



## Polishing Guide

As Gel-coat differs depending on the level of oxidation due to UV exposure we have listed a range of kits designed to give the DIY boat owner the right products and tools to return your gel-coat to a high gloss finish.

We have put these kits into 3 categories depending on the level of oxidation: Heavy Oxidation, Moderate Oxidation and Light Oxidation.

The number one offender responsible for turning your gel-coat from a high gloss finish when new to a dull matt surface with no lustre is without doubt UV. This type of damage can happen surprisingly fast if left unchecked and for this reason we recommend protecting the finish against further UV damage as much as possible.

The use of harsh compounds should be restricted to only the most damaged gel-coat or areas, in most cases the level of oxidation varies due to the amount of UV exposure; this is why a horizontal surface in continuous sun light will fade more rapidly than a vertical surface in partial shade. As an example you may find that compound fine cut will easily remove oxidation from areas least exposed to UV but the areas suffering the most damage will require compound hard cut for this reason we recommend the use of both Compound Hard Cut and Compound Fine Cut when restoring gel-coat.

The correct tools for the job are also extremely important as the right choice will give faster results and better finishes, in all cases we recommend the use of a good quality polishing machine for example we use the Makita 9227CB fitted with a Velcro backing pad that will enable you to change polishing pads with ease when required. For example when using compound you should use a 3M compounding wool pad, and when polishing you should use either a 3M wool polishing pad or for a hologram free finish use a soft foam pad.

We base this recommendation on the extensive experience the Nanotech Service Team has gained in many years of restoring and polishing vessels of all sizes and types. We hope this is of some help and remember we are always available for advice when required.

If you would like any further advice please contact us on