

Water Based Vinyl Paint Products



General Information

1. MDR has elected to change all of its paint products to WATER BASE from the old solvent base to be much more environmentally friendly. Also, water based paints are much safer to use, since they are non-flammable with no toxic solvents, are odorless, and clean up easily with water.
2. All MDR paints and coatings are water based vinyl of differing formulations, and all use water in place of solvents for their application.
3. Each MDR paint and coating has been specifically formulated and does its job as well, if not better than typical solvent based paints.
4. Once the water evaporates, the remaining vinyl coating is basically the same as any other solvent-based paint and requires a solvent to remove it.
5. Water based paints take a little longer to dry or cure than solvent-based paints as a result of differing evaporation rates.
6. Humidity levels affect evaporation; very high humidity (>75%) slows down the drying process since water evaporates slower in these conditions.
7. Water based paints and coatings can be applied to virtually any clean, dry surface with no possibility of a solvent attacking the surface, as could be a problem with inflatable boats or transducers. MDR paints are compatible with Hypalon, PVC, and rubber.
8. As with any paint, surface preparation is most important. Good adhesion requires the surface to be totally clean and dry. It is best to try a TEST AREA to determine the best results, especially on inflatable boats. Do not use MEK for cleaning, as it can attack the plasticizers in the vinyl or Hypalon, causing a reaction, which will affect the new paints' drying ability. Light sanding or roughing the surface with extra fine grit .000 sandpaper is also helpful.
9. Use clean brushes and rags for cleaning, so as not to contaminate the surface.
10. MDR's water based paints and coatings such as [MDR-740 LIQUID 'LECTRIC TAPE](#), [MDR-783/784/787/789 TOP & BOTTOM COATINGS](#), and [MDR-180 WHIP-END DIP](#) can be used in any application where a liquid or flexible waterproof coating is required, even uses outside the marine area.

FAQ's

Q: What caused paint to peel off my inflatable boat in sections or one big sheet?

A: Inadequate surface preparation is likely the cause of this problem. Not cleaning the surface properly; painting on a wet surface; leaving an oily residue on the surface; cleaning with silicone oil based cleaner, acetone, or other substance which was left on the surface—all would not allow the paint to stick effectively to the surface.

FIX: Before painting, clean properly using [Amazon's Inflatables Cleaner](#), [MDR's Krazy Clean](#) or a similar, non-solvent cleaner. Rinse thoroughly, and let totally dry, in the sun if possible. Sometimes, lightly roughing with extra-fine grit 000 sandpaper will help paints adhere.

Q: Why is paint not drying on the inflatable's surface? It is still tacky after 2 or more days.



A1: Humidity plays an important role in drying time. The higher the humidity, the longer it will take to dry, sometimes up to 72 hours. The boat must also be protected from any other moisture, including rain or morning dew, before the paint is completely dry. Exposing the surface to the warm sun, and keeping it inside or covered at night is best.

A2: If surface has been cleaned with a solvent before painting, the surface may be tacky before painting.

A3: NEVER paint a second coat over a still sticky/tacky first coat; surface must be COMPLETELY DRY before painting.

FIX: Before painting, clean properly using MDR Inflatable Cleaner, Amazon's Inflatable Cleaner, MDR's Krazy Clean or a similar, non-solvent cleaner. Rinse thoroughly, and let totally dry, in the sun if possible. Sometimes, lightly roughing with extra-fine grit 000 sandpaper will help paints adhere and dry effectively. Allow paint to dry completely in between coats.

Q: My inflatable has a sticky surface after cleaning. Will [MDR's Top Coating](#) cover this?

A: Surface could have been attacked by UV rays, or cleaned with a strong solvent (such as acetone or MEK) that affected the plasticizers in the inflatable's surface. NEVER paint on a tacky surface, as it will not allow the new paint to dry properly. Solvent residue may be left in the sticky surface and will begin attacking the fresh paint from the "inside," not allowing it to dry and resulting in cracking and peeling.

FIX: Place the inflatable in the warm sunshine for at least 1-2 days to allow any remaining solvent to dissipate. Apply paint to test area approximately 1 foot square to determine drying effectiveness. If still tacky, apply talcum powder to seal pores and counteract any remaining moisture or solvent. For best results, clean properly using MDR Inflatable Cleaner, Amazon's Inflatable Cleaner, MDR's Krazy Clean or a similar, non-solvent cleaner. Rinse thoroughly, and let totally dry, in the sun if possible. Sometimes, lightly roughing with extra-fine grit 000 sandpaper will help paints adhere and dry effectively. Allow paint to dry completely in between coats.