

# RV ROOF COATING APPLICATION GUIDE





RV Roofs are notorious for leaking. Whether it's a vent, skylight, tear or slide; it never seems to end. **Liquid Rubber**RV Roof Coating products provide you with easy **Do-It-Yourself** tools to keep your RV dry, eliminating the need for costly service calls. The best roof leak is the one that never happens. This can only be accomplished with regular roof maintenance to reflect the sun's heat, UV rays, and protect/seal the surface.

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#### **PREPARATION**

Installing Liquid Rubber RV Roof Coating is simple and easy! Follow the steps detailed below to ensure a proper installation of your high-performance coating. Surface preparation is the most important step in any successful coating installation. Liquid Rubber Coatings can be applied to most substrates including Metal, Aluminum, Wood, Fiberglass, EPDM, TPO, PVC, and bonds well to most coatings.

### **Identify Your Roof Material:**

Fiberglass, Wood, and Metal are easy to spot, but here is how to identify your sheet membrane roofs.

#### TPO:

Typically, white in color, is usually shiny and has a plastic feel with an "orange peel" like texture. Do not apply Liquid Rubber products over a TPO surface without proper preparation, call to discuss with one of our technical representatives if needed.

#### EPDM:

Colors can vary from black to gray to white. Almost always has a smooth rubbery feel. It is also one of the thinnest materials (going down to .41 mm).

#### **PVC**:

Typically found in white, but can come in gray, tan, and cream colors. PVC can easily be mistaken for TPO. If you are unsure as to which roofing material you have, it is best to call the manufacturer to verify. For EPDM - use Liquid Rubber EPDM Primer. For most other substrates, use Liquid Rubber Multi-Purpose Primer.

## Inspect:

Inspect caulking (lap sealant) and seams for shrinkage. Remove unbonded/damaged caulking and ensure the joint is clean and dry before applying Liquid Rubber Seam Tape. Remove any existing silicone caulking and replace it with Liquid Rubber RV Lap Sealant. Look for physical damage such as tears, holes, and dents where water pools and repair as necessary. Inspect your interior for water damage. If you have fiberglass check for cracks. For more severe damage use a fiberglass patch kit to repair prior to waterproofing.

Inspections should be performed regularly to identify small problems before they become big problems. It is best to apply Liquid Rubber RV Roof Coating (or other appropriate Liquid Rubber sealant) before you have a leak. This kind of preventative maintenance can save you the cost of repairs involved in water damaged interiors and electrical/mechanical components.

## General Preparation & Cleaning: (Prep is 90% of the iob!)

For PVC, Aluminum, and Fiberglass roofs, scuff the surface to remove any shine and roughen the surface for better adhesion and use Liquid Rubber Multi-Purpose Primer.

TPO is very difficult to bond to, so it must be sanded very well with 120 grit sandpaper to roughen the surface and increase bond strength. Using EPDM primer is necessary, or the coating will not bond. Call to discuss with one of our technical representatives.

Use Liquid Rubber RV Smart Cleaner to remove surface contaminants. Ready to use. Do not dilute. Sweep the surface clean. Wet surface lightly with a garden hose. Apply Liquid Rubber RV Smart Cleaner generously using a brush, roller, or spray equipment. Allow the solution to stand for 5-10 minutes. Work into the surface using a stiff bristle brush. Scrub a small section first to determine if the area is cleaned. For stubborn stains, repeat application.

#### Rinse The Surface:

Be sure to rinse the cleaner off the surface thoroughly to ensure a film is not left on the surface as this will inhibit bond. Allow it to dry completely before beginning your application.

For EPDM, TPO, PVC and Fiberglass membranes, wipe down the surface with a clean white rag that has been dampened with acetone right before you prime the surface. This will condition the surface to receive the primer.



## **DETAIL WORK**

Cracks, joints, voids, etc. (1/8" or larger) should be prefilled with a suitable patching material such as Liquid Rubber RV Lap Sealant.

## Seam Tape:

Detail areas may include vents, skylights, etc. Pre-cut Liquid Rubber Seam Tape to desired length and fit. Remove plastic backing before applying (be careful not to stretch the seam tape when removing the backing).

Apply Seam Tape to all seams at perimeter and protrusions (vents, skylights, etc.) Use pressure to activate adhesive leaving no wrinkles or fish-mouths. Overlap separate pieces of Seam Tape by at least 1 inch.

### Lap Sealant:

As an alternative to Seam Tape, use Liquid Rubber RV Lap Sealant to bridge and seal gaps and seams. While Liquid Rubber Seam Tape provides superior bond and performance, Liquid Rubber Lap Sealant will bridge and seal at an affordable price.

#### **Detail Coats:**

Prime detail roof areas (not the Seam Tape) with the appropriate primer for your roof type. When dry (tacky is OK), apply a heavy detail coat of selected Liquid Rubber Waterproof Coating over the Seam Tape to encapsulate (at least 1 inch beyond the edges of the Seam Tape). Allow to dry.

(Remember, these are the area's most likely to leak so pay special attention to the details, nobody wants to do it twice!)



## **APPLICATION**

#### **Termination:**

Tape-off, block off or otherwise mask areas that are not to receive coating. TIP: Pull your masking tape while the coating is still wet. You may re-tape or stay shy of the termination line on your following applications. If you allow your coating to dry too much, you can score/cut along the tape line before pulling to prevent the chance of lifting the coating.

