

BLISTERS

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**MAY NOT BE THE BIGGEST PROBLEM IN  
EVERY FIBERGLASS BOAT,**

POOR WORKMANSHIP

INADEQUATE WETTING OF GLASS WITH RESIN

OVER CATALYZED RESIN

POOR CATALYZED MIXING

EXCESSIVE TIME BETWEEN GELCOAT AND  
LAMINATION

UNSTABLE ADDITIVES

PIN HOLES IN GELCOAT

CHEMISTRY OF RESIN ITSELF

BLISTERS GENERALLY APPEAR BELOW THE WATERLINE. THE SURVEYOR SHOULD REPORT THE SIZES, LOCATION AND TOTAL AREA AFFECTED IN PERCENTAGE.

"APPROXIMATELY 25% OF AREA BELOW  
WATERLINE RANGING FROM SIZE OF A DIME TO 3  
INCHES."

ALSO TRY TO ESTIMATE DEPTH  
IF OPENED, STATE WHETHER WET OR DRY

QUESTION FACING OWNER IS WHETHER  
TO TREAT BLISTERS OR DO THE WHOLE  
BOTTOM.

ENTIRE BOTTOM JOBS ARE  
COSTLY



- **Useful Terms**

- **Capillary Effect:** The tendency of a fluid to conduct itself or flow through narrow passages, e.g. a capillary. Adsorption, absorption, catalysis, diffusion, osmosis and permeability are all terms that are closely related.
- **Permeable:** The ability of a fluid to pass through or penetrate a solid; porous, porosity, passable, penetrable.
- **Hydrolysis:** A chemical reaction in which water reacts with another substance to form two or more new compounds.

- **Osmosis:** The flow or diffusion of a fluid through a semi-permeable membrane, initiated by differing concentrations of that solution on each side of the membrane. It should be noted that osmosis does not occur through a membrane where the solution exists only on one side. The membrane, or material, must first be permeable for osmosis to occur.
- **Permeate:** To pass through pores or interstices.
- **Semipermeable:** Partially but not freely or wholly permeable; of or constituting a natural or artificial membrane that is permeable to some, usually small molecules (as of water or inorganic salts) but bars the passage of other, usually larger particles.





















































































