



# **How to Repair TPO**

Thermoplastic Polyolefins

GLOBAL THERMOPLASTIC SOLUTIONS

# **TPO Repair Guide**

For non-painted, painted and high gloss surfaces

# Hole and Crack Repair - textured, non-painted surfaces

#### Use to repair:

- Holes
- Deep scratches or gouges
- Small to medium dents
- Tears

### Step 1: Preparation

- Identify the damaged area.
- Thoroughly clean surface with a soft brush and water or gentle cleanser such as Simple Green.



- Ensure all dirt and grim is removed from the valleys of the textured surface.
- After cleaning, ensure surrounding area is free of moisture. You may want to wipe with isopropyl alcohol to ensure dryness.



### Step 2: Gather Supplies

- Recommended list of items to complete your repair:
  - o Plastic extruder
  - o Propane torch with wide tip nozzle
  - o Silicon
  - o 80 grit sand paper
  - o Tape
  - Flat piece of metal or cardboard



### Step 3: Make a Silicon Texture Impression

- Using a common silicon is necessary for acquiring the appropriate texture to surface.
- Apply silicon to the textured surface near the damaged area.
  You are going to make a texture impression to apply to the damaged area once repaired.
- Use a piece of paper to flatten the silicon for quicker drying time.



### Step 4: Repair of Extreme Damage with Molten Plastic

- If damage is severe, fill area with molten extruded plastic.
- If just severely scratched, this is not required. Skip to Step 5.
- Use the flat piece of cardboard or metal to support the underside of the damaged area.
- Allow at least 30 minutes of cure time before proceeding to the next step.





#### Step 5: Sanding

- Sand the area thoroughly with the 80 grit sandpaper.
- Damage to the surrounding surface is tolerable as this repair will also restore the outer areas that you have sanded.
- Once sanded smooth, clean up the area with water or isopropyl alcohol to remove all loose shavings.
- Blow of any remaining dust with an air compressor if you can.





### Step 6: Apply Texture to Damaged Area

- Ensure the silicon is completely dry from step 3.
- Use a torch to heat the repaired surface. Keep torch 5-8 inches from sanded area.
- Once surface has become shiny from the heat, place silicon imprint onto the surface.
- Press firmly to transfer grain properly (check print for matching grain direction properly).
- This may take two or three attempts to acquire the appropriate texture and appearance. If surface does not match properly, reheat the surrounding area again and quench it with water.



# Hole and Crack Repair - Painted Surfaces

#### Use to repair:

- Holes
- Deep scratches or gouges
- Small to medium dents
- Tears

### Step 1: Preparation

- Identify area to be repaired.
- Thoroughly clean with water or a standard cleaner, like Simple Green.



### Step 2: Sanding

- Sand area surrounding damaged area using a sander and 180 grit disc.
- Sand outer edges of repair area to round off any sharp edges.
- After sanding, wipe with a clean, dry rag and blow off any dust with compressed air.





### Step 3: Apply Patch Material

- Apply 3M Automix Polyolefin Adhesion Promoter (5907) following the 3M label directions.
- After the promoter dries, apply the 3M Automix EZ Sand Flexible Parts Repair (5887) following the 3M label directions.





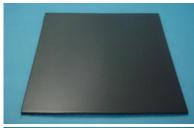
### Step 4: Sanding

- After the patch has cured properly, sand with 180 grit sandpaper, followed by 240 grit, the 400 grit until the damaged surface is level.
- Apply Red Spot 499S Adhesion Promoter or NB Coating HP-21054-HSRG Adhesion Promoter.
- The repaired area is now ready for painting.



### Step 5: Painting

- Prime part (part in photo primed with DuPont IMRON 2K Flexible Gray Primer (373-P-23290).
- Paint part with desired paint (part in photo painted with PPG Concept DCC Acrylic Urethane White).
- Note: when using this repair method, you must paint the entire panel or part that is damaged unless there is a molding or body line that will allow mask lines to be hidden.





### Repair of Minor Scuffs and Scratches on High Gloss TPO

#### Use to repair:

- Minor scuffing and scratches
- High gloss TPO surfaces

### Step 1: Clean the Surface

 Clean surface with soap and water to remove dust, grime, dirt or grease.



#### Step 2: Sanding

#### For minor scuffing:

• Lightly polish the area in a circular motion with 3M 281Q Polishing Paper.

#### For minor scratches:

- Lightly sand area with 3M 600/800 grit wet/dry sandpaper.
  This should visibly reduce most of the scratch.
- Lightly sand with 3M 1500/2000 grit polishing paper. This should visibly reduce the rest of the scratch.
- Lightly polish the area in a circular motion with 3M 281Q Polishing Paper.

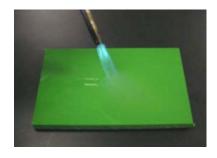


#### Step 3: Wash Surface

• Wash sanded surface with mild soapy water or isopropyl alcohol.

### Step 4: Apply Torch to Surface

- Apply localized heat with a hand-held propane torch.
  - Be sure to keep flame in constant motion over sanded area.
  - Be careful not to apply heat too close to surface as this will degrade and damage the surface. Hazing can occur in areas of overheating.
- Continue applying heat to area until surface briefly appears "wet". This indicates the surface was momentarily melted and recovered.



# Step 5: Finishing Spray

- Slight hazing may occur on dark colored samples. If this happens, apply a light coating of 210 plastic cleaner/polish by Armada Coatings.
- With a clean, soft cloth, wipe and buff dry to acquire a clean, bright, lustrous finish.



The information provided is for general use and should be verified with your particular adhesive vendor. Specific application requirement must be considered individually to ensure bonding performance.



# CUSTOM EXTRUSION SOLUTIONS

TPO | ABS | Acrylic | ASA | PC/ABS | Soft-touch

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