### **Application:**

Before you start... Work in manageable sections. EPDM Primer is ridiculously sticky!

**Step 1:** Apply the Liquid Rubber EPDM Primer to one side of the RV (leaving the other side uncoated so that you can walk and work on it.) Allow the Liquid Rubber EPDM Primer to dry for 1-2 hours. Apply the Liquid Rubber RV Roof Coating over the Liquid Rubber EPDM Primer, leaving 4 -6 inches of the primer exposed so that you will be able to overlap it when you begin the second side. Allow the Liquid Rubber RV Roof Coating to dry enough to walk on and repeat the process for the second side. (For Multi-Purpose Primer you can apply to the whole roof.)

**Step 2:** Apply as many coats of the selected Liquid Rubber Coating as needed, using a brush or (3/8) 10mm roller, until you use up required amount. Allow to dry, approximately 6-8 hours between coats or until dry to the touch with nothing wet underneath. Apply each new coat at a right angle to the previous coat to ensure even thickness.

**Step 3:** Before the final coat, inspect for even thickness, pinholes, etc. Repair as necessary until you have a defect free, monolithic coat and apply the final coat.

#### Inspection:

Inspect for pinholes, blisters, voids, thin spots, or other defects. Repair as necessary.



## **COVERAGE RATES**

#### **RV ROOF COATING:**

Benefits: Solar reflective - Choose when greater abrasion resistance is needed.

Apply a minimum final thickness of 1 gallon per 50 sq ft (4.65 sq/m). It should require around 2-3 heavy coats to achieve your final membrane.

Re-coat time: 6-8 hours. Cure: 48-72 hours.

### **SILICONE ROOF COATING:**

Benefits: 1 coat application/solarreflective-Choose when you only want to do 1 coat. Apply a minimum final thickness of 1 gallon per 50-60 sq ft (4.65-5.57 sq/m). It should require 1-2 coats

Re-coat time: 1-2 hours.

Cure: 1-4 hours.

#### **RV LAP SEALANT:**

Benefits: Bridges and seals gaps and seams. 100% solids, moisture cure and waterproof.

Coverage rate: Approximately 22' (6.7 m) per tube using a 5/16" (8 mm).

Typically 4 tubes are used on a 30' RV.

Cure: 24-48 hours.



## APPLICATION TIPS

- Apply using a 3/8 (10mm) roller, brush, or paint sprayer.
- Apply to clean, dry surface that is free of dirt, silicone, loose paint, rust, oil, grease, coal tar, or other contaminants.
- Use Liquid Rubber RV Lap Sealant for gaps, joints and around penetrations.
- Apply when temperature is above 10C/50F and rising including overnight temperatures.
- Use Liquid Rubber RV Smart Cleaner to clean the surface.
- Use Liquid Rubber EPDM Primer for EPDM roofs and properly prepared TPO, use Liquid Rubber Multi-Purpose Primer for most others.
- Apply each new coat in an alternate direction to the previous coat to ensure even thickness.
- Apply next coat when dry to the touch (typically 6-8 hours, tacky is OK).
- Typically cures within 48 hours.
- Avoid hot, direct, intense sun when applying.
- Avoid contact with solvents and solvent based cleaners, adhesives, and paints.
- Wrap brushes in plastic to use for the next coat.
- Do not allow to freeze until fully cured.
- Do not apply in wet conditions (including fog or dew) or if rain is forecasted within 24 hours.
- Do not combine black products with colored products.
- Make sure what you're coating is at least 5 degrees above the dew point of the environment you are coating in. (See technical specs for more details)
- For best results remove existing paints/coatings and apply directly to the substrate. (Some paints and coatings will not be compatible. Loose/flaky paint may be an indication that the existing paint/coating is not well bonded and therefore your Liquid Rubber solution m ay fail if applied over it instead of directly to the substrate. Oil based paints, enamels, epoxies, powder co ats can be difficult to bond to. Contact your Liquid Rubber technical representative for further direction.)
- If your RV is still under warranty be sure to contact the manufacturer to ensure you do not void the warranty.
- Work in manageable sections. (EPDM Primer is very sticky when dry)
- See website for videos and technical support.



## **CLEAN UP** - It turns out that cleaning up your mess is not nearly as fun as making one, so follow these rules.

- Always organize yourself and your work area to reduce the potential for spillage and other accidents.
- Set out a tarp or large piece of cardboard to keep containers and tools on, when not in use. Make sure you have a pail of soap and water on hand, so you are ready when an accident occurs.
- · Soak up as much material as possible with rags.
- If dried, scrape off as much as you can, (with a razor/scraper/etc.) then scrub with a wire brush, etc.
- · Clean with soap and water.
- If dried, scrape off as much as you can. (with a razor/scraper/etc.)
- Refer to the Product Safety Data Sheet for personal protective equipment recommendations.

## **PHYSICAL PROPERTIES: RV Roof Coating**

Color (Liquid)	White
Elongation	400%
% of solids	46%
Low Temp Flex	-7°C

## **PACKAGING**

- 18.9 L (5 Gal.) Pails
- 3.78 L (1 Gal.) Cans
- 946 ml (1 Qt.) Cans (for primers only)
- 10.2 oz (946ml) Tubes (Lap Sealant)



