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ROTOMOLDED PLASTIC HULL REPAIR TECHNIQUES

1. REPAIR TOOLS AND SUPPLIES
2. SMALL HOLES AND CRACKS
3. CRACKED SPIN WELD CAPS AND LARGE CRACKS

1. REPAIR TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

Repairing your plastic sled hull is not difficult, but requires proper preparation and correct tools and supplies. Your sled hull is made from either LDPE, HDPE, or SUPERLINEAR PE plastics. You can make repairs to your sled hull using any of these plastics and they will bond with each other. Do not use CROSSLINK PE, as this plastic does not like to bond to anything except itself, and repair material is not readily available.

Buy a good plastics welder. A good welder can be purchased here:

http://www.urethanesupply.com/Kayak-and-Canoe-Welders-1/Professional-KC-Welder/

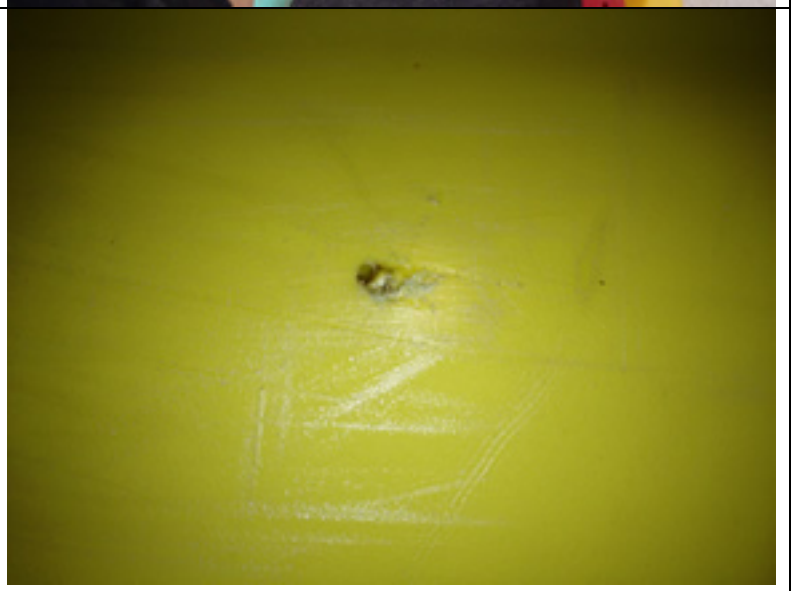
You can also buy plastics filler material close to the color of your sled here as well: It is an LDPE Flat Rod and it works well.

http://www.urethanesupply.com/Polyethylene-1/?pageNum=3

You can also read their kayak repair instructions here:

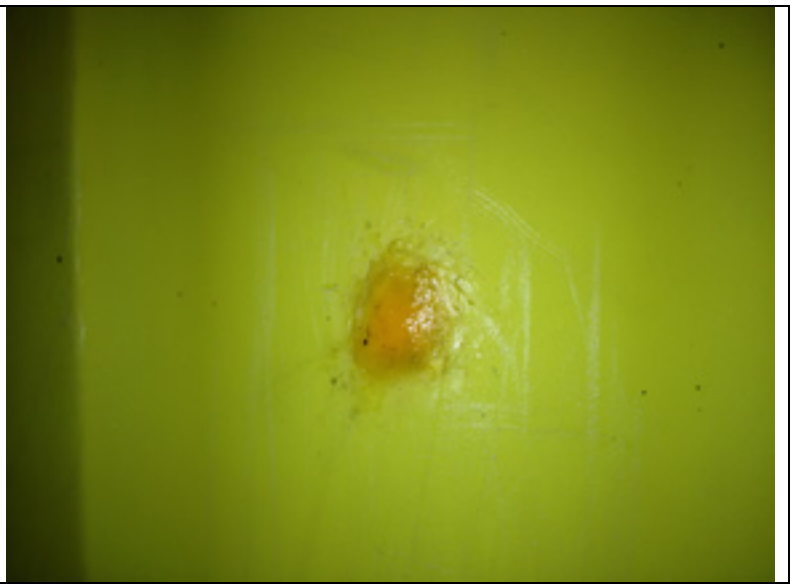
http://www.urethanesupply.com/kcwelder.php

2. SMALL HOLES AND CRACKS

STEP 1: Identify leak area and mark location visually or by filling up sled with water and see where water leaks out	
STEP 2: Remove water, dry sled surface, sand area for repair with some sandpaper, plug in plastics welder to heat it up, use a wire brush to clean the plastics welder tip, and prepare some plastics filler rods to fill the hole or crack.	

