

Acrylic Scratch Removal

Hairline Scratches on Acrylic • Remove hairline scratches either with **Novus Plastic Polishing System** (using No. 3 followed by No. 2, and finished with No. 1).

Scuffs, Minor Scratches, and Deep Scratches •

Remove scuffs, minor (hairline) scratches, and very deep scratches from acrylic plastic furniture, displays, show-cases, machine guards, windows, and windshields with the **TAP Scratch Removal Kit**. It is suitable for most hard plastics. The kit contains everything you need:

- 5 Lint-Free WypAll®s (12" x 15")
- 1 bottle of Heavy-Duty Buffing Compound
- 1 bottle Professional Plastic Polish
- 1 piece Special Grit Wet-Or-Dry Sandpaper
- 1 bottle Anti-Static Solution

TAP stocks **Wet or Dry Ultra-Fine Sandpaper**, which ranges in grits from 800 to 2500. Sand acrylic piece with Ultra-Fine Sandpaper and water until scratch disappears. Use the 2500 grit abrasive paper to create a uniform dull finish, then buff to its original luster with buffing compound and buffing wheel.

Adhesive and Mark Removal

Use **Safety Solvent 22**, sold at TAP stores) to remove sticky or aged masking tape adhesive, grease, crayon, and other marks.

Follow instructions on label and test Safety Solvent 22 on a piece of acrylic before applying to problem area. Rinse acrylic with mild soap and water. crazing can result if used on flame-polished edges and heat formed pieces.

Caring For Acrylic Sheets

Remove dust from acrylic by wiping gently with **TAP's Anti-Static Plastic Cleaner** and a soft cloth, chamois, **MicroFiber®**, or **WypAll®s** (the lint-free cloth). Never use a paper towel! Do not use cleaners containing abrasives, solvents, alcohol, or ammonia. Before using plastic cleaner, remove excess dust and grit with a wet towel or spray of water. A periodic cleaning with **Brilliance®** protects acrylic surfaces.

TAP carries several polishes and the proper lint-free cloth, **WypAll®s** or **MicroFiber®**, to clean and maintain plastics.

Note: Various methods of manufacturing acrylic sheets result in slightly different gluing techniques. Your TAP sales person will be happy to give you small acrylic pieces for practicing gluing techniques.

Because we have no control over working conditions or methods, products should be tested to establish suitability for your individual application. Our liability is limited to the price of the product.

the fantastic plastic place

TAP Plastics

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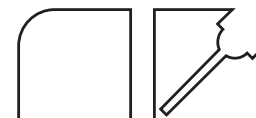
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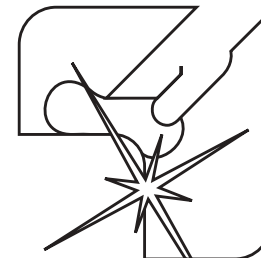


November 2002

Acrylic Cement
Laminating Cement



Scratch Removal
Care of Sheets



TAP Plastics Inc
Dublin, CA 94568



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Visit our website: www.tapplastics.com
Open 7 days/week, 24 hours/day

Instructions for Cementing Methods • Capillary • Soak • Laminating

TAP Acrylic Cement is an all-purpose, solvent-type cement compounded especially for use on clear and colored acrylic sheets, Acrylite®, Plexiglas®, Lucite®, etc. It is generally used for edge gluing and softens the surface of the plastic, literally welding the two surfaces together. For best cementing results use a **TAP Hypo-Applicator**.

Observe some basic precautions when working with acrylic solvents:

- Never allow children handle TAP Acrylic Cement.
- Always work in a well-ventilated area.
- Do not smoke—solvents are highly volatile and flammable.
- Protect skin and eyes from contact with cement.
- Do not attempt to cement sheet in temperatures under 60°F (15°C). Temperature from 70° to 75°F (24°C) are ideal.

General Working Tips

To avoid scratches, leave protective wrapper (masking material) in place while doing the finishing work such as cutting, drilling, and sanding.

Note: Wrapper must be removed prior to gluing or heat forming.

