

## Tube Repair

- Your basic tube is bound to give you a large migraine as the damn thing is comparable to your basic inflatable aero space mattress. I.e. it develops punctures inexplicably and that at the wrong moment.
- Now just try and repair this sucker and I can guarantee that migraine.
- My dog on the other hand, likes chewing a ball on a soft surface.



- Your first steps are simple, i.e. finding out if this plastic is oil- based and whether its glue-able. Do the finger test as described elsewhere on our website.
- This sucker is really oily and my finger just slid through the glue.
- So grab the ever-ready de-greaser and wash the surface down. Make sure tha it is undiluted and that you are doing so on an area other than where the puncture is.



- Wash it down then take a wet cloth and remove the de-greaser. Wait for the area to dry.



- Place one drop of glue on the surface just cleaned and press a finger onto the drop for ten seconds.
- Pull finger slowly away and if the plastic sticks to it, you are well on your way to repairing the bugger.
- Now all you have to do is carefully clean this area with acetone to remove the glue.



- Now for the difficult part; FINDING THE PUNCTURE!



- After finding the puncture, which in this case turned out to be a small cut, one must not be too hasty. The dam can wait another few minutes.
- Wash the area with undiluted de-greaser and using a wet cloth, remove it.
- Wait for the area to dry.

- Cut a round patch off the PVC– offcut you found at your local Tarpaulin shop, either that or use a piece from the old aerospace mattress you dumped in the garage. It would be advisable to get the same colour though. Becomes invisible.
- For this demo I used a grey patch for obvious reasons. i.e. you can see it better.



- Now. Being careful not to let the glue seep through the rent and glue the underside, I spread the glue around and placed the patch over the puncture.
- Surprise! Surprise! I DID GLUE THE UNDERSIDE TO THE TOP! But knowing that the plastic was tough, I relaxed, gave pressure and rubbed my finger all around the patch for 20 seconds and pulled the underside away.



- Give pressure all the while taking note where the patch did not glue.
- Check by twisting and turning the plastic gently, always remembering that the patch is still new. Don't be Rambo just yet.
- Glue the edges and give pressure. I rubbed very hard and in so doing, removed any excess glue.
- Pump up the tube and hope that it's the only puncture. Let stand for a few minutes and deflate. NOW FOR THE DAM!