

## Field Repair of an Inflatable Boat

Sometimes a repair is needed while a boat is in use and tool options are limited. Here are some directions for a successful repair.

The repair kit contains patch material and glue. Work in the shade if possible.

The bigger the patch, the harder it is to seal, so if possible, cut a piece from the larger patch material. Cutting the patch material can be done with a sharp knife, multi-tool or swiss army knife.

Dry the surface to be patched as much as possible. The glue will cure even if the surfaces are wet.

Apply glue to the patch and smear it around the whole patch as evenly as possible. Smear glue on the boat in roughly the same area as the patch will cover.

Try not to over spread the glue beyond the patch, it will look messy as it turns yellow with age.



Wet glue will not stick, you must wait for the glue to become dry and become tacky. Drying takes approximately 10 minutes, but on a hot day, it will dry faster. If the glue can be moved with a fingernail, it is not dry enough.

Place patch on the boat. Smooth the patch with a fingernail or tool.

Wait for glue to cure at least 45 minutes, longer if possible. Inflate the boat to about  $\frac{3}{4}$  pressure and restart your journey.

After completing the journey, to make the repair permanent, heat the patch with a hairdryer and smooth it down with a tool like a screwdriver handle or box end wrench, etc.

If you have questions about these procedures, please call us at 800-748-8066.