

Emergency repairs using **TEAR-AID®** Type B on PVC Inflatable Boats

Use **TEAR-AID®** Type B for PVC emergency repairs. It can be applied in wet conditions and has approximately 50% of its adhesion on initial application. If there is any concern about safety or repair failure then only attempt the repair using adhesive and PVC material. **TEAR-AID®** Type B has a unique adhesive that resists oils in vinyl (PVC) that cause other adhesives to soften and turn gummy in sunlight.

After application **TEAR-AID®** Type B will work in temperatures from -25°C to 85°C.

Underwater/wet repairs:

When applying **TEAR-AID®** Type B underwater ensure the surface to be repaired is as clean as possible by scrubbing and cleaning an area larger than the patch. If the patch is to be partially above the waterline, clean the dry area with alcohol wipes and follow the dry application instructions for that part of the repair.

1. Cut a patch to size allowing at least 40mm for the patch to extend beyond all edges of the tear/hole. Trim square corners into round corners to minimise them being caught and lifted during curing.
2. Taking care not to foul the cut patch with your fingers, peel back 20mm of the paper backing.
3. Carefully position the patch underwater with the paper backing still on and anchor the exposed 20mm edge ensuring the patch extends 40mm beyond all edges of the tear/hole.
4. Slowly peel back the paper backing while carefully rubbing down with your fingers. **DO NOT ALLOW THE PATCH TO WRINKLE. IT IS IMPORTANT TO SQUEEZE WATER OUT BETWEEN THE PATCH AND PVC** using the plastic scraper, or perhaps a credit card, rubbing from the centre of patch outward in all directions firmly. **DO NOT PICK AT THE PATCH.** Full adhesion requires 24 hours.

Dry repairs:

For best results apply to a clean dry surface. Clean the surface to be repaired with an alcohol wipe, or if available 50/50 mixture of rubbing (isopropyl) alcohol and water. Before proceeding, make sure the surface to be repaired is dry. Ideally the surface temperature to be repaired should be 10°C or warmer.

1. Cut a patch to size allowing at least 40mm for the patch to extend beyond all edges of the tear/hole. Trim square corners into round corners to minimise them being caught and lifted during curing.
2. Taking care not to foul the cut patch with your fingers, carefully peel back 20mm of the paper backing. Tearing the paper backing while stretching the edge of the patch will help separate the liner from the patch, especially when the patch has been cut into a small size.
3. Carefully position the patch with the paper backing still on it and anchor the exposed 20mm edge ensuring the patch extends 40mm beyond all edges of the tear/hole. Slowly peel back the liner while carefully applying the patch over the tear/hole – take care to avoid air bubbles. Rub all edges to seal. Rub entire patch aggressively.

Heating **TEAR-AID®** Type B is an option but not normally needed. Heat will transform the good initial bond to an extremely high bond that would otherwise take 24 hours of curing time. After the patch is applied to the tear/hole, briefly heat using an industrial heat gun set to a temperature of approximately 175°C. **Heat time will vary depending on size of patch and the distance of the heat gun from the patch.** As the adhesive hot melt occurs, the patch see-thru clarity may change and appear clearer. This is an indication of overheating and the heat should be removed. **Allow the repair to cool before handling.**

Please dispose of any used adhesive tubes and **TEAR-AID®** Type B responsibly and with consideration for the environment.