

FILLING HOLES, VOIDS AND NICKS ABOVE & BELOW THE WATERLINE



The quality of your topside finish is crucially dependant upon preparation. Filling in small areas of damage is an important part of this. Your boat is not only under attack from the elements, damage may also result from collision, abrasion and other mechanical damage. Correct use of fillers is essential if the job is to last.

Follow these hints and tips to achieve a great result:

- Watertite Epoxy Fillers can be used above and below the waterline. Use either as a surfacing putty to fill screw holes and hairline cracks in gelcoat, prior to repainting with a two-part, high performance, polyurethane system, such as Perfection® Polyurethane. Below the waterline, use as part of osmotic blister protection or repair system. Mix Watertite in a 1:1 ratio.
- These epoxy compounds are 100% solids. Do not add thinners to these compounds as that will lead to shrinkage. Clean equipment with the recommended thinner. Refer to the label or product datasheet.
- When mixing epoxy compounds check the label to see what the pot life is for the temperature you are working in and mix only what can be used in that time.
- To avoid flat spots when applying and sanding fillers on curved surfaces, use spreaders and sanding boards that are longer than the width of the area by at least half as much again.
- No matter how smooth a finish you have achieved, when filling or fairing, all fillers must be sanded before overcoating to ensure good adhesion.
- For screw holes and small repair areas, ensure that all dust is removed and clean the area by wiping with solvent. Over-fill the area to allow you to sand back to a flush finish.
- If taking on a major profiling job, Interlux has a range of professional epoxy fillers, Interfill 830/833 which are more suited to the task than those described above.

For more information please call our helpline at 1-800-468-7589.

HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR TOPSIDES

FOR MAXIMUM LONGEVITY OF COLOR AND GLOSS OF BRIGHTSIDE®, TOPLAC, OR PERFECTION®, ONLY USE INTERLUX® BOATCARE PRODUCTS WHEN CLEANING AND MAINTAINING YOUR BOAT. MANY HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS AND SOME MARINE SOAPS, STAIN REMOVERS, TEAK CLEANERS AND WAXES WILL DAMAGE THE TOPSIDE FINISH.



Photo supplied by Swobbit®

Regular cleaning and protection with Interlux® Boatcare products will help avoid build-up of dirt, grease, salt and other surface contaminants which can slowly cause premature aging of Interlux topside finishes. Each Interlux® Boatcare product has been specially formulated to protect and increase the longevity of Interlux® finishes.

The right tool for the job! We recommend the use of high quality cleaning tools when cleaning and maintaining the finishes on your boat.



PAINTING THE BILGES

- 1 Clean thoroughly with Fiberglass Solvent Wash 202, Fiberglass Surface Prep YMA601 or Special Thinner 216. (In the case of Fiberglass you should decide if any anti-osmosis treatment is necessary. Please refer to the Gelcoat Blistering section on pages 24-28 for further information).
- 2 If the bilges have been painted before, remove all old, flaky paint, and make sure the area to be painted is completely dry.
- 3 Remove all oil and grease from your bilges before painting.
- 4 Sand with 220-grit sandpaper. If in poor condition, sand with 80-grit. Paint with two coats of Bilgekote®. This is a highly durable finish that can withstand oils and chemicals, knocks and scrapes, and is equally effective for use in lockers and on bulkheads. InterProtect 2000E, also makes a great bilge coating

REASONS TO USE EPOXY FILLERS

TWO-PART EPOXY FILLERS

- ✓ Two-part epoxy fillers are the most widely used fillers in the marine industry. They are invariably solvent free. A benefit of being solvent free is that they do not attack the underlying primer.

- ✓ Epoxies must be mixed in the proper ratio. Too much curing agent and they will leave a sticky film on the surface that is not suitable for overcoating. Too little curing agent will weaken the filler and cause it to crumble later on.
- ✓ Epoxy fillers are preferred over polyester fillers below the waterline as polyester fillers have a greater propensity to absorb water.

DO'S AND DON'TS FOR PAINT FINISHES

- ✓ Ensure an even spread by holding the brush at 45° – this minimizes brush marks.
- ✓ The best finish is achieved on large areas by two people, one to apply the paint, the other following immediately behind to smooth the finish.
- ✓ Clean or change brushes every 20 minutes or so.
- ✓ Always use lint-free cleaning cloths.
- ✓ Stir the can occasionally during the work.
- ✓ Dampen the ground with water before commencing painting to avoid any dust rising.
- ✓ Use a worn brush for the final coat, this will ensure less brush marks.
- ✓ Painting is best achieved on warm, dry mornings – cold weather retards drying and dampness will spoil the gloss.
- ✓ Always pour the amount of paint that you expect to use at any one time into a separate container.
- ✓ Always use the good quality china bristles for topside finishes.
- ✓ Always use top quality fine line masking tape to ensure good crisp lines.
- ✗ Never apply direct from the can, as this will introduce contamination.

How much topsides paint do I need?

	- POWER					- SAIL				
	20	25	30	35	40	20	25	30	35	40
Waterline Length (feet)	20	25	30	35	40	20	25	30	35	40
2 part products (quarts)	2	3	4	5.5	6	2	3	4	5	6
1 part enamels (quarts)	3	4.5	6	8	9	2.5	4	5.5	7	8.5
1 part primers (quarts)	4	5.5	7.5	10	11	3	5	7	9	10.5