



500 Westridge Drive  
Watsonville, CA 95076-4100



# West Marine® Boater's Painting Guide



Offered Exclusively Through  
**West Marine**  
**1-800-BOATING (262-8464)**



**IMPORTANT CONSUMER AND  
TECHNICAL SERVICE INFORMATION**

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## Boater's Painting Guide

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# 1 Introduction to Paints

## What Antifouling Paint Does

Antifouling bottom paints reduce or eliminate marine growth that develops on boat bottoms.

## Three Forms Of Bottom Fouling

Bottom paints are formulated to control three types of growth: **Animal, Plant and Slime**. **Animal** growth includes hard growth such as barnacles that attach to static, smooth surfaces, like the bottoms of boats. **Plant fouling** such as weeds also attaches to static surfaces, especially near the waterline where the temperature is higher and sunlight abounds. **Slime fouling** is created by algae that settle in a self-made syrupy medium. This medium attracts other growth and results in overgrown, slow and ugly bottoms.

## How Antifouling Paint Works

Antifouling paints contain at least one chemical agent to hinder or eliminate unwanted underwater growth. Most contain copper compounds combined with other substances for particular characteristics.

## Hard Antifoulings

Hard antifouling paints leach biocide (usually cuprous oxide) upon contact with water to prevent marine growth. In general, the duration of effectiveness of hard antifouling paint depends upon the amount of biocide it contains. As the boating season wears on, the percent of biocide decreases with a corresponding loss of antifouling protection. Compared to ablative antifouling paint, hard antifouling paint requires more sanding at haulout in order to avoid the successive buildup of spent layers of paint which eventually must be removed. In addition, hard antifouling paint oxidizes and loses its effectiveness when exposed to air—so it is not a good choice for trailered boats or boats that are hauled and stored for the winter. Hard antifouling paints which contain a relatively low amount of copper such as **BottomShield with CCT**, due to their relatively low cost, are popular with boaters who paint their boats every year and who do not mind having to sand—or in the absence of sanding, the buildup of spent layers of antifouling paint over the years. Hard antifouling paints that are more heavily loaded with cuprous oxide, while they cost more, are preferred by boaters who wish to keep their boats in the water continuously over successive years.

## Ablative Antifoulings

Unlike hard antifouling paint which remains on the boat after leaching out its biocide, ablative antifouling paint “ablates” or wears away much like a bar of soap. While it wears away, it releases fresh biocide at a controlled rate—and in doing so, is able to use less biocide more effectively than hard antifouling paint. The controlled wearing away of ablative paints also results in far less sanding needed at haulout. **Copolymer ablatives**, such as **PCA Gold Antifouling Paint with Irgarol** do not lose their effectiveness when exposed to air. This enables boats to be painted in the fall prior to winter layup and safely launched at the beginning of the boating year. This also makes copolymer ablative paint a good choice for trailered boats and vessels stored out of the water for extended periods.

A single-season alternative to copolymer ablatives such as **PCA Gold** is **CPP Antifouling Paint with CCT**, which offers the advantage of controlled wearing, but unlike copolymer ablatives, loses its effectiveness when exposed to air.

## Copper-Free Antifouling: CFA Eco

In response to growing concerns regarding the effect of copper-loaded antifouling paint on the marine environment, viable alternatives have been developed. Foremost among them is West Marine’s dual-biocide **CFA Eco Copper-Free Antifouling Paint** which instead of cuprous oxide utilizes the recently developed, biodegradable **ECONEA** biocide along with zinc omadine to combat hard and soft growth. With a water-based, low-VOC formula, **CFA Eco** offers easy cleanup and no heavy solvent smell. In addition to its benign effect on the environment, the copolymer ablative formula of **CFA Eco** also offers the advantages of the ablative antifoulings mentioned above.

