

REFINISHING

After extended periods of use and because of nicks, scratches, scrapes, and exposure to the elements, general wiping off and cleaning may not improve the outward appearance of your hot sticks. Unless the tool is mechanically damaged, this is not a reason to discard it for a new one.

The use of a refinishing kit can restore the finish to new condition with little effort. Because it takes a minimum drying time of 24 hours when using the refinishing kit, downtime on rainy days or inclement weather would be excellent opportunities for refinishing your hot sticks. The HASTINGS Epoxy Refinishing Kit is a two-part system (parts A and B) that is mixed in two equal parts. It is available in “clear” for hot line tools and “white” for refinishing buckets and booms that are also white. The kit comes complete with sand-paper, the two-part mixture, and thinner (to use if necessary for thinning and to clean your brush when finished.)

For the best results when refinishing your sticks it may be necessary to disassemble them. When removing disconnect heads, hooks, and etc., first drive out any roll pins that may be in the head. More than likely it will be necessary to apply a moderate amount of heat to the end of the stick and fitting. This can be done with a heat gun or portable hair dryer. Once you are able to twist the fitting, pull it straight off. Do not pry or bend so that no damage is done to the stick itself.

Once you have your sticks disassembled, sand-paper is used to remove the old finish along with those surface nicks and scratches. Either dry sanding or wet sanding is acceptable.

After sanding the stick thoroughly to remove all dents, scratches, and nicks, clean and dry the stick to remove any dust or other contaminants using a lint-free cloth. A final wiping with a lint-free cloth and a spray cleaning solvent will remove any potential residue.

Once all of your sanding and cleaning has been completed, you are ready to mix parts A and B to begin refinishing:

1. Measure out and mix equal parts of both A and B.
2. Be sure this mixture is thoroughly stirred and directions are followed accordingly.
3. Once mixed, the epoxy finish should be used within a few hours or the hardener in the epoxy will start to setup. (The shelf life of the epoxy kit is indefinite before mixed, as long as the lids are kept on tightly.)
4. A coat of epoxy is now applied to the full length of the tool being refinished. After each coat the tool is then allowed to dry for 24 hours.
5. If desired, additional coats may be applied for a long lasting finish, but they can only be applied after each “24 hour drying period.”
6. This epoxy coating leaves few or no brush marks and provides a hard, tough, moisture-resistant high gloss finish of high dielectric strength and is easily cleaned.

As previously mentioned, this refinishing kit works equally well with aerial devices; such as, buckets and fiber glass booms. Your safety rules, along with the condition of these units will dictate how often this refinishing should be done. Your hot sticks, booms, and buckets are your means of protection – the same as your rubber gloves and sleeves. They should be maintained in first class condition.

Once your epoxy refinishing process has been completed, we again recommend that you apply two (2) coats of Hot Stick, Boom, and Bucket Wax. This slows down the build-up of contaminants, makes them easier to clean and maintain, and will prolong the life of the fiber glass. Never wax without a thorough cleaning.

An additional product we offer at HASTINGS is our Epoxy Patch Kit. This can be used on those small nicks and scratches that sanding did not eliminate.