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Subject: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [Bill L](#) on Thu, 03 Apr 2008 21:36:54 GMT  
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<http://www.cleartonestrings.com/>

These are pretty hip. They use a one micron coating to keep the strings fresh longer and they seem to work. I've had them on for a few weeks and notice little tonal slip from where they started.

They do not feel exactly like the strings i normally use (D'Adarrio). They have kind of an elastic feeling, but i don't mind it. They also don't start as bright as most electric strings, but again, I don't mind that. In fact for my taste that's a plus. I usually keep the strings on my 335 style Ibanez for several weeks (I can get away with this because I always keep a wet towel on stage and between every 3-4 tunes I clean the neck and my hands), and the first night usually sounds over bright to me and I have to dial down my presence knob.

So for me these strings seem pretty nice. I hope they become standard on new instruments so when I demo a guitar in a store they don't feel and sound dead. That makes it very hard to tell whether an instrument sounds good.

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 12:57:55 GMT  
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sounds great ! i'm an elixer addict for the same reasons

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [Bill L](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 14:09:48 GMT  
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That's interesting about the breakage. In their testimonials a lot of people talk about how they don't break as much as other brands. Let me know if you continue to have that problem. It may have been an anomaly.

tonehouse wrote:

> Just put my first Med gauge Cleartone set on my 59 Martin D-18....I LOVED  
> the sound of them ,until the D string broke.after the first 30 minutes of  
> playing...broke near the ball....I put a non Cleartone on to sub..then when  
> I got home,I "repaired" the D,and put it back on...The core is bigger than a  
> regular string...can cause intonation differences,and breakage...very  
> expensive....Have you tried the Phosphor Bronze Elixirs? Just as good,much

> better than the 80/20 bronze..  
> "John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:47f625d3\$1@linux...  
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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [tonehouse](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 14:50:22 GMT  
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"John" <no@no.com> wrote in message news:47f625d3\$1@linux...  
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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [Kerry Galloway](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 16:10:59 GMT  
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In article <47f625d3\$1@linux>, "John" <no@no.com> wrote:

> sounds great ! i'm an elixer addict for the same reasons

Isn't it odd how much it boils down to "different strokes for different folks"? I bought Elixir bass strings for a Fender Jazz Bass for a session a few years back. They were comparatively expensive, but the idea that they tended not to degrade quickly over time was highly appealing for consistency of tone over multiple tracks in session work.

I'm a moderate-intensity fingerstyle player with over twenty-five years of freelancing behind me - neither a Gary Willis ultralight touch or a hard-driving slammer; the bass was in good shape with no fret anomalies I could feel, and I installed them with care.

So imagine my surprise when during the second cut of the session they started shedding their wrappings onto the fingerboard. Not one but \*three\* of the strings started doing the "snake peeling off its skin" thing between the seventh and fifteenth frets. By the end of the first day the coating was effectively worn off, - and unfortunately, unevenly

enough that I had to replace the set.

If one string had shed, I might have written it off to a bad string, but shedding over multiple strings was too much for me. I suppose I might have got a bad set, but I wrote it off as a failed experiment that I had little incentive to repeat.

Go figure.

- Kerry

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [Bill L](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 16:19:31 GMT  
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On the Cleartone website they show a picture comparing Cleartones to "other" coated strings, showing the peeling on the other. They claim their one micron finish won't peel. My electric gtr strings are certainly intact after a month.

Kerry Galloway wrote:

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> - Kerry

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [Kerry Galloway](#) on Fri, 04 Apr 2008 16:44:12 GMT  
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ahhh-HAH, thank you for the "heads-up"!

- Kerry

In article <47f657da@linux>, Bill L <bill@billlorentzen.com> wrote:

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> "other" coated strings, showing the peeling on the other. They claim  
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> >  
> > - Kerry

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [Wayne Carson](#) on Sat, 05 Apr 2008 00:21:58 GMT  
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Bill,

I change strings nearly every other day on my electric because I really press hard and bend a lot and therefore it puts dents up and down the strings. I use light 10s-56. I'd love to not change so much and keep tone but how do I get around the wearing of the strings from bending?

Wayne

"Bill L" <bill@billlorentzen.com> wrote in message news:47f657da@linux...

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sat, 05 Apr 2008 00:36:17 GMT  
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every other day? shit. i change my elixers yearly ! seriously ;-)

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [Bill L](#) on Sat, 05 Apr 2008 00:53:29 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

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Wow, I've never seen dents in the strings. Whadda you got for fingers, c-clamps? I don't think these will prevent what you are running into.

A long (don't ask how long) time ago when I was playing 5 sets of disco (alright, now you know how long ago) every night I changed a couple times a week, mainly for breakage prevention but also to keep them bright sounding.

Wayne Carson wrote:

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>>> - Kerry  
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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [John \[1\]](#) on Sat, 05 Apr 2008 10:38:08 GMT  
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Dancin' Dancin' Dancin !!!!

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings  
Posted by [Wayne Carson](#) on Sat, 05 Apr 2008 19:15:07 GMT  
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Bill,

Ha! that did sound funny. What I meant and I know you knew, was that the strings get what almost feel like notches at the fret area where I do most the blues/rock type bending actions. When I wrap and wipe the strings up and down the length with a cut up cloth "t"-shirt to remove sweat and finger

gunk after a fun night I can feel little abnormalities in the strings. I can't see them but I can feel them. As a side note I also need fret replacement every 3-4 years.

