

Instructions for fitting replacement valves

1. Deflate the tube.
2. Remove or undo the existing valve, if you can remove the outer part of the valve do so, this will then leave you with a hole in the fabric, cut two slits opposite each other on each side of the hole using a sharp craft knife wide enough to remove the inner part of the valve, if you cannot remove the outer part of the valve you should carefully cut the fabric around the outer edge of the existing valve body and remove the complete valve assembly from the tube.
3. Fit the new valve to the new valve doubler by unscrewing the valve body assembly and re-assembling with the valve doubler sandwiching the valve doubler.
4. Lay the assembled valve and valve doubler over the newly created the cut-out of the tube, ensure that the doubler is centred over the cut-out and then mark with a pencil/removable marker around the valve doubler, allowing an additional 5mm overlap around the cut-out.
5. Abrade the rear of the doubler and the marked area around the cut-out with abrasive paper to achieve a 'key' for the adhesive. Do not over-abrade as this could damage some fabrics, e.g. hypalon.
6. Clean/prime the rear of the patch and the marked area, using a clean dry cloth, by wiping with the correct solvent for the fabric of your tube i.e. Toluene solvent (for Hypalon) or MEK solvent or acetone (for PVC/PU fabrics). Wait until the solvent has evaporated. (N.B. with PVC fabrics, it is normal for the area to become 'tacky' when MEK/acetone solvent is applied).
7. Mask the outside of the marked area around the cut-out with removable masking tape to prevent unsightly adhesive 'overspill' when applying the adhesive.
8. Using 2-part adhesive, mix the adhesive as per the instructions that were supplied with the adhesive (read the following steps before mixing the 2-part adhesive as 2-part adhesives generally have short curing times).
9. Using a brush applicator, apply an even, thin coat of adhesive to both the rear of the patch and the masked area, leave to dry for at least 20 minutes, apply a second and third coat, leaving each coat to dry for 2 minutes or until tacky, apply the assembled doubler and valve patch carefully to cut-out (N.B. as adhesives are 'contact' adhesives then it is important to position the doubler patch correctly as it will not be possible to re-position once in place). Smooth down the doubler fabric area around the valve using a seam roller or rounded object (e.g. wallpaper seam roller or screwdriver handle), working from the valve outwards to the edge of the doubler, in order to remove any air bubbles.
10. Remove the masking tape and clean-off any excess adhesive with the correct solvent Toluene solvent (for Hypalon) or MEK/acetone solvent (for PVC/PU fabrics).
11. Place some heavy weight on the fabric surrounding the valve and allow to 'cure' for 24 hours before re-inflating the tubes and/or re-launching the boat.