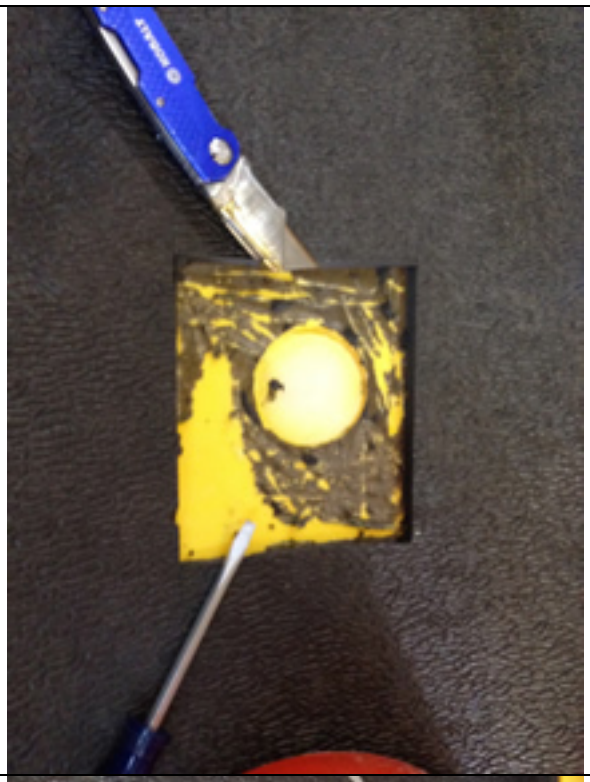
	
STEP 3: Press heated plastics welder against the sled hull at the damaged or cracked surface site. You need to use the welder to melt the sled surface plastic so the filler material will bond properly.	

STEP 4: place filler material stick over small crack or hole, and press against the sled surface with the plastics welder. The welder will melt the filler material against the sled hull material and fill the hole or crack. Repeat this step as many times as needed to properly fill the hole	
STEP 5: Using plastics welder, push the melted plastic around the repair area to smooth the plastic repair and to melt and blend it into the surrounding area.	

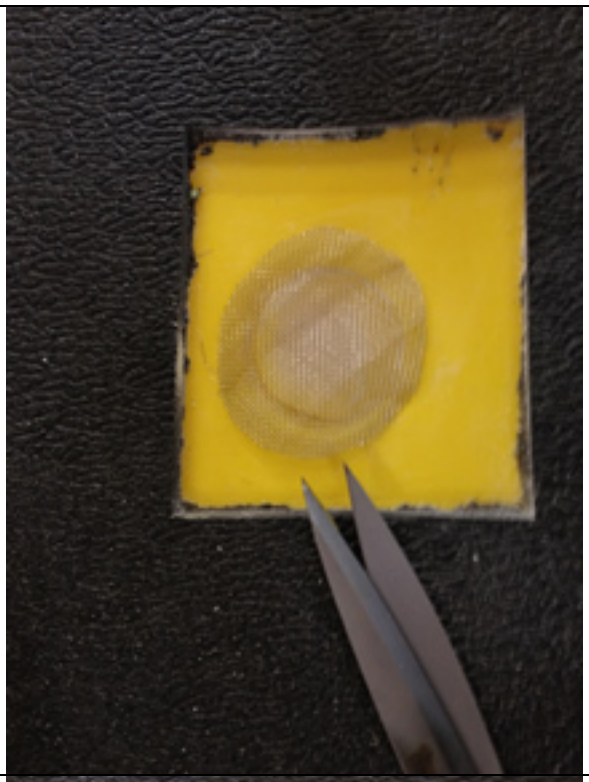
STEP 6: Let the repair area cool completely, and then sand the area smooth. You can take a heat gun or a propane torch, wave the heat or flame over the repair area quickly to polish the plastic. Check your repair by filling the sled up with water again and see if it leaks or if it holds water.	