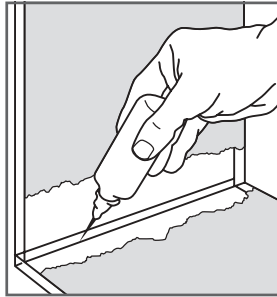
Keep wrapped acrylic sheet in a cool, dry place, protected from sunlight for long term storage.

Exposure to direct sunlight may make wrapper difficult or impossible to remove. Use **Safety Solvent 22** (a fast drying solvent, sold at TAP stores) to remove stubborn masking, grease, tar, stickers, and decals.

Proper tools are essential. Use a fine-tooth saw blade (with little or no set to the teeth), drill bits, and strip heaters that are made specifically for acrylic. These special tools are available from your local TAP store.

TAP Hypo-Applicator

Fill the hypo-bottle no more than half way. Hold the bottle upright and squeeze slowly to expel air. Release pressure slowly while moving the hypo-applicator into position for gluing. This slow release creates a slight vacuum and

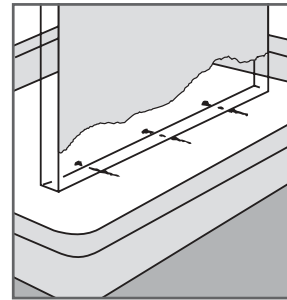


lessens the possibility of dripping glue on the surface of the acrylic. When the hypo-applicator is in place, squeeze bottle gently and pull needle backwards along joint to be glued.

Caution: Do not push needle along joint as it plugs very easily.

Capillary Method

The joints or surfaces to be cemented must be flat and fit together uniformly. Acrylic Cement will not fill gaps caused by uneven edges. The pieces must be supported in place until the cement sets. (Ask us how to use a gluing jig.) Where the two pieces join, the cement should be applied with a **TAP Hypo-Applicator**. The cement will flow into the joint through capillary action. The union will 'set' in about sixty minutes, firm enough to proceed with your work, however it will not fully cure to a maximum strength for 24 to 48 hours. Edges should not be flamed or polished prior to gluing, this could result in the edges crazing.



Soak Method

Use the SOAK method for exceptionally strong and watertight joints or when using thick material. Dip the **edge of one** of the two pieces to be glued in a container with **Acrylic Cement** for one to three minutes. The container should be metal or glass—not plastic. Use pins to support the piece in the container. The plastic softens and provides an air-free cushion when the two pieces are joined together. (Do not allow Acrylic Cement to contact the face of the sheet.) The result is an ideal bond that becomes as strong as the sheet itself. It takes up to twenty-four hours to cure the joint.

Use mild pressure and jigs to hold the plastic in position until the material sets.

Polishing Method

The original high luster of acrylic sheet can be restored to the edges and surfaces by polishing with a power driven buffer (any electric drill with a buffing wheel). Buffing wheels and compounds good for acrylics are sold by TAP.

A good buffing wheel for acrylic sheet will consist of layers of 3/16" (4.5 mm) carbonized felt, or layers of unbleached muslin laid together to form a wheel between 1 and 3 inches (25 and 75mm) thick. The larger the wheel, the better. But don't use one too large for your equipment.

Acrylic sheet should be polished using TAP buffing compound. Apply lightly to the wheel. To polish, move the piece back and forth across the wheel until you get a smooth, even polish. Be careful not to apply too much pressure. And keep the work constantly moving across the wheel. This will help prevent heat buildup which can mar the surface by melting or smearing it.

For safety reasons, it is important not to start polishing near the top of the sheet. The wheel may easily catch the top edge, tearing the piece of acrylic sheet out of your hands. Always wear safety glasses and be extremely careful.

Cementing Tips

- If cement is accidentally spilled on the plastic, allow to dry through evaporation. Do not wipe off. Wiping will further mar the surface.
- Do not cement edges that have been polished or high surface temperatures from machining; crazing will result.
- Do not rush the dry time.
- Cement small pieces of scrap to get the *feel* of the operation.
- High humidity may cause blushing (whitening) of glue joint.
- Use appropriate safety precautions whenever working with chemicals.