

WHEEL FANATYK

FIX

ANTI-FRICTION ANTI-VIBRATION
SPOKE THREAD TREATMENT

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FIX

Port Hadlock, WA USA

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Why Treat Threads?

In the past, spoke threads were not as challenged because spoke tensions were low so nipple-to-spoke friction was not high. Today, that has changed.

Most contemporary high performance wheels use very high tensions that stem from low spoke numbers, radically dished rear wheels (10 and 11 speeds), improved hubs and rims, and hub braking.

Today's wheels also differ from the past in two important ways related to nipple loosening. First, tubular wheels were more popular and their glued tires used cement that seeped down onto the nipples. Second, early clincher rims were single wall so inflated inner tubes exerted pressure on the nipple. Glue for tubulars and inner tube contact for clinchers performed an anti-loosening function we don't enjoy today.

Today, friction during building and vibration during riding must be addressed. Builders use a combination of solutions, options like Spoke



Prep, linseed oil, Loctite 222, 220, or 243, DT Freeze and Prolock, Sapim Secure Lock, Alpina nyloc, etc.

The best system yet devised (IMHO) is Wheel Fanatyk **FIX**. This material answers all issues with effectiveness not before seen.

Clean spokes

From a chemical point of view, contamination consists of polar and non-polar materials. That's why a two-part cleaning strategy is best.

- First rinse with a non-polar solvent. This can be mineral spirits, turpentine, or paint thinner. Dip just the threads into shallow solvent and agitate them by rubbing between your palms like you were trying to start a fire with a spinning stick. Knock off any excess solvent and replace the bottle lid.
- Second, rinse with a polar solvent. My choice is acetone but pure denatured alcohol also works. Both are easy to find. Acetone is preferred because it evaporates so quickly. It is flammable so care should be taken. Use only with adequate ventilation.



FIX

Features

- Easy to apply
- Positive, long lasting thread lock
- Highest PTFE (Teflon®) content
- Lowest friction
- Stable for years once applied
- Easy to achieve consistent results
- Economical
- Based on 25yrs experience

Quick Start

1. Clean threads thoroughly. Allow to fully dry.
2. Apply **FIX**. Use as little as possible, coat only the majority of thread length.
3. Let the coated spokes dry. The cure is improved by using a heat gun for 10min.
4. Build your wheel!

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Safety

- **FIX** is known as a liquid adhesive sealant. It is water based and behaves much like house paint. It is water soluble and cleanup is simply soap and water.
- Contains no OSHA regulated carcinogens.
- Is not a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste material.
- Is not flammable and has a very mild (no ammonia) odor.
- May cause respiratory tract irritation if inhaled. In case of reaction, move to fresh air.
- May cause skin or eye irritation with contact. In case of reaction wash with water. If symptoms develop, seek medical attention.
- If swallowed, do not induce vomiting, keep calm. Seek medical attention.
- May aggravate existing disorders with exposure.
- Keep out of reach of children.
- Dried material is nearly inert.
- A complete MSDS can be obtained by writing to Wheel Fanatyk: info@wheelfanatyk.com.
- Greater dangers come from the cleaning solvents, heat gun, and other workshop hazards. Always exercise extra caution.

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Apply

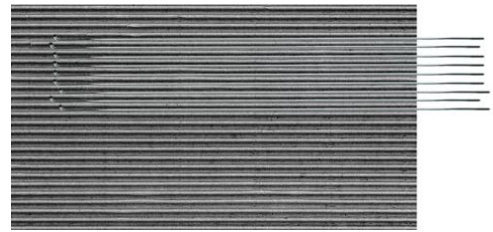
1. Keep **FIX** in a sealed container. Shake or stir before use. Clear spout with a spoke if needed. Store closed. Thin with distilled water.
2. **FIX** is hard to clean off hands. Nitrile gloves may help.
3. Tap your spokes even on a clean surface. At first, try a small number, perhaps 8 or 10. Dribble a small amount onto spoke ends. Move them around and capillary action will draw it up the threads. Holding the bunch to keep them aligned, move the ends around to further distribute the coating.
4. Stop when material covers 2/3 of threads. Once appropriately covered, rap them down sharply on paper or cardboard. Excess will come off.



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Cure and Dry

1. Now, lay your wet spokes on a bench, small distance between each, threaded ends not touching and overhanging the bench. You may find it convenient to use some corrugated sheet to keep your spokes orderly.



2. A heat gun can be used to force cure **FIX**. Theoretical cure is 150F (66C) for 10-60 minutes.
3. Let the spokes fully cool and dry. Additional drying time is beneficial. Overnight is great.
4. Once dry, spokes can be stored for years.

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