

Gelcoat Finishing – Heavy Oxidation Removal

For chalky and heavily oxidized gelcoat

1



Cleaning

Clean the surface that you will be working on with 3M™ Perfect-It™ Boat Wash.

2



Sanding (Optional)

Depending on the condition of the gelcoat, sanding prior to buffing may be necessary. For small areas, wet sand the gelcoat surface with an Ultrafine Softback Sanding Sponge to remove surface oxidation. Apply medium pressure when sanding the oxidized gelcoat surface.

For large areas or the majority of the boat, use a dual-action sander with 800 grit abrasive initially, with the DA set to medium speed. When sanding, abrade the surface with a 50% overlap on each pass with a dual-action sander. Remember to use a soft interface pad when sanding with the 800 grit or finer abrasive. Follow-up the 800 grit with 1500 grit.

3



Buffing

To remove sand scratches, buff the sanded gelcoat area with 3M™ Perfect-It™ Gelcoat Heavy Cutting Compound and a white wool buffing pad. Set the buffer speed between 1200 – 2000 Max. RPM.

4



Polishing (Optional)

Polish the gelcoat surface area with 3M™ Perfect-It™ Compound + Polish and a 9 in. 3M™ Perfect-It™ Wool Blend Polishing Pad. Set the buffer speed between 1200 – 2000 Max. RPM.

5



Protection

Apply 3M™ Perfect-It™ Boat Wax to protect the surface. When applying wax, apply in a 2' x 2' area and wipe area clean before the wax dries. Do not allow the wax to dry or haze on the gelcoat.

Product List

3M™ Perfect-It™ Detail Cloth, PN 06016, 6 cloths/bag

3M™ Perfect-It™ Boat Wash PN 09035, 1 Quart



3M™ Purple Finishing Film Hookit™ Disc, 30670, 6 in., P800 grit



3M™ Trizact™ Hookit™ Clear Coat Sanding Disc, 02088, 6 in., P1500 grit



3M™ Softback Sanding Sponge, 02600, 4 1/2 in. x 5 1/2 in., Microfine



3M™ Perfect-It™ Gelcoat Heavy Cutting Compound, 36102, Quart



3M™ Perfect-It™ 100%Wool Compounding Pad, 05753, Double Sided, Quick Connect



3M™ Quick Connect Adaptor, 05752, 5/8 in. thread



3M™ Perfect-It™ Wool Blend Polishing Pad, Yellow, 9 in, PN 05754

3M™ Perfect-It™ Boat Wax, PN 36113, Quart



Think About Your Health

3M™ E-A-R™ Skull Screws™ Ear Plug, PN P1300

3M™ Half Facepiece Respirator, PN 07182

3M™ Virtua™ CCS Protective Eyewear with Foam Gasket, PN 11872



Not a complete list. Select protective eyewear, appropriate gloves, hearing protection, respirator and protective clothing based on your job and exposure assessment.

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