

Directions for Use

WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material is a high-tech product.
Carefully follow directions to get the best results.

Please read all the directions before you begin.

FOR SAFETY, DO NOT USE WONDERPATCH *FLEX*[™] HOLE REPAIR MATERIAL FOR VESSELS OR FOR ARTICLES THAT NOW CONTAIN OR MAY LATER CONTAIN VOLATILE, FLAMMABLE, OR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS!

If you want to paint WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material to match the color of the surface you are fixing, please see “**Painting WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material:**” below.

If you are going to fix a hard surface that is curved, corrugated, or irregular or if it has rivets in the area to be patched, please see “**If you are patching a corrugated or curved surface:**” below.

For adequate initial adhesion, be sure you are applying the WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material at 60°F or higher. If necessary, warm the patch and surface to be patched using a hair dryer or hot air gun. Do not use a torch on the patch; it will be ruined by the intense heat.

Basic Directions for patching **rigid items, flexible items, or translucent items:**

1. Select a patch that overlaps the hole by at least 1 inch on all sides. If there is anything sticking up within the area where you intend to apply the patch, smooth it down so that the patch can lay reasonably flat. It does not need to be perfect. Rivets or rounded bolt heads are OK as long as you have the patch overlap them by at least 1 inch. There is no need to hammer them down. WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material will form around them well.
2. **Thoroughly clean** the area around the hole you will be patching. First wipe off any loose dirt using a cloth or paper towel. If there is rust or loose paint, it **MUST** be removed. Use a little spray cleaner if you wish but be sure to rinse any cleaner off well and allow the surface to dry. **DO NOT** use any petroleum-based cleaners such as kerosene or diesel fuel because they will leave a film on the surface that will keep the patch from sticking as well as designed. **Finally, thoroughly wipe the surface with a 50% solution of isopropyl rubbing alcohol** or use an alcohol prep pad from the WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Kit. Allow to dry.
3. **CAUTION:** once the WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material is attached to the surface, it will not easily be lifted back off and repositioned. Therefore, make sure you know exactly where you intend to stick it. We suggest you draw an outline to guide the application. Without exposing the adhesive, hold the patch in place over the hole and trace around it. (A pencil is included in the WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Kit) Lift the patch away and check to be sure the outline is level and that the patch will overlap the hole and any rivets by at least 1 inch.
4. If you are going to fix a hard surface that is curved or irregular or if it has rivets in the area to be patched, please see “**If you are patching a corrugated or curved surface:**” below. Remove the paper liner from the adhesive. It is quite tacky but the adhesive will not come off on your hands or clothing. However, touching it with skin or cloth may leave a residue on the adhesive that is undesirable. Carefully align the patch with the traced guideline you made in step 3 and lower the patch onto the surface.
5. Once the patch is in position, immediately press it down firmly using your fingers or the heel of your hand. Work from the first edge to the edge on the opposite side. If there are rivets or other irregularities, give the patch a strong, long push over those areas to let the patch conform to the rivet or irregularity. Remove the shiny outer film if you wish. **(over)**

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Painting WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material:

WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material comes from the factory with TWO top layers. The outermost layer is shiny and non stretchable. It is intended to stay in place while applying the patch and it is not paintable. To paint the patch, the shiny outer layer must be removed to expose the dull finished layer designed to hold paint. We do not recommend removing the shiny outer layer before applying the patch because doing so will allow the patch to stretch and flex and actually make it difficult to apply evenly.

1. After applying the patch, carefully remove the shiny outer layer. Once you get it loosened at a corner, it will easily peel off. Pick up the shiny outer layer at a corner by using a small knife or a fingernail at the edge of the patch. Alternatively, you may find it easier to begin by pricking the outer layer using a pointed object and then flicking the corner up.
2. Mask the area surrounding the patch to avoid having paint over-spray onto the surrounding area.
3. No special preparation of the dull paintable surface is needed. Just be sure not to contaminate it with foreign material before painting.
4. Paint the patch surface with high quality aerosol paint using several light coats rather than a heavy coat.
5. Allow the paint to dry thoroughly.

If you are covering irregularities:

Except for rivets or rounded bolt heads, if something is sticking up into the area where you intend to apply the patch, smooth it down as much as you can. For the best seal, it is better to have the patch area dented in a little rather than sticking up. The surface does not need to be perfectly flat.

WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material is designed to be able to bridge across irregularities.

If you are patching a corrugated or curved surface:

CAUTION: *A compound curved surface curves in two directions. For example, a football curves over as well as around. WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material is very flexible and can be used to fix tight compound curved surfaces but it is challenging and requires closely following directions.*

1. *This is the ONE TIME you will want to remove the shiny outer layer BEFORE applying the patch. Doing this will allow the patch to stretch and adhere to a compound curved surface.*
2. *Be very careful in applying the patch after the outer shiny layer is removed because the patch is very tacky and will easily wrinkle or fold and will tightly stick to itself if you allow adhesive surfaces to touch.*
3. *Users have reported that an extra set of hands can be useful. You and a helper can each hold two corners of the patch so that it can be lowered onto the surface and allowed to touch the surface first in the center of the patch.*
4. *Then the patch can be stretched out and down in all directions away from its center and carefully allowed to come down on the surface toward the outer edges of the patch.*
5. ***If you are going to use this method, we recommend you and your helper practice several times using kitchen stretch wrap to get a feel for how it will work.***

Simple curved surfaces (like a tube) are easily patched using WonderPatch *FLEX*[™] Hole Repair Material. **That is true of corrugations as well.** The only special instructions to follow when patching a corrugated surface are to NOT remove the entire paper liner before beginning. Instead, remove the liner gradually to expose the adhesive a bit at a time while working the patch into the valleys of the corrugation. Avoid letting the patch bridge from peak to peak of the corrugation because its natural stretchiness will tend to make it pull away from the valleys over time if you do this.