

## Decking instructions

Vacuum the inside of the boat.

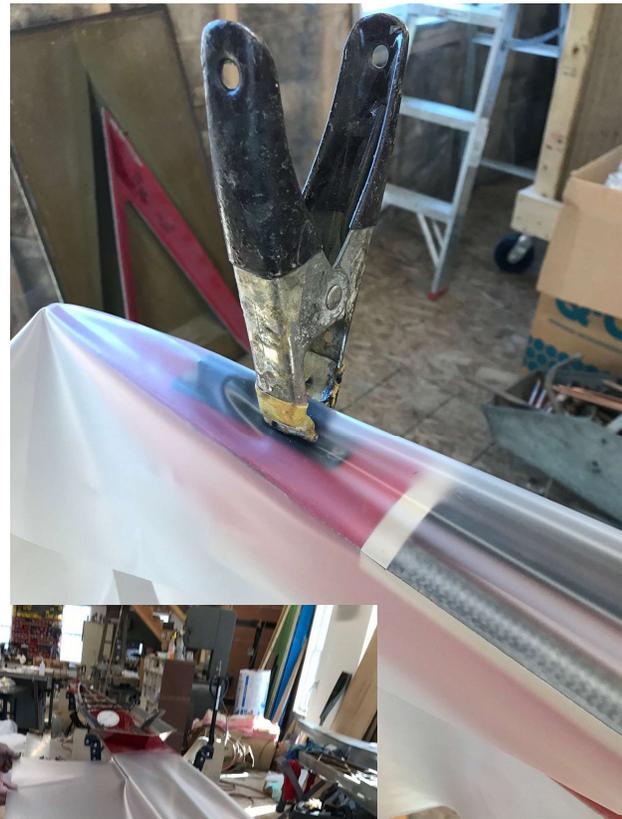
Clean off any residual tape. Use rubbing alcohol to clean up the surface or the tape may not stick. For persistent goop (duct tape...) use goo-gone and follow with alcohol.

1. Apply double-sided tape to the edge of the gunwale. Cut it a little long for now.
2. Apply the cross pieces. Also a little too long.
3. Trim the pieces so they touch but do not overlap (see photos). Use a sharp knife / razor blade / scissors.
4. Leave the backing on the tape for the time being.



5. Prepare the vinyl. It creases, so unfold it as soon as it arrives. Note that it is static so will pick up dust.
6. Cut the vinyl in half lengthwise. Store one half on a roll for future use. The kit has enough material to cover two boats.

7. Take the backing off the tape by the cockpit.
8. Stick down the short end of the vinyl and press down so there are no air bubbles (see photo).
9. Stretch the vinyl lengthwise and clamp it down by the stern or bow (see photo).
10. Trim the vinyl in a long triangle shape (see photo), wide at the end and tapering toward the cockpit. Carefully move it aside or drape it over the other end of the boat, where you will repeat all these steps.



11. Now comes the tricky part: put tension on the vinyl while peeling back the backing on the tape.

Start on one side by the cockpit. Pull the vinyl sideways so it is taut. Stick down the vinyl over a one-foot length. Add another foot or 2. It helps if someone else keeps tension over the length of the vinyl, for now (see photo).

Switch sides. Now that the first side is down, apply more tension sideways while you peel back the tape backing and stick it down.

Make sure there are no creases and the finished section has a “ring” to it when you tap it. Watch for air bubbles. Pick up the vinyl and redo it if there are creases or bubbles. You’ll get the hang of it. Keep switching sides every 2 or 3 feet to even out the tension.





Same instructions in a bit more detail: Start off by the cockpit and stick down the corner first (top left).

Pull back the tape backing as you stretch the vinyl over the edge (bottom left).

Stick the vinyl down starting at the gunwale, folding it over the side, then stick it down lower on the hull (bottom right). Doing it in 2 passes helps avoid air bubbles.



12. Work your way towards the stern (or bow), see photo.  
Make sure the vinyl does not start walking off to the side or making diagonal creases. Lift it up and redo it where needed as you go along.



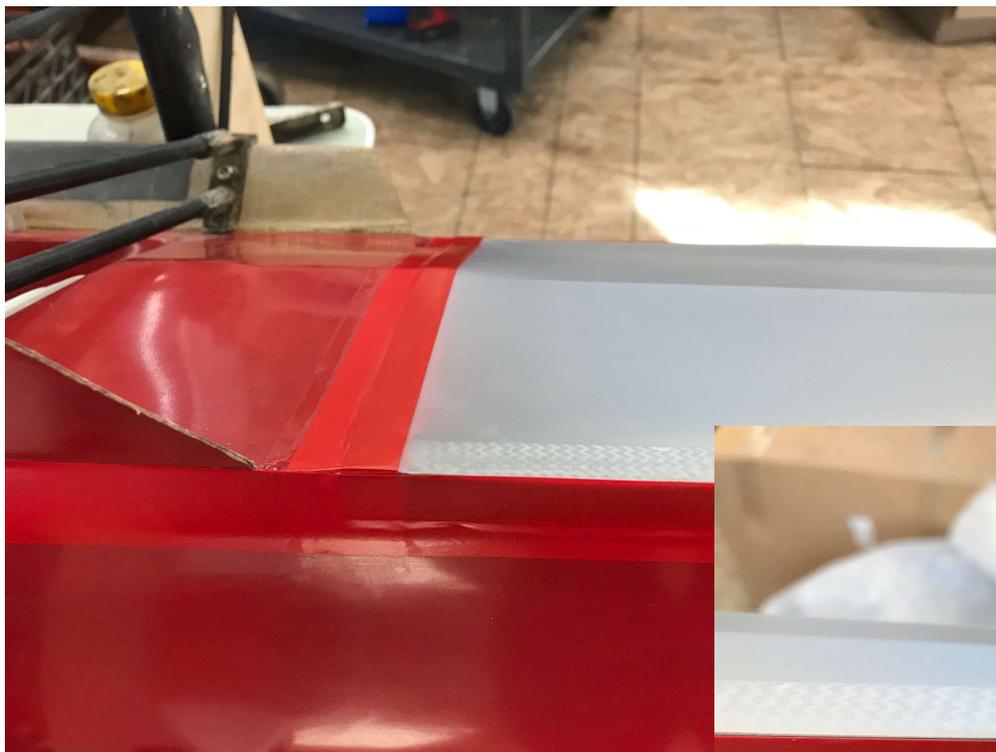
13. Trim the excess vinyl using a utility knife or razor blade.



14. Apply the decking tape in the color of your choice. It should overlap the vinyl onto the hull, following the edge. This time make sure the corners overlap so water can't sneak through.

Use a sharp knife to trim it. Ideally, use a roller to roll over the tape to stick it down and avoid air bubbles.

As shown here, you can choose to extend the tape along the side of the cockpit. But that is optional. Similarly, you can choose how far to extend the tape by the stern and bow. You may want to cover over some chipped paint, for example. However note that all extra tape adds some weight.



Done! Ain't she pretty?  
Now all you need to do  
is repeat this at the other  
end of the boat.

Have fun and call if you have questions.  
Van Dusen Racing Boats, 508-788-4466.

© VDRB 2022