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Ballistol-Klever, Camelia oil.

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- Gear reviews and tests - Edged tools -



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Description :

To protect carbon steel from rust, treat leather, wood...

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Ballistol Klever



Ballistol is an oil that has been created in the beginning of the 20th century in order to provide an oil that could clean powder traces on gun, protect steel from rust, protect leathers and woods, as well as serve as antiseptic for small wounds.

Read more about the [history of Ballistol](#).

Read more about its [possible uses](#).

The fact is that ballistol sticks very well to metal, much better than any other oil I have tested. It is also alkaline, so it can be used as a cleaner. I like this oil a lot, and often carry a flask of it to protect different material. Though it is not anymore recommended, I have tried it on minor cuts, and it seems to work as an antiseptic. If I had one complaint, it would be the smell, half way between a pine smell and the smell of old socks 8). It can be swallowed, though it is not really edible (the smell!) which is great for knives.

Though the maker claims that Ballistol does not dry, I have found it drying on periods of a few months, though it still leaves a nice protecting coating.

Camelia Oil



Camelia oil made from the seeds of *camelia sinensis*, an arbust whose leaves produce tea, is also a very good oil to protect carbon steel from rust. It is thicker than Ballistol and less alkaline, but I prefer it on leather and wood, as it has an incredible penetration for these. It is traditionally used by Japanese to protect carbon steel tools. Camelia oil is edible and is used in certain chinese food receipies. I have read reports it stops bleeding, though I never tried it myself. It is renowed for it's soothing action on skin and hair, and is widely used in cosmetics due to these properties.

Camelia oil seems to be pretty stable in time, and does not turn rancid, in my experience.