



HOW TO MAKE A SMALL REPAIR ON AN INFLATABLE BOAT

Repair Instructions [1-888-767-2628](tel:1-888-767-2628)

Caution: These glues and solvents contain chemicals that can make you sick, cause explosions and cause death. Read and heed all manufacturers' warnings. Use only in well-ventilated areas. Keep away from flames and sources of ignition. Wear protective goggles, gloves and respirators. Keep away from kids.

THIN -- THIN -- THIN -- THIN -- THIN -- THIN -- "As you read these instructions the word "thin" is the most important word you will read" **ABOUT 90% OF THE PATCHES WE SEE HAVE 900% TO MUCH GLUE.----- Think Thin.**

TOOLS:

Soapy water to locate leaks after boat is pumped up tight
Stiff Brush (cut bristles of a cheap brush to about 1/2 inch)
60 grit sandpaper / Emory Cloth
Fabric
Pen or china Marker
Paper cup or small glass jar(not Styrofoam)
Stiff putty knife (dull) or similar tool for working in patch
Acetone or Toluene for Hypalon (rubber boats)
Paper towels
Methyl Ethyl Ketone MEK for PVC (plastic boats)
Confident attitude

WORK AREA:

Shaded and free from dust. Good ventilation will reduce inhalation of the toxic vapors. Avoid high humidity if possible. Make PVC repairs in the early morning before the temperature gets too high. If you must work in the sun cover your work with a towel between coats.

PREPARE THE PATCH:

Your patch should cover the damaged area plus 2 inches. For example a pin hole leak will take a 3" X 3" patch. Round all corners of your patch.

MARKING THE BOAT:

Trace the patch onto your boat using a pen or china marker. If possible patches should be done on an inflated boat. If the hole is too large this will be impossible.

PREPARE THE SURFACE:

For Hypalon boats -- You should rough both the boat and the patch with 60 - 80 grit sandpaper or Emory paper. When properly sanded the material will be completely de-glossed. It is best to sand a bit past your outline, A little excess glued area is better than not having enough glued surface. You can clean the excess glue off later. Once sanded, clean both surfaces with solvent. Acetone or Toluene.

For PVC boats -- Wipe the boat and the patch very, very, very well using Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK). If there is an excessive amount of glue on the boat, attempt to remove it.

ADHESIVE:

Pour or mix the amount of glue you feel you will need for the task in a paper cup or small jar. Be sure to keep your working glue covered when not using. The pot life should be one to two hours if you keep it covered.

APPLICATION:

Glue should be applied aggressively. Coats must be as thin and even as possible. Apply to both patch and boat. Apply the first coat and wait about 10 minutes. (Longer if it is below 75 degrees). Apply a second coat to the boat and the patch and allow 5 minutes to dry.

NOTE: THE FIRST COAT CAN GO 15 OR EVEN 20 MINUTES BUT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE SECOND COAT GO NO LONGER THAN 5 MINUTES.

JOINING:

Immediately at the 5 minute mark lay the patch starting at one side and rolling through to the end of the patch. Using a wooden spoon or something flat and stiff rub out the patch (a dull putty knife is best). You are simply trying to press down on the patch. If there is any air under the patch it is too late. With PVC glue you should let set overnight. With Hypalon glue you can use the boat the same day but be gentle with it.

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