

RE-DECKING | HELPFUL HINTS

Re-decking your pontoon is a fairly simple and straight-forward process if you do the following:

- Use high quality marine re-decking grade products.
- Have a dry location to put the deck and carpet on. The deck must be completely dry for the glue to adhere properly.
- The glue must cure above 65 degrees for 24 hours.
- Installing carpet on a lower humidity day will speed the curing process of the glue.

Before you start to tear your pontoon down:

- Take a lot of pictures to show later where everything is located and routed.
- Draw a diagram with precise measurements...a few extra minutes here can keep cables and wiring from falling short when you reassemble.
- Take measurements of where the railing is located on the deck.

After you remove the furniture, railing and deck:

- Replace the under-deck wiring. After the wiring has been moved around, any place you have connections under the deck is likely to be corroded, not making a good connection anymore. Save some headaches down the road and replace it all.
- Running the wire now will allow you to make sure all rub points are properly protected, and will be easier to work on.
- Check all your under-deck hardware and make sure it is tight. Be sure to pay close attention to the transom area, as it is where most loose bolts are found.
- Look your cross-members over and make sure they are in good condition.
- Look over the welds on the tubes, finding a crack now will ease the repair process.

When installing the new deck:

- Beginning at the back, lay all the sheets of plywood on the deck, making sure they are square and properly centered on the cross-members.
- Snap chalk lines where you will be installing fasteners.
- Install the fasteners in the plywood on the cross-member where the plywood is NOT butted together first. This process will help you to make sure the plywood does not move when you install the fasteners on the joint.

- If you are using elevator bolts, use at least three on each cross-member where the sheets are butted together and two on the center cross-members. Adding more elevator bolts is better.
- If you are using self-tapping screws, use at least five on each cross-member where the plywood is joined together and four on the center cross-members.

When installing the carpeting:

- Roll your new marine carpet out on your clean and dry deck back to front, making sure it is long enough. Roll it up neat and straight, and then set it aside.
- Using a 1/8" notched trowel begin applying glue...start at the back of your deck. If possible, apply your glue out of direct sunlight. This will make your project much easier. If you are gluing in direct sunlight, it is recommended you apply glue to only ½ of your deck at a time. If you are in indirect sunlight and you have some "extra hands", don't be afraid to apply glue to your whole deck at once. We recommend a good heavy coat, usually 2 gallons on a 16' deck, and 2-½ or 3 gallons on a 20' deck. *
- After the glue is on, depending on the temperature, you will see a slight change in color to a little darker tan. This is when you want to roll out your carpet. **Do Not** put your carpet on too quickly, and make sure the slight color change happens before laying your carpet (the color change is a result of the water leaving the glue).
- Put your carpet down starting at the rear of the deck (the edge of the carpet should go to the edge of the wood). Roll it out straight and flush with an edge. Keep it tight as you roll it out. If you have any wrinkles, work them out by pulling with your hands to the front.
- Staple the carpet across the back, keeping to the edge so the staples will be covered by the aluminum edge cap. We recommend stainless steel staples if they can be found to fit your staple gun. If not, use what you can, and make sure the staples can be covered.
- Go to the front and pull the carpet tight. When everything looks straight and flush, roll your roller over the entire carpet so that you have complete glue to carpet contact. It is best to use some type of roller...floor rollers are best, but you can find something in the garage or even the kitchen (rolling pin) that will work.
- When you are finished rolling your carpet, staple the rest of the edges and trim off any excess tight to the edge of the plywood.
- Please do not allow your freshly carpeted deck to get wet or rained on for at least 24 hours (longer if done in cooler weather).**

* *The carpet glue that we sell is formulated for Syntec marine carpet. It assures you of a quality product with no worry of chemical compatibility.*

** *Please read the information specified on your glue container.*

Reinstalling railing and edging:

- This is where all those pictures and dimensions you took earlier will pay off.
- Install the edge cap on first. This will ensure your railing is located properly as it is easier to measure from.
- Set the entire rail on the deck and get it aligned and in position, then clamp it place so it does not move when drilling the deck for the new fasteners. This would be a good time to set the furniture back on the deck and double check fitment before you drill holes in the deck for the railing.
- Be sure to place a piece of cardboard behind drill chuck to protect railing from scratches.

Installing the Furniture:

- Set all the furniture on the deck and fasten it down. Using new stainless fasteners with fender washers is recommended.

Closing Note:

- After reinstalling the steering and throttle shift cables, re-inspect your pontoon, turn wheel completely to the left and right to make sure engine turns smoothly. This is to make sure that everything is working properly before you launch...this is also a safety measure.