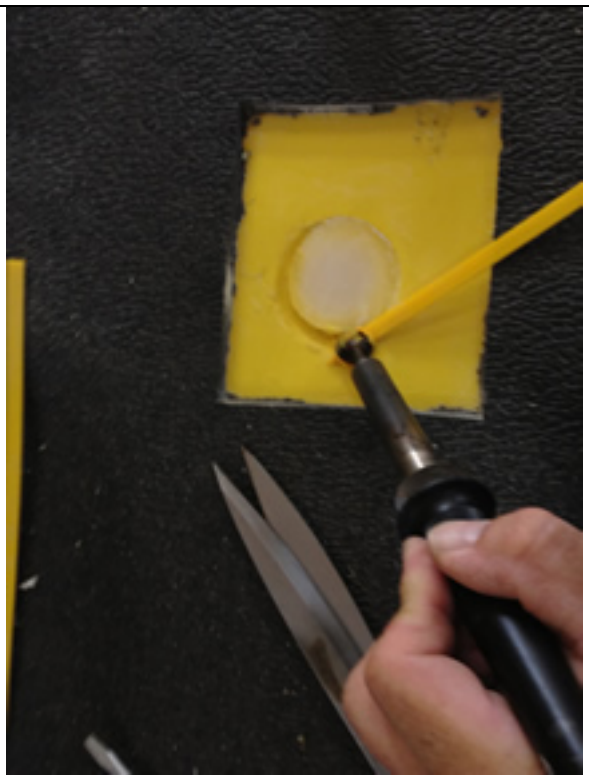
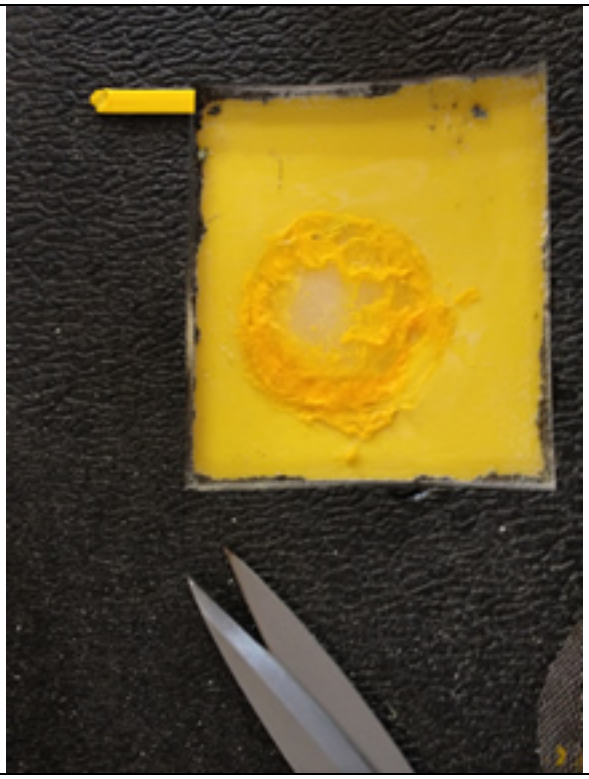
3. CRACKED SPIN WELD CAPS AND LARGE CRACKS

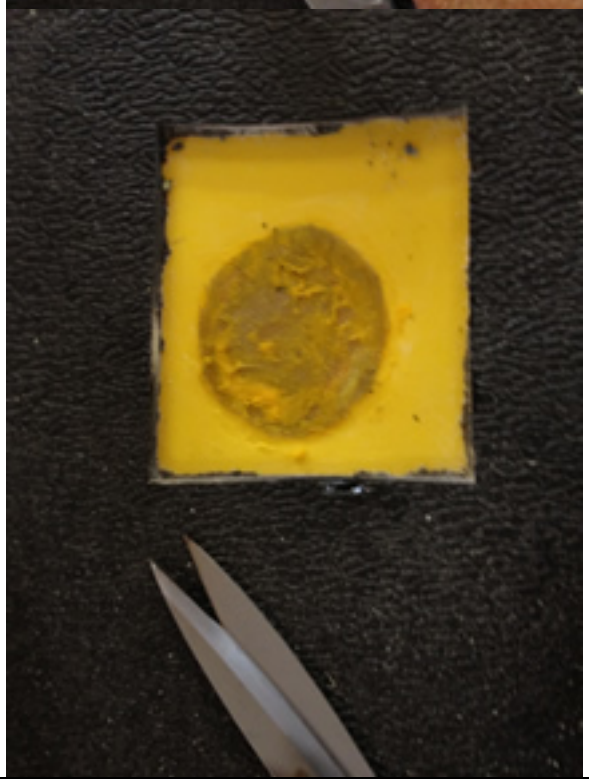
STEP 1: Identify leak area and mark location visually or by filling up sled with water and see where water leaks out	

