



Cleaning Your Boat

Fiberglass:

- Wash away dirt, grime, blood/guts, etc as quickly as practical to avoid excess scrubbing.
- NEVER use industrial cleaners like Simple Green, Purple Power, etc.
- Always use a “Car Wash” or “Boat Wash” marked soap solution that is low in phosphates.
- The sun and UV rays are the enemy. Keep your boat protected from the sun as much as possible by storing it under cover or using a mooring cover regularly.
- Wax your boat when water no longer rapidly beads on the surface. Any high quality wax with carnauba and/or UV inhibitors is recommended.
 - For quick waxing in the peak of the season, the spray on/wipe off waxes from Turtle Wax and other companies work quite well. Use a microfiber cloth to polish off the spray.
- NONSKID: For deep, stubborn stains in the nonskid areas of your boat, use Comet or Soft Scrub (avoid any of the variations of these products marketed as “WITH BLEACH”). A stiff bristled hand brush should dislodge most stubborn stains.
 - For really deep discoloration, you can use acetone VERY SPARINGLY. Make sure the acetone DOES NOT come in contact with anything else in your boat as acetone will instantly attack all plastics and vinyls.
 - For water stains below the waterline (from use/storage in tannic or discolored water), use a liquid toilet bowl cleaner such as Sno-Bowl. While wearing gloves, use a rag and wipe the cleaner over the stained surface. The cleaner normally dissolves tannic water stains, but rinse thoroughly and often as you clean as the cleaners typically have blue or purple dyes in them. Try on an inconspicuous spot first.

Upholstery:

- NEVER use industrial cleaners like Simple Green, Purple Power, etc. These cleaners will pull the plasticizer out of the vinyl, making it hard and brittle and susceptible to tears.
- Do use an antimicrobial spray like ZEP Clear Block regularly to deter mold, mildew and other organisms from growing on your vinyl.
- Your vinyl is treated with a protective topcoat. NEVER use acetone or other solvents to clean stains as this will immediately remove the top coat.
- For normal cleaning, use the same boat wash solution as you would use for the fiberglass.
- For stubborn stains, use 91% isopropyl alcohol.

Windscreen:

- Your windscreen is made from acrylic, not glass. Never use high ammonia glass cleaners.
- Use the boat wash to remove all dirt, bugs, etc.



Stainless:

- NEVER use bleach or chlorine containing cleaners (such as Soft Scrub with bleach) around any of your stainless parts (cleats, rod holders, hinges, latches, etc).
- Chlorine will break down the surface layer on the stainless and cause pitting and rusting over time.
- Use the boat wash and a microfiber cloth to buff to a high shine.
- Wax stainless parts with the rest of the boat.

Powdercoat

- Wax powdercoated surfaces regularly.
- If a scratch or nick appears, use an automotive type color matched touch up paint to cover the damage. Apply a clear coat over the area when the color is dry.
- If the powdercoat begins to bubble in an area, the best repair method is to sand the area smooth and then use the automotive touch up paint with clear coat to repair the area.
- Powdercoat is very sensitive to galvanic reaction...it is important to rinse all saltwater off when finished boating.
- Prevent future issues by coating all fastener areas liberally with wax.

Painted Surfaces (Engine, etc)

- Use the boat wash to clean all painted surfaces.
- NEVER use an abrasive cleaner and make sure your wash mitt or brush is very clean as any grit will leave scratches and swirl marks in the paint.
- Wax regularly with the rest of the boat.

After washing your boat, make sure to let it thoroughly dry!

- Lift and prop up all loose cushions and let air circulate under them to prevent mildew from growing.
- It is recommended to open your console door and remove the bilge access door and leave open while the boat is stored if practical.
- The goal is to create maximum air circulation through the boat to prevent molds, mildews, etc from forming.
- Do not put the mooring cover on until all surfaces have dried.
- NEVER plug in your battery chargers with the mooring cover installed. Batteries give off hydrogen gas while charging. Hydrogen gas will become trapped under the mooring cover and will attack the stainless hardware leaving a black oxide coating on the surface that is permanent.