of plastic-based materials. Driving in the rain on a motorcycle is hell and if your windscreen and/or visor does not bead off the water droplets, your vision can become radically impaired. Unfortunately, we don't have windshield wipers on our scoots, so we are at an additional disadvantage. Sometimes, riding in the rain is the only COA available to you. You may have no choice. These products help mitigate risk which is something we always encourage. Ready for the "A-HA" or "Oh Yeah" moment…remember that for your plastic applications like on your visor or scoot's windshield, apply the product to BOTH sides!

Lastly, when it rains or you go through some drastic temperature changes, your visor and sometimes your windshield will want to fog up. Many of these plastic treatments help combat this but to make things better, learn how to open the vents on your helmet and or open your visor a crack. Breathing out through your mouth and pursing your lips to exhale downward vice against the inside of your visor will help as well. Your chin may get wet but it sure beats a fogged-up visor.

Both the glass and plastic versions of these products need to be routinely reapplied as they wear out. An old rag with dish soap normally works wonders on glass to clean the windows on a car but suggest you pick up some microfiber cloths and follow the manufacturer's directions to clean your plastic like surfaces prior to application of any water repellent treatment product.

Edition 1 Volume 3 – Topic: Leathers

OK, the weather is starting to warm up. It might be time to put up the leathers and get back into a ballistic nylon type of gear. Many of you have paid significant $$ to own a leather jacket, leather gloves, leather chaps, boots, etc… Some of you may even have some aftermarket leather items on your scoot (ex. a custom seat). Now you are looking to hang these items up in your closet, your garage, or even place them in a box or tub to store until the next cold weather season. If leather is not taken care of, it will start to mold and/or crack, split, tear, etc., and otherwise self-destruct. Take the time to clean your leather item using products such as "Saddle Soap" or other products listed for your item. Buff them out and let dry. Then apply whatever treatment is called for which may require another buffing out and time period to dry. Once done, store in a cool, DRY, place. Remember that there is not one type of leather. Some are pig leathers, some are cow leathers, some "leathers" come from other animals and each can be unique. Styles of leather are also varied as

some are of a very fine pore, smooth style while others are very grainy and rugged. Some leathers can easily stain so there is a significant variation here. Follow the recommendations from the manufacturer of your particular item that you are trying to preserve. Get to know your leathers and you will be able to enjoy them for years to come.