



I am always looking for a faster and better way to clean the ever growing horde of mil-surp rifles that populate my collection. I really love the smell of Hoppes No. 9 and the lower cost of Ed's Red - but both of these cleaning solvents take a lot of elbow grease and time to clean a rifle.

This is not a problem if you are cleaning a single rifle, but if I take a trunk full of rifles to the range then you can multiply the cleaning task exponentially.

Not to mention the smell and the fumes!

After cleaning "the entourage", I end up coming out of the garage smelling like I work in a Hoppes No. 9 manufacturing facility, my head is swimming around like I have a super bowl beer buzz, and somehow I have distorted recollections of seeing a half-time female pop-star half unclothed while performing on top of my clothes dryer (*something I probably should not tell my wife or anyone else for that matter*).

Cleaning Solvent Smell-O-Meter	
<i>One Rifle Cleaning Session</i>	<i>Smells Really Good</i>
<i>Many Rifle Cleaning Session</i>	<i>You Can No Longer Smell</i>

I have a problem - let's just say that my shooting "eyes" are now much bigger than my desire to clean afterwards. If you don't understand this analogy - my dad used to say to me when I did not finish my dinner - "I guess your eyes are bigger than your stomach, eh?" (*meaning I took more than I could possibly eat*).

A friend of mine recently sent me an email about an online "infomercial Style" video that showed a new cleaning product sold by a company named Novum Solutions, hailing from Houston, Texas. I went to their website and watched the video showing how the cleaner worked removing rust, lead, and copper. I became very intrigued because the demonstrator promised it would clean and remove buildup/fouling better and easier

than your average bore cleaning solvent.

I emailed them about my interest and then following a short while received some samples in the mail.

Novum Contact Information



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Manufacturer Product Description and Price

Blue Wonder™ Gun Cleaner is simply the BEST gun cleaner on the market - Hands Down! Many gun cleaners on the market today are petroleum based products which can be toxic, harmful to the skin, dangerous to breathe, flammable and environmentally “unfriendly” products. They work as solvents in attempting to remove copper and lead deposits as well as powder residue. Blue Wonder™ Gun Cleaner on the other hand is not petroleum based, is not toxic or harmful and is environmentally “friendly”, being completely biodegradable.

When a round is fired through the bore of a gun, a tremendous amount of heat is formed from both the combustion process and the friction between the bullet and the bore wall. This heat forms oxide molecules (lead oxide and/or copper oxide) which bond the copper and lead deposits to the bore. Blue Wonder™ Gun Cleaner attacks this oxide molecule, breaking the bond, allowing the copper and lead deposits to be quickly, easily and completely removed.

Blue Wonder™ Gun Cleaner will also remove rust from the exterior finish of a gun - and it will not harm or affect the existing bluing! Rust is iron “oxide” and it is affected in the same way as the copper and lead oxides. Simply use the cleaner with “0000” steel wool or a soft brass brush

and the rust will be removed and the bluing unharmed.

To remove existing gun blue, it can be used with an abrasive product such as ScotchBrite™ pads or emery cloth. The cleaner will help in the blue removal because of its wetting, penetrating and lubricating qualities.

Further, Blue Wonder™ Gun Cleaner will quickly emulsify any petroleum based product. It will remove Moly from gun bores along with any other grease or oil.

Important: After using Blue Wonder™ Gun Cleaner, it is imperative to follow with a light coat of quality gun oil as the surface treated will be chemically clean and subject to rust.

1 oz tube - Blue Wonder™ Gun Cleaner

Suggested Retail \$4.99



I decided to see if the cleaner really held up to the hype. I thought to make this a fair and interesting test I would

take two almost identical rifles to the range and shoot the same quantity and type of ammo through both. The first rifle is an [Enfield No 4 Mk 1](#) and the other is a [Enfield No 4 Mk 2](#). Both rifles have shiny "like new" bores. Before going to the range I cleaned both rifles thoroughly using my normal regimen as described below using Hoppes No. 9. I figured this would give me a base line comparison to start from for the cleaning test. After the shooting session I would bring both rifles home and test clean them both. One rifle would be cleaned using Hoppes No. 9 and the other would be cleaned only using the Blue Wonder product. I would then contrast and compare the two cleaning sessions.