## EXAMPLES:

<b>Ablative</b>	<b>Copolymer</b>	<b>Hard Antifouling</b>
<i>West Marine</i> <b>CPP</b>	<i>West Marine</i> <b>PCA Gold</b>	<i>West Marine</i> <b>BottomShield™ CCT</b>
<i>Interlux</i> <b>Micron CSC™</b>	<i>West Marine</i> <b>CFA Eco</b>	<i>Pettit</i> <b>Unepoxy PLUS</b>
<i>Pettit</i> <b>Hydrocoat</b>	<i>Interlux</i> <b>Micron Extra</b>	<i>Interlux</i> <b>Ultra</b>
<i>Pettit</i> <b>Horizons</b>	<i>Pettit</i> <b>Hydrocoat SR</b>	<i>Pettit</i> <b>Trinidad SR</b>

## 2 Which West Marine Bottom Paint Should I Select?

**Compatibility Index:** See chart on page 10.

### **BOTTOMSHIELD™ CCT—Your Economical Choice!**



Now formulated with **CCT**—Composite Copper Technology—our best selling antifouling paint just got better! Less harmful to the environment than traditional copper-heavy formulations, this paint packages its copper biocide around inert pellets for identical antifouling with 25% less copper released into the environment. And just like the original, **BottomShield CCT** will keep your hull clean without cleaning out your wallet!



#### **Antifouling Index:**

Use in waters where fouling conditions are: **LIGHT TO MODERATE**

### **CFA ECO —Copper Free Ablative**



Better-for-the-environment CFA Eco combines metal-free ECO-NEA™ biocide with Zinc omadine, a slime fighting agent, to provide dual-biocide, multi-season protection. Innovative technology replaces the noxious solvents found in most bottom paints with water, for easier application and clean-up, with low VOCs and no heavy solvent smell. This copper-free formula can be safely used on all substrates including aluminum.



#### **Antifouling Index:**

Use in waters where fouling conditions are: **LIGHT TO SEVERE**

## PCA GOLD—Premium Ablative Antifouling Paint



Combines the slime blocking power of Irgarol with controlled copolymer antifouling paint technology to provide long lasting, full-strength defense against fouling organisms. **PCA** incorporates Irgarol with cuprous oxide to achieve complete protection against shell, weed and slime fouling. **PCA** offers multi-season protection without paint buildup.



### Antifouling Index:

Use in waters where fouling conditions are: **LIGHT TO SEVERE**

## CPP™ with CCT—The Economical Ablative



Now formulated with CCT—Composite Copper Technology—this antifoulant offers season-long antifouling protection with 35% less copper released into the environment. The “self-polishing” formulation wears away, releasing fresh biocides as the boat moves through the water, providing excellent protection with minimal paint buildup. Effective in salt or fresh water and compatible with most previously painted surfaces in good condition. For best performance, one or two coats per season are recommended.



### Antifouling Index:

Use in waters where fouling conditions are: **LIGHT TO MODERATE**



## ANTIFOULING OUTDRIVE SPRAY PAINT

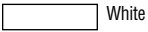
Antifouling OutDrive Spray Paint, with a zinc pyri-thione biocide, is designed for use on aluminum outdrives, aluminum outboards and aluminum hulls. Ideal for use in fresh, salt and brackish water. In general, antifouling paints containing cuprous oxide are not compatible with aluminum, due to galvanic corrosion caused by the reaction between dissimilar metals.

# 3 West Marine Topside Paint

## SEAGLOSS™ PRO—Non-Skid Paint



**SeaGloss Pro** features a new formula for improved color stability and abrasion resistance. This enamel uses polymetric beads to create a non-skid surface ideal for boat decks, trailers and dock surfaces. **SeaGloss Pro** is highly resistant to strong chemicals, cleaning solutions and alcohol and dries to a hard protective coating with excellent color retention and long life.



White



Off White



Gray

## SEAGLOSS™ PRO—Polyurethane Topside Paint



**SeaGloss Pro** is a 21st Century polyurethane single-part topside paint, improved with additives to form a brilliant, long-lasting shine and to protect against the harsh UV radiation of today's boating environment. Polyurethane ensures superior durability, gloss and color retention, all in an easy to use formulation.

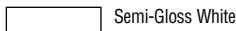
The result is the finest finish available that is both easy to apply and produces a long-lasting gelcoat-like brilliance with a minimum of effort.

### Compatibility Index:

Can overcoat any properly prepared existing topside paint in good condition.



