



Non-Skid Decks

One of the most common questions we get concerns the cleaning and restoration of the non-skid surfaces on the boats. As with most things, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure and daily washing with a mild soap and elbow grease will go a long way towards keeping the non-skid deck looking ship shape.

Unlike the rest of the gelcoat surfaces on the boat you can't just compound and use wax to protect it, as anyone who has stepped on a waxed floor with a little water on it knows.

What can be done to bring back that shine and sparkle to a dull and stained non-skid surface?

Start off by wetting down the topside to loosen up any dried on dirt and grime. Then wash the deck with a mild soap and deck brush, a section at a time, rinsing as you go, and turning the host on the rest of the deck to keep it wet until you can get to it. This procedure will remove most of what will remove easily and you can assess the situation and decide on your next course of action. The idea here is to use only what is needed to get the job done.

If the deck isn't in too bad condition after the initial washing one of the regular non-skid deck cleaners put out by Meguiar's will do the job and leave a non-slippery, protective coating behind to make future washing easier.

If you have a few stains which are beyond the reach of the over-the-counter solutions you have to find the least offensive chemical to eliminate the stains and then wash the whole deck again with the Meguiar's Non-Skid Deck Cleaner.

A few tips on non-skid maintenance:

1. Keep it clean. If dirt, grime, soot and oil don't have time to soak in and dry they don't become a stain and wash off with little difficulty. Become lax, even a few times, and the stains build up and eventually become nearly impossible to remedy.
2. Never ever, not once, never, DO NOT wear street shoes on a non-skid deck. Now you are saying "Not me, I always wear Topsiders on my boat." Congratulations! Where else do you wear those Topsiders?

The car, into the store, just from the house, to get gas, and breakfast...we get the picture.

A better way to say it would be only wear boat shoes on the boat or go barefoot.