



# Removing Oxidation from Gel-Coat Surfaces Using **FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze**

If the exposed surface of a fiberglass product such as a boat or recreational vehicle is composed of gelcoat and is dull due to weathering or exposure to ultraviolet rays, it can probably be restored. FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze is a mild cleaner and glaze that in most cases will remove chalking and shine the gel coat with less work, at a lower cost and with a longer-lasting results than many products on the market.

## Preparing the Gel-Coat Surface

Clean gel-coat surface thoroughly prior to application of FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze. The following are effective cleaners:

- A capful of liquid dishwashing detergent in a gallon (3.79 liter) of warm water.
- A cup (0.25 liter) of general-purpose detergent in a gallon (3.79 liter) of warm water.
- Up to one pound (0.5 kg) of trisodium phosphate (TSP) in one gallon (3.79 liter) of hot water for surfaces that have wax or oily deposits. TSP can be found at hardware stores and stores that sell paint and decorating related materials.
- If mold or mildew is a problem, add up to one cup (0.25 liter) of household bleach to the cleaning solution.
- Extreme oil, wax or grease build up may require the use of more aggressive cleaners that contain acetone or organic solvents; use these with caution as they may soften polyester gel-coat, be health hazards or be flammable.

Rinse gelcoat surface with clear water and allow to dry completely before the next step.

## Applying FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze

Wipe on buff off. Shake FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze bottle to mix prior to use. If working by hand, use a soft clean terry or cotton cloth or applicator pad to apply and polish FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze. Work out of direct sunlight on a manageable area at a time, 2 – 4 square feet (0.25 - 0.5 m<sup>2</sup>). Squirt a coin-sized dab of FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze per square foot (0.1 m<sup>2</sup>) of surface, adding as needed depending on surface condition. Wet buff, turning applicator frequently, until surface is dry and polished to a shine. Repeat as necessary for more difficult surface cleaning projects. Replace or clean applicator and buffing cloths or pads as they become soiled.

Working with a power buffer will reduce work but runs some risk of burning the surface or cutting through edges. Apply FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze to surface, starting with a coin sized amount per square foot (0.1 meter<sup>2</sup>) and add as needed depending on surface condition. Wet buff with a power buffer equipped with a lambs wool, wool/synthetic blend, terry cloth or cotton pad. Keep power buffer moving until FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N polishes to a dry shiny surface. Any remaining dust or residue may be blown off with air or be rinsed off with water. General clean up is with soap and water.

## Notes

- A 32-ounce (0.95 liter) container goes a long way. One bottle will buff an entire 40-foot (12m) boat.
- One devoted FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze user states, "I use it twice a year on my boat. It does a wonderful job."
- For extremely oxidized gelcoat surfaces, wet 'n dry sand paper of 600 - 800 grit or finer may be necessary to break the surface prior to application of FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze.
- Use caution not to damage surface and test on a small unobtrusive area first.
- Although a final coating with marine wax will give longer-lasting performance, FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze requires no further application of restorer or wax as it contains silicone and will provide a good level of protection to the gelcoat.
- FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze is an effective cleaner for rubber rub rails and plated metal and stainless steel.
- FORMULA FIVE® Clean 'N Glaze is not recommended for surfaces coated in automotive type paints or for plastic surfaces such as windshields or decorative appliques or decals.