I took eighty rounds of the same ammo with the intention of shooting forty cartridges through each rifle. I figured this was a reasonable amount of ammo that would foul the barrels just enough for my test and my shoulder would still be intact enough for me to actually move.

I chose to not reload and decided to use Remington's UMC .303 British, 174 grain FMJ cartridges. I chose commercial ammo for two reasons - **1)** I was too lazy to reload and **2)** I needed some more .303 brass anyways (*for the reloading that I am too lazy to do*).



My Normal Cleaning Regimen



After my shooting excursion, I took the No. 4 Mk 2 and decided to clean it using Hoppes No. 9. I keep large bottles of Hoppes and Ed's Red because I like to soak parts while I clean the bores of the respective rifle. For the bore cleaning I pour enough solvent for my cleaning job into a handy plastic container.



Note in **figure 6** that I have a white towel directly below the receiver and over the rifle sling. I do this because liquid solvent gets everywhere. I start out by running five solvent saturated patches down the bore with a "one piece" rod and a .30 caliber jag.



Then I follow with the regimen of running a brass .30 caliber bore brush through the bore at least twenty times.



Next I run another five solvent soaked patches down the bore followed by as many dry patches that it takes to have a clean white patch come out the other end of the bore. This whole process usually takes around twenty-five to thirty patches to complete. When I am finished I run a single oil soaked patch down the bore, followed by another dry patch. If the oil patch comes out clean then I am finished. If it comes out dirty, I start the whole process over again until it does come out clean in the end. After only shooting forty cartridges I only had to complete one pass to get a sparkling clean bore. It did take about twenty minutes to complete - but who is counting?

The Blue Wonder Cleaning Regimen



The Blue Wonder Gun Cleaner cleaning process is notably different from my normal regimen. You start out by using a brass cleaning brush and coating it with the gel that comes out of the tube. You then run the brush through the bore five to six times and then repeat the process. Then you let it stand for ten to fifteen minutes.



One thing I noticed directly was the dark, yucky gunk that came out of the other end of the bore and was on the brush (as shown in *figure 10*).



After the fifteen minute break you run the brush through another five to six times. Then you run dry patches through with a jag until the patch comes out white and clean.



Remember the dark, yucky gunk? Well it came out on the patches as well. It seemed as though the cleaner was actually doing something.



It took me around twenty-five patches before I saw the first patch come out clean and white. Then the instructions say to oil like I did in my normal regimen. When I pulled the oil soaked patch out the other end of the bore I saw it was pretty dirty. I had my daughter read the instructions to see if I had missed anything - like maybe the word "repeat". Nope - I had followed the instructions to the letter. I decided to take my own initiative and repeat the entire process again.

Once I completed the second run-through the bore was indeed clean and met my standards.

The entire process took around thirty-five minutes including the two fifteen minute breaks and around forty patches.



Some observations and conclusions: I used several more patches using the Blue Wonder Gun Cleaner as shown in **figure 13** (*Blue Wonder Patches*) as compared to what I used with Hoppes No. 9 as shown in **figure 14** (*Hoppes No. 9 Patches*). This was primarily because I repeated the process.

Because Blue Wonder Gun Cleaner is in gel form I found that I really did like how I didn't get it all over everything and myself like I normally do with a traditional liquid based solvent.

I used a much smaller quantity of the gel than a normal cleaning solvent. I would say something like 70% to 90% less in volume.

The Blue Wonder cleaner did remove copper build-up. I decided to do a follow-up test on both bores by running a patch through saturated with a commercial copper remover and found the bore that had been cleaned with Hoppes No. 9 came out with blue stained patches (*denoting a chemical reaction with copper fouling*) and the bore cleaned with the Blue Wonder Gun Cleaner patches came out clean without any blue discoloration (*denoting no chemical reaction with copper*). Although Hoppes No.9 seemed as though it took less time and effort to clean, to effectively clean and have a copper residue free bore I would have to use an additional product specifically formulated to accomplish the task of removing copper fouling. Using the Blue Wonder product this is not the case.

Using the Blue Wonder product is a cleaner process overall and the smell was almost unnoticeable. There were no fumes (*and no half clothed Janet either...*)

Would I continue to use the Blue Wonder Gun Cleaner?

Yes, most definitely.

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