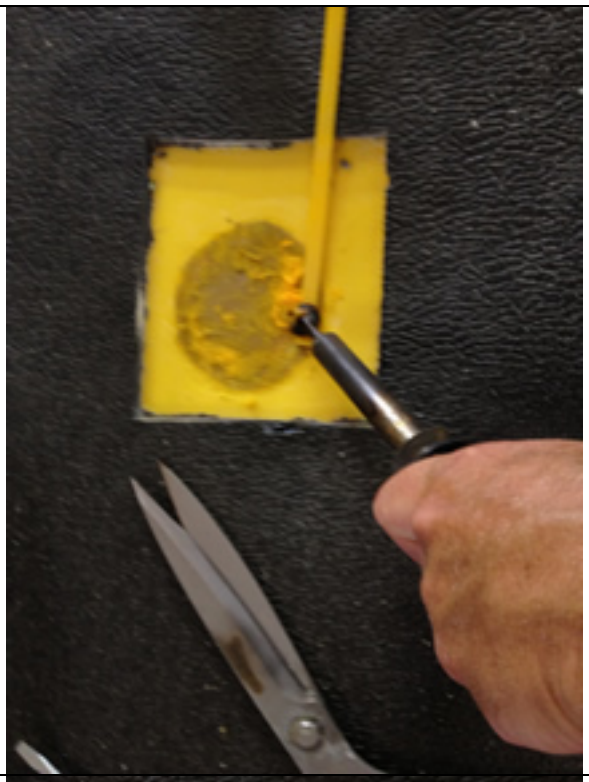
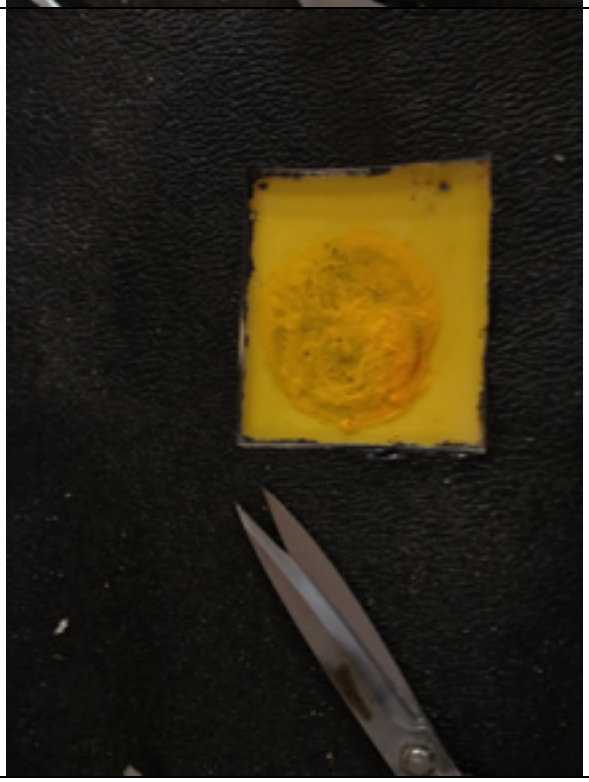
STEP 2: Using a utility knife or blade, cut away deck pad material around damaged site; and, using a paint scraper, flathead screwdriver or chisel, scrape away glue on the plastic surface to expose plastic and prepare a clean repair surface.		
STEP 3: Tools and materials needed- 1. Die grinder or sander to prepare and clean plastic surface for optimum repair material bonding. 2. Plastics welder 3. Stainless mesh screen 4. Plastics filler material 5. scissors		

STEP 4: remove remaining glue residue with a rag and acetone to rub off the glue.		
STEP 5: Using die grinder, grind a V groove along crack or damaged weld. Case# 07445386		

STEP 6: Cut some Stainless Wire Mesh Screen approximately 0.5 inch (1-1.5 cm) larger than crack or repair area.		
STEP 7: Using your preheated welder, press it against the sled plastic surface to melt the damaged plastic area and to optimize the bond of the repair material to the sled surface plastic.		

STEP 8: Apply plastic filler material into V Groove area and Fill the area completely.		
STEP 9: Continue to add filler material to area around damage and melt it in together with the sled plastic surface.		

STEP 10: Press Stainless Screen Mesh Material into the melted plastic.	 	

STEP 11: Continue to add more filler material to completely cover stainless screen material.		
STEP 12: Use Plastics welder to push the melted plastic around and smooth over the entire repair area and melt together with sled surface plastic at the perimeter edges.		

STEP 13: Let plastic repair cool completely, fill the sled up with water and check again for leaks.	
STEP 14: Using Contact Cement, glue the foam deck pad material back into place, or cut a new piece of deck pad material and glue it into place.