White Gloss



Semi-Gloss White



Off White



Black



Navy

## SEAGLOSS™ PRO PRIMER—*One-Part Topside Primer*

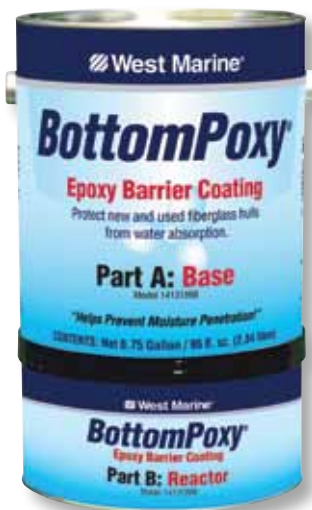


**SeaGloss Pro One-Part Primer** is an excellent all-purpose single-part primer. SeaGloss Primer contains anti-corrosive pigments to help fight the destructive effects of the marine environment.

**Applications:** Above the waterline on all fiberglass, metal and wood surfaces.

**Color:** White

## BOTTOMPOXY—*Two-Part Epoxy Barrier Coating*



### **BottomPoxy Barrier Coat System**

Reliable blister protection at an eye-popping price! This two-part epoxy barrier coat provides an excellent defense against blister-causing moisture seeping into your hull. Use to prevent and/or repair blistering on fiberglass, new hulls and old. Must be applied over a bare hull surface. Kit includes parts A and B which are mixed in a 3:1 ratio to make one gallon of epoxy.



### **THINNER**

All-purpose, fast evaporating, aromatic hydrocarbon solvent for use with all West Marine Bottom Paints, Topside Paints and Primers.

Also use to dewax new fiberglass hulls.

# 5 How Much Paint Do I Need?

## Paint Quantity Estimate

Boat Type & Size	Bottom Paint*	Topside Paint*
10' Dinghy	1 Quart	1 Quart
14' Outboard	1-2 Quarts	1 Quart
18' Runabout	2 Quarts	2 Quarts
20' Sailboat	1 Gallon	2 Quarts
24' Runabout	1 Gallon	2 Quarts
30' Sailboat	1.5 Gallons	1 Gallon
32' Cruiser	1.5-2 Gallons	1 Gallon
36' Auxiliary	2 Gallons	2 Gallons
40' Cruiser	2.5 Gallons	2.5 Gallons

\* Bottom paint and topside paint estimates assume two coats of paint. All quantities are approximate. For CPP<sup>®</sup>/PCA where three coats are recommended, add 50% to bottom paint estimate. For primers, buy same amount as needed for topcoat of antifouling or topside paint.

# 6 How Do I Prepare The Surface And Apply The Paint?

Always follow all product label instructions when painting your boat. Observe the following additional tips:

## PREPARATION

1. The longevity of your bottom paint job depends upon proper preparation. For new fiberglass hulls that have not been previously painted, you may want to apply an epoxy barrier coat. This will prevent the occurrence of osmotic blisters—a discussion of which is beyond the scope of this pamphlet. If you decide to forego the barrier coat, first dewax the surface with an appropriate solvent wash such as **West Marine Thinner**. NOTE: Most new fiberglass hulls have residual mold release wax on them which prevents proper adhesion of bottom paint if not removed first. Next, sand the entire surface with 80 grit sandpaper. This will provide the “tooth” bottom paint needs to mechanically adhere to the surface. After sanding, remove residue and remaining contaminants by again wiping down with one of the solvents mentioned above. An alternative to sanding is to use a chemical sanding agent, such as **Pettit Skip Sand Primer** or **Interlux Fiberglass No Sand Primer**. Chemical sanding, while optional for polyester gelcoat, is recommended for vinylester gelcoat and other blister-resistant gelcoats for which mechanical sanding is forbidden.

