

Gel Coat Repair Instructions

The method you should use for fixing scratches on your boat depends on the depth of the scratch. Choose the type of scratch that you have below and follow the instructions. If you try the light scratch instructions and find the scratch is too deep to sand out, then you should proceed to the deep scratch instructions. However, try to avoid using the light scratch method on a scratch that you believe might be too deep to sand out because it will be more difficult to fill the scratch if it has been sanded down.

- Light Scratches

Light scratches that do not penetrate the gel coat may be wet sanded and repolished. Wet sand with the finest grit possible to remove the scratch, typically 600 grit. Be very careful not to sand through the thin gel coat layer. If you see the yellow kevlar begin to show then stop. Use generous amounts of water and sand with a back and forth motion. Then use finer grits to remove the sanding marks, finishing with 2000 grit. Finally, use a clean cloth and a rubbing compound to polish the area. Use plenty of pressure and rub the compound briskly.

- Deep Scratches

If you get a deep scratch that penetrates the gel coat, is too deep to sand out, or you sand through the gel coat, then you must apply new gel coat to the area of the scratch. Contact Peinert to have a gel coat kit sent to you.

Precautions and Safety

This kit contains hazardous materials. The catalyst is especially dangerous. It will burn the skin and may cause blindness if it gets in the eyes. If eye contact occurs, flush eyes with water for 30 minutes and contact a physician immediately. I strongly recommend the use of safety goggles and gloves.

- Do not use near open flame.
- Ensure adequate ventilation. Temperature should be between 60 and 80 degrees F. Use of a respirator with carbon filters is also recommended.
- Minimize exposure of skin and eyes. Wear safety goggles, gloves, long sleeves.
- Keep out of reach of children. Store in a cool, dry area away from heat. Keep from freezing.

- Eye contact - Flush eyes with water form 30 minutes. Contact a physician immediately.
- Skin contact - Remove uncured product with a dry cloth. Wash skin with soap and hot water. Consult a physician if irritation develops. Do not use a solvent to remove product from skin.
- Inhalation - Remove to fresh air if effects occur. Contact a physician.
- Spill or leak procedures - If spilled, absorb with a dry material such as sand or sawdust. Scoop up and place in appropriate container. Dispose of residue and empty containers according to Federal, State, and or Local Environmental Regulations. (Remaining product may be catalyzed and disposed of as regular waste after it has hardened. Should be set outside as it will get quite hot as it cures.)

Contents:

100 ml. gel coat

6 ml. catalyst

100 ml. rubbing compound

Wet/dry sandpaper 400, 600, 1200, 2000 grits

Foam sanding block

Razor blade for scraping (dulled on one side)

Paper clips

Paper cups

Mixing brushes

Rubber gloves

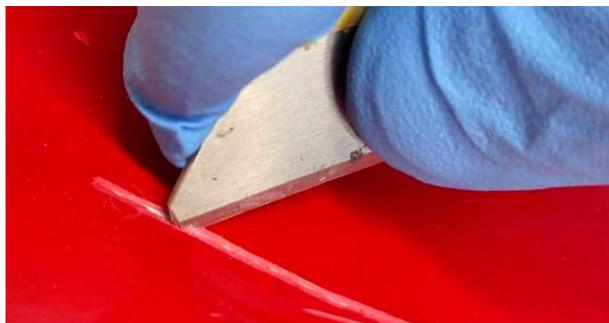
Instructions

Other items you may need:

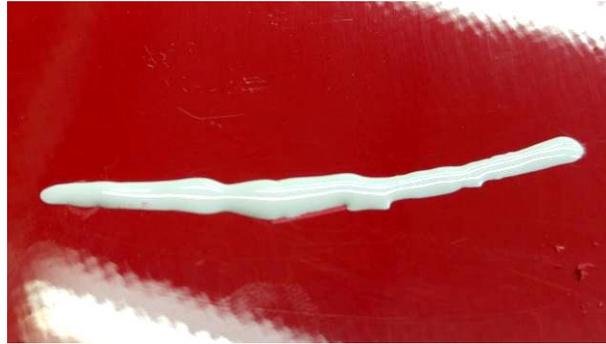
Knife, water, clean rags, denatured alcohol, small file

Deep scratches must be filled with new gel coat as follows:

1. Use a blade and remove any loose gel coat from the edges of the damaged area. Cracks must be chipped or gouged out with a blade or the edge of a file. You should "v" the edges of the scratch to allow the gel coat to penetrate to the bottom of the scratch, as shown below.



2. Clean the area with alcohol
3. Mix gel coat a small amount at a time. Use 3 to 4 drops of catalyst per teaspoon of gel coat. Mix thoroughly. Pot life is about 15 minutes.
4. Apply the gel coat to the damaged area. For small areas, the end of an unfolded paper clip works well. Build up the gel coat to slightly overfill the area. (May require letting one layer cure and then applying more gel coat.) Let cure, preferably overnight. The gel coat will shrink as it cures, so having enough overfill is important. Pictures of proper overfill can be seen below.



Note: the gel coat in your kit will be the same color as your boat. A contrasting color was used here to make the overfill more apparent.

5. Use razor blade to scrape the overfill down close to the level of the original surface. Hold upright and pull sharp side toward you. Pictures of how to scrape down the gel coat and what it should look like after are shown below.



6. Finish by sanding and polishing as instructed in the light scratch section.