

ClosetMaid's wire shelving coating outperforms the competition in three areas that most concern your customers.

This special research report is based upon independent comparison testing supervised by Georgia Tech's Research Institute (GTRI). Identical lengths of wire shelving from ClosetMaid®, RubberMaid® (formerly Lee Rowan), and Schulte® were purchased from local or on-line retailers. The purpose of this testing was to compare the performance and integrity of all three manufacturer's coatings for resistance to clothes hanger sliding wear, UV discoloration, and salt spray rust. Here are the results:



1 Sliding Wear Resistance Test

Cycles to Failure

ClosetMaid	18,978
Rubbermaid	8,739
Schulte	578

Test Setup: Four metal coat hangers were outfitted with four pounds of weight each. All four weighted hangers were then positioned on each manufacturer's shelving and moved horizontally back and forth by a computer to uniformly control the sliding action. The testing continued until the coating "failed". Failure of the coating is defined as the point at which base metal was visible.

Results: ClosetMaid® shelf coating resisted wear over two times that of Rubbermaid.

3 Salt Spray Rust Resistance Test

Hours	0 24 240
ClosetMaid	No rust after 240 hours
Rubbermaid	22 of 22 welds rusted after 24 hours
Schulte	11 of 23 welds rusted after 24 hours

Test Setup: A second shelf section from each manufacturer was exposed to neutral salt spray corrosion testing. Bare steel substrate exposed from shelving cuts was taped to prevent premature corrosion. All three samples were identically exposed to the salt spray, and the time was recorded to the first appearance of red rust for each sample. The Schulte and RubberMaid samples showed red rust at 24 hours, while the ClosetMaid sample showed none. In fact, testing of the ClosetMaid sample was finally discontinued after 240 hours – still with no signs of rust observed.

Results: ClosetMaid went 10 times longer without rust than Rubbermaid.

2 UV Discoloration Resistance Test

Discoloration	Slight	Moderate	Heavy	Severe
ClosetMaid				
Rubbermaid				
Schulte				

Test Setup: One eight-inch section of shelving from each manufacturer was exposed to ultraviolet light for the standardized test cycle; 8 hours UV at 70°C followed by 4 hours condensation at 60°C, for a total exposure duration of 144 hours. To better document the degree of yellowing observed, images were taken of the exposed and non-exposed samples together.

Results: ClosetMaid shelf coating did not discolor as much as Rubbermaid.

Over and over, research has proved ClosetMaid® products to be the best in the business. They're put together to stay together, and they're backed by a Free Replacement Policy for life. This kind of commitment to quality explains why builders choose ClosetMaid storage products more than twice as often as any other*.

* Source: Builder Magazine's "Annual Brand Use Study."

Call 1-800-874-0008 for a complete copy of the research results.



All ClosetMaid products, individual components and accessories are backed by our Free Replacement Policy.