2. Determine the compatibility of the new paint to the existing paint. If not compatible, completely remove the existing paint by mechanical sanding, chemical stripping or a combination of both. Old paint must also be removed to the original surface if cracked, loose, blistered or peeled or if there is a buildup of more than four coats. After removing the old paint, perform a final sanding with 80 grit sandpaper and follow up with one of the solvent washes mentioned above. If the existing paint is stable and compatible with the new paint, sand the entire surface with 80 grit sandpaper and follow up again with one of the solvent washes mentioned above. **NOTE: Sanding can be done wet or dry. When dry sanding, be sure to protect your respiratory system with, at the very least, a particulate respirator or such as 3M's 8210, N95 or 8511. Disposable coveralls, head sock, shoe covers and safety glasses are also recommended.** Additional guidelines for the safe application of antifouling paint appear at the end of this pamphlet.

## PAINTING TIPS

The following guidelines should be followed for best results with your West Marine paints:

1. Only paint when the right conditions are present. Temperature: 50-85°F (10-30° C). Humidity: Greater than 65% may slow drying. Do not paint in direct sunlight or high winds. Painting surface must be dry and free of all dust, oil, rust, contaminants and loose material.
2. Always mix paint thoroughly before applying, and occasionally during application.
3. Apply by brush or roller. Spraying antifouling paint is for pros only.
4. West Marine paints are formulated to be ready to apply without thinning. However, due to weather or other conditions, thinning may be necessary. After thinning, the paint should easily brush out to a thin, very even coat.

## BOTTOM PAINT APPLICATION

1. Prime new hulls or seasoned hulls stripped to gelcoat with a quality barrier coat. If painting over old bottom paint, first check the compatibility of the new paint with the preexisting old paint.
2. Apply bottom paint as recommended on product label. Do not try to stretch paint by applying too thinly, as this may result in premature antifouling failure due to inadequate thickness.
3. In areas of high turbulence such as the bow, rudder and leading edge of the keel extra coats are advised.
4. For best results, always apply two coats of conventional antifouling paint. For **CPP™** and **PCA**, three coats of antifouling paint are recommended.
5. All West Marine bottom paints are formulated to cover approximately 400 sq. feet per gallon at the recommended thickness level. Refer to the chart on the previous page for estimating the amount of paint and thinner you may need for your job.
6. Launch boats painted with **CPP™ & BottomShield CCT** no earlier than 24 hours and no later than 60 days after painting. For **PCA Gold & CFA Eco**, the launch window is indefinite. Paint in good condition will reactivate upon relaunch.

*(Continued on next page)*

## TOPSIDE PAINT APPLICATION

1. Prime as necessary with **West Marine SeaGloss Pro** One-Part Primer.
2. In any painting job, applying two thin coats produces a better finish than applying one thick coat. Heavy coats may not dry properly.
3. Allow a minimum of 24 hours between coats. Sand lightly and clean between coats.
4. Thin only as necessary to achieve a smooth coat that flows easily. Can be thinned for spray application.
5. **West Marine SeaGloss Pro** One-Part Primer is compatible with, and can be applied over, any other topside paint on the market. Nevertheless, always apply to a test patch area to ensure adhesion and compatibility.

# 7 Is This Bottom Paint Compatible With My Old Paint?

## Bottom Paint Compatibility Chart

New Paint To Apply	OLD PAINT TO REMOVE				
	Modified Epoxies	Ablatives	Vinyl Paints	Sloughing Paint	Thin Film Paint
West Marine <b>BottomShield</b>	Sand & Paint	Sand & Paint	Sand Well	Remove	Remove
West Marine <b>CFA Eco</b>	Sand & Paint	Sand & Paint	Sand Well	Remove	Remove
West Marine <b>CPP</b>	Sand & Paint	Sand & Paint	Sand Well	Remove	Remove
West Marine <b>PCA</b>	Sand & Paint	Sand & Paint	Sand Well	Remove	Remove

**Note:** Above product names are all trademarks of the respective company of manufacture. Do not use West Marine Antifouling paint on Aluminum.



