

Take the Plunge on Easy Repairs

(MS) — Want to reduce stress fast? Plan a great escape to the ocean or your favorite lake or river. A few hours or days of boating amid blue skies and tranquil waters will make you care just float away. You can make sure your getaway is trouble-free by checking out your boat and your gear now and making some easy repairs to get you through the season.

Of course, it makes good sense to get the motor checked out and tuned up, but there are so many repairs you can do yourself, easily and inexpensively, with just a simple tube of adhesive. However, there are hundreds of types of adhesives out there—choosing the right one can be...well, stressful!

Eclectic Products Chemist Dr. Omar Tiba recommends that you keep it simple. Look for a one-part, all-purpose adhesive in a tube and read the label to make sure it has certain properties that are essential for good performance in a marine environment. According to Dr. Tiba, choose the adhesive that is:

- waterproof or water-resistant above and below the waterline
 - UV-resistant
 - versatile and easy-to-use (no mixing)
- And It should be able to
- bond, seal and stick to a wide variety of materials with superior strength
 - remain flexible after drying so it can withstand movement and temperature extremes without cracking or separating
 - act as a sealant.

One product that includes all these qualities is Amazing GOOP® Sport & Outdoor. This low-cost “toolbox-in-a-tube” is a must have for any water enthusiast, from casual boater to professional fisherman to rafter or diver. Dr. Tiba says this adhesive has superior strength that glues almost anything practically forever. Sport & Outdoor is the perfect weather-proof and UV-resistant partner for your boat and outdoor gear because it can withstand temperatures from approximately -40 F to 150 F. Its bond or seal will not crack or break under stress or vibration because this adhesive remains flexible after drying. Paint it to increase UV resistance and to match the surrounding area.

Because it's waterproof, you don't have to worry about a repaired area being submerged in fresh or salt water after completely curing. Another benefit is that it's safe for repairs exposed to dilute acids and dilute caustics because of its chemical resistance. Use it to seal hoses and battery terminals below decks.

Amazing GOOP® Sport & Outdoor will easily repair tears, holes and worn areas in gear that has flex or movement such as cushions, sails, diving gear, rafts, goggles, life jackets, hoses, or ropes. Use it to bond unlike materials, such as metal trim to fiberglass or wood, or to reattach hardware. It is handy for reattaching linoleum or tiles in the galley. This adhesive displays superior strength on almost any material: glass, plastic, metal, vinyl, wood, aluminum, fiberglass, nylon or fabric. It will seal leaks and glue almost anything back together.

Whether you have a cabin cruiser or a kayak, keep a tube handy to help you stay afloat and serene.

APPLICATION TIPS

- Make sure the surface to be repaired is clean, dry and free from dirt. Slick surfaces can be lightly sanded for optimal adhesion.
- Warm the tube under warm water or between your hands



Flexible, one-part adhesives can keep your water recreation afloat this season.



for a few minutes to increase ease of flow. When possible, make repair at temperature between 70 and 85 F.

- When using Amazing GOOP® Sport & Outdoor as a contact adhesive, apply a thin coat to each side and allow to partially cure for two to ten minutes before bringing the surfaces together. If it's being used as a sealant, apply thin coats of the adhesive to build up a thick coating. It's best to let each layer set for three to four hours, but if you need to speed up the drying process, a hand-held hair dryer can be used on the low setting. Do not keep the heat directly on the adhesive.

- Use a little acetone or naphtha to remove any extra uncured GOOP from around the repair. Cured adhesive can easily be removed by cutting or scraping

- For the strongest bond, let repair cure 24 to 72 hours. Higher temperatures and low humidity will shorten the dry time.

- Ensure the cap comes off easily the next time by applying a thin coat of petroleum jelly to threads of the tube before replacing the cap.

Look for the versatile and powerful Amazing GOOP® Sport & Outdoor adhesive at Ace Hardware, Handy Hardware, True Value, Do it Best and West Marine stores. For more information about this product or any other in the GOOP line, contact Eclectic Products, Inc. at 1-800-767-4667 or visit their Web site at www.amazinggoop.com for more tips and techniques.

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