That's about the same situation for me now. 5 to 6 sets a night in the Nevada casino lounges. I can get 4 days out of a set if I play easy every night, but if we've got a decent gig I can grunge them up in two nights by bending and pull offs and hammer on's and sweating and by the end of the second night the 3 wound strings have lost their brilliance and the 3 high strings have notches. And for the same reason, change often for breakage prevention.

Since I currently change so often I purchase GHS Fatties at GC because I get them for \$2 bucks a set and I buy them in gross about 50 packs at a time, which will last nearly a year for me. I'm not particularly fond of these strings but do it for budget reasons. Maybe a string set at twice the price (\$4) will yield me a solid 4 days. A set at (\$6), a whole week! Yahoo, now were talking.

I do get tired of changing so often. Fortunately, I'm a creature of habit and I've got the whole polishing, string replacement and hardware check down to about 1/2 hour.

On my Martin acoustic I maintain strings for about 2 months, maybe 3/4 if I don't play it as much. I've got Cleartone on it at the moment and have also used Martin SP and Elixers. I'm on the fence on all of these. The Martin's are warmer and almost sound thick with less brightness. The Elixer's seem to change the tone just a bit to a brighter thinner sound and the Cleartone seemed to be about in between the two. If I recall, I think the Elixer's maintained there particular sound/tone the longest.

Sincerely,  
Wayne

"Bill L" <bill@billlorentzen.com> wrote in message news:47f6d070@linux...  
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>>>>>  
>>>>> - Kerry  
>>

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings (Testamonial)  
Posted by [tonehouse](#) on Wed, 09 Apr 2008 16:14:38 GMT  
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I sent this to the Cleartone "testamonial" website yesterday..I will be surprised if they actually put it up....

I tried my first set of Medium Gauge ,Phosphor Bronze Cleartone Strings last week. I bought them at Guitar Center,for about \$17 (the price of 2 normal sets) .When I first put them on my ' 59 Martin D-18,they sounded great ! The only problem I had was the intonation of the Low E string at the bridge..the core is so large that it doesn't flex on the bridge,and was causing the E string to fret "sharp".I thought "well I can live with that, if these strings really last 5 times longer than a normal set, as claimed".. So I played my first gig with the strings...after about 30 minutes of Medium to light " playing,the D string broke at the bridge...I had to just put a Martin D sting on to replace it,since I did not have another Cleartone..The next day,I was able to repair the ball end and put the Cleartone back on the guitar..All seemed fine again..The next gig I played was different ( thankfully I had brought my Collings guitar as a spare) First the G string broke ,after some light playing,..I changed it at the break..Then finally,after a few minutes ,the A broke too...that was the end of my "Cleartone Experiment"... So,three out of 4 of the wound strings broke ,within 2 hours of playing ( I never hardly break strings).and the only survivnig wound string the low E,had intonation problems...The un-wound B and E seem great.....I guess I could have just happened to have gotten the "one bum set" that Cleartone made...but I suspect the extra-large,and stiff inner core as the problem..I would NOT buy another set. Zan McLeod, Washington DC

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings Breakage (Post Script)

Posted by [tonehouse](#) on Wed, 09 Apr 2008 20:14:02 GMT

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"Joe" from Cleartone Strings,wrote me back a nice perfunctory letter,stating that some "substandard product does get through our doors sometimes",and if I send my address,they will mail me another set ,free of charge...I'll let you know how those hold up....

"tonehouse" <zmcleod@comcast.net> wrote in message news:47fcdfaf@linux...

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings Breakage (Post Script)  
Posted by [Wayne Carson](#) on Tue, 15 Apr 2008 21:50:13 GMT  
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Hey there tone,

Yeah, I can bite that a "string" could be substandard, but not 3-4 in the same set of six. Figure the statistical odds of this happening. Millions to one in my estimate. You should be compensated with a years' supply (which probably would only be about 5 sets) just to get you back in good terms with the company. Sometimes these guys can underestimate the influence of word of mouth.

Wayne

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Subject: Re: Cleartone guitar strings Breakage (Post Script)

Posted by [Bill L](#) on Wed, 16 Apr 2008 12:58:00 GMT

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Hmmm. I've never tried the acoustic ones, but the electric ones I'm using have lasted a month or more and still sound pretty darn good.

Wayne Carson wrote:

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>

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>>> Martin D sting on to replace it,since I did not have another  
>> Cleartone..The  
>>> next day,I was able to repair the ball end and put the Cleartone back on  
>> the  
>>> guitar..All seemed fine again..The next gig I played was different (  
>>> thankfully I had brought my Collings guitar as a spare) First the G  
>>> string  
>>> broke ,after some light playing,..I changed it at the break..Then  
>>> finally,after a few minutes ,the A broke too...that was the end of my  
>>> "Cleartone Experiment"... So,three out of 4 of the wound strings broke  
>>> ,within 2 hours of playing ( I never hardly break strings).and the only  
>>> survivnig wound string the low E,had intonation problems...The un-wound B  
>>> and E seem great.....I guess I could have just happened to have gotten  
>>> the  
>>> "one bum set" that Cleartone made...but I suspect the extra-large,and

>> stiff  
>>> inner core as the problem..I would NOT buy another set. Zan McLeod,  
>>> Washington DC  
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