# What Safety Precautions Should I Take? 8

All antifouling bottom paints contain biocides to retard the growth of marine flora and fauna. These biocides are registered pesticides, and are regulated by most states and by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Therefore, anyone using these products should observe all recommended safety precautions at all times. In addition, bottom paints, primers and topside paints contain solvent vapors which can be health risks if misused. The following rules should be observed:

1. Always follow all safety precautions printed on the label of any paint product.
2. Never use any paints when children or infants are in the immediate painting area.
3. Always wear protective clothing, especially eye and hand protection. Be sure to wash off bottom paint sanding residue, paint or solvents with warm water and soap immediately after the job is completed. NEVER use solvents or paint cleaner to cleanse the skin.
4. Excessive inhalation of paint vapors may be harmful. Always paint in a well ventilated area.
5. Persons working with bottom paints should observe high standards of personal hygiene. Frequent changes of clothing should be made when using antifouling products. Smoking and consumption of food and drink should only be allowed in places set aside for this purpose and away from where any paint or thinner products are being used, and only after personal cleaning operations have been completed.
6. For exposure risks, refer to the following:

**Ingestion:** Food and drink should not be consumed, stored or prepared in areas where paint is stored or being used. In the event of ingestion, induce vomiting and immediately seek medical attention.

**Inhalation:** Adequate ventilation should be used to avoid inhalation of solvents, dust and paint vapors and droplets. Health regulations regarding the use of face masks and other personal protective measures covering removal of dust, fumes and vapors from the work area should be strictly observed. Spray application of bottom paints is recommended only for professionals with properly ventilated work spaces.

**Eye Contamination:** Proper protective eyewear is recommended where the application of paint may result in eye or facial contamination. In the event that paint contacts the eye, flush eyes with cool water for 15 minutes and seek immediate medical attention.

**Skin Contact:** Skin irritation may occur from contact with paint products. All persons involved with application of paint should use proper protective clothing such as gloves, overalls, face guards, masks and eye protection.

**Medical Emergency**  
**800-548-0489**

# 9 How Do Our Bottom Paints Compare To The Other Major Brands?

## Marine Finishes Comparison Chart

Boaters have often used different brands of antifouling bottom paints in different years and want to know how various products manufactured by different paint companies compare.

To assist you in this, please refer to the following Marine Finishes Comparison Chart, which shows comparable paints from the most popular consumer marine paint companies.

West Marine Paint	Interlux Yacht Finishes	Pettit Paint Company
BottomShield CCT	Fiberglass Bottomkote NT	Unepoxy Plus
CFA Eco	Micron CF	Ultima ECO
CPP	ACT	Ultima SSA
PCA Gold	Micron Extra	Hydrocoat SR

*Note: Above product names are all trademarks of the respective company of manufacture.*

West Marine has chosen leading marine paint manufacturers to produce its line of quality bottom paints. These products are manufactured exclusively for West Marine and are formulated to offer excellent performance while remaining value priced.

The West Marine range of antifouling paints and topside finishes are formulated to meet the challenges of the marine environment in both saltwater and freshwater markets.

Whether you are looking for a hard single-season antifouling paint like BottomShield or a boosted, multi-season ablative like PCA, you can be confident that West Marine products will deliver the performance you expect.

West Marine offers the winning combination in marine paints.



For more information see the **West Marine Annual Catalog**, consult a store associate, visit **westmarine.com** or call **1-800-BOATING**

# West Marine®



## OFFERS EVERYDAY LOW PRICES ON PAINTING SUPPLIES

### DON'T FORGET

- Paint Brushes
- Roller Tray and Rollers
- Roller Covers
- Roller Frames
- Paint Mixer
- Plastic Buckets
- Sandpaper
- Masking Tape
- Masks or Respirators
- Goggles
- Coveralls
- Protective Gloves
- Paint Remover/Stripper
- Primer
- Thinner/Wash Solvent
- Scrapers
- Clean-up Rags

**By purchase and/or use of any West Marine product, the user agrees to the following:**

**DISCLAIMER:** The performance of any marine paint or coating depends on many factors outside the control of our company including surface preparation, proper application, and environmental conditions. Therefore, we cannot guarantee this product's suitability for your particular purpose or application. Implied warranties of fitness for a particular purpose and of merchantability are excluded. We shall not, under any circumstances, be liable for incidental or consequential damages. By purchase or use of this product, buyer agrees that the sole and exclusive remedy, if any, is limited to the refund of the purchase price or replacement of the product, at the company's option.