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PRODUCT TEST



Big Wipes has launched its new 4x4 formula of industrial strength wipes. PHPI caught up with reader Joe Campanella, who put them to the test out on site.

"I need a wipe that's going to get rid of the mess first time, and allows me to just crack on with the job, especially if I'm stuck under a kitchen sink or on a site with no water,"

According to the latest HSE figures there are over 35,000 cases of work-related skin diseases diagnosed by GPs every year in the UK. When you consider that as a plumber, heating or gas engineer your hands are your most important tools, getting them clean and looking after them is crucial. In practice, however, that can be difficult out on site, especially when you've shut off the water supply. Even when it is available, tradesmen know that most muck doesn't simply come off with soap and water.

Joe Campanella operates around

North London and the Home Counties. His company, Campanella Property Services, undertakes kitchen and bathroom installations. We caught up with him at a job in Tottenham to get his professional view on Big Wipes' new 4x4 formula industrial strength wipes.

"I need a wipe that's going to get rid of the mess first time, and allows me to just crack on with the job, especially if I'm stuck under a kitchen sink or on a site with no water," explains Joe.

Containing four powerful cleaning agents and four dermatologically

tested skin conditioners, Big Wipes says its 4x4 products have been assessed to the latest EU Regulation 1223/2009 for cosmetic products with zero levels of irritation recorded during controlled testing by dermatologists. The range also offers a massive >99.9% anti-bacterial protection for your skin.

The job in Tottenham is typical for Joe and he's getting suitably dirty, clearing out a kitchen, including the old units, taps and sink. It's dirty work and as we approach his tea break it's time for the first test of the 4x4 products. The Big Wipes 'one wipe



at hand

Packaged in easy grip, big capacity trade-tough tubs with a quick seal lid, Big Wipes 4x4 comes in three different colour-coded types.

Red Top: Heavy Duty – The blue scrub and clean fabric now features additional 'wetting agents' to ensure the even distribution of liquid across the fabric. Textured and dual-sided, the scrub face of the wipe removes even the most stubborn grime, while the smooth face absorbs any excess.

Black Top: Multi-Purpose – featuring a new yellow power fabric that has been under development for two years, Multi-Purpose are a leading combination of toughness and absorbency.

Green Top: Multi-Surface – this super absorbent biodegradable wipe is ideally suited for applications involving the removal of non-hazardous substances where they can be disposed of in the normal waste or composted with 'green' waste.



THE VERDICT

"Big Wipes 4x4 did a great job getting me and my tools clean so I could just get on with my work," concludes Joe. "I do worry about my hands and I think the four skin conditioners are really important. I'll also be getting some for the van."



and it's gone' biodegradable formula of four power cleansers ensures the removal of paint and varnishes, adhesives, oil, sealants, silicones and general grime from hands, tools and surfaces.

Not only that, 4x4 are preservative-free and contain four skin conditioners – Aloe Vera, Lanolin, Vitamin E and Glycerine – all helping to nourish and protect the skin. All 4x4 formula wipes are used without water and are perfect for on-site use where water just isn't available.

"I've shut the water off so these had better be good," laughs Joe as he gets to work with a Multi-Purpose wipe and it doesn't take long at all to get rid of the grime. "That is fantastic, my hands feel, look and even smell clean – cuppa and a biscuit coming up!"

In the bathroom Joe begins to silicone the bath and uses his thumb in time-honoured fashion

to give it a smooth finish. Out comes the easy grip 4x4 tub again – not just for the thumb this time (the silicone is gone in one wipe) but for the silicone gun too. Then, for an extra smooth finish, Joe runs the Big Wipe over the silicone around the bath.

"Silicone is nasty stuff on skin and a pain to get off yourself and bathroom surfaces," says Joe. "And let's face it, even professionals have the odd accident with it. But this Heavy Duty wipe has done a great job cleaning not just my hands but my tools too. What I've also noticed is the openings of the tubs are very wide and I can get my fingers in and around it easily. There's nothing worse than fiddling about trying to get into the packaging when you're caked in it. The new seal is great too, as you can just flip it down and click it shut."

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