

Catalina 22 Paintjob



I painted this 1970-something Catalina 22 in about 2 days. I painted from the waterline to the rub-rail while doing a little bit of fiberglass filler to patch up some gouges in the hull.

Supplies:

- 1) Rustoleum Marin Topside paint, approx. \$16/quart required 2 quarts -- <https://www.lowes.com/pd/Rust-Oleum-Marine-Coatings-White-Gloss-Enamel-Oil-Based-Marine-Paint-Actual-Net-Contents-32-fl-oz/3200853>
- 2) 220-grit sandpaper, block sand or random orbital, maybe both
- 3) 32-oz X 2 quarts acetone
- 4) 32-oz paint thinner
- 5) 4" foam flat brush X 10 -- <https://www.lowes.com/pd/Project-Source-Foam-Brushes-Foam-Flat-4-in-Paint-Brush/1000464393>
- 6) Foam paint rollers for smooth finish – 8" and 4"
- 7) Shop rags
- 8) Vivid Blue Vinyl adhesive backed, 12" by 10' -- https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01A1M7SSS/ref=oh_aui_detailpage_o06_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1
- 9) Red Vinyl adhesive backed, 12" by 10' -- https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B01A1M7SLK/ref=oh_aui_detailpage_o07_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1
- 10) Painters tape
- 11) Fiberglass filler

The entire project will run between \$100 and \$200 depending on supplies you need for the job. I recommend you do not cut corners on the small stuff, don't risk running out of supplies mid job as you can always use rollers and sandpaper in the future on another project.

Like any painting job, the prep work is the most important and time-consuming part of the project. This boat is a 1970-something Catalina 22'. The gelcoat had faded and many large gouges in the hull and was showing its age. I started with pressure washing the hull, then a light sanding across the entire hull. I wiped down with acetone and rags over the entire boat to remove dust/dirt/wax.

Here is the boat after pressure washing and before the fiberglass repair.



Fiberglass filler and sanding





The first coat used $\frac{3}{4}$ can of paint, then $\frac{1}{2}$ can for the 2nd coat. I did light sanding after the first two coats to knock down the burrs in the paint. I used a large roller for the first two coats, “rolling and tipping” small sections. There are plenty of youtube videos on “rolling and tipping” but the basics work well with two people. One person rolls a small section, while the second person brushes behind the rolled paint to smooth it out.

I found you should not paint the side of the boat which has been in direct sunlight. I have done this in 90+ degree Florida heat/humidity and 60 degrees in Georgia. When the hull has been in direct sun the paint will kick off between rolling and tipping, this leaves more texture in the paint. I would put a tick mark on the tape then paint between marks, this provides a visual mark for painting sections. You should use thinner coats of paint instead of thick coats, as the thick coats will tend of drip and run. Use thinner coats and have a partner tip the paint behind the roller for best results. In warmer temperatures you will want(need) to add paint thinner to help it spread easier and not dry before you could tip it out.

For my 3rd and 4th coats I added a very small amount of paint thinner and used the smaller foam rollers. It flowed better and tipped out well on these last 2 coats. The paint thinner helped spread the paint and help remove brush marks.





Removing the tape is rewarding and usually easy, but I found the aged rubber aluminum rail did not want to let the tape go. It will require more elbow grease and/or acetone to remove the left over blue tape.

I applied the 12" blue vinyl tape and added to the bow. I cut 12" red vinyl down to 4" and applied on the starboard side, then matched the angles on the port side. I have access to a vinyl cutter and was able to create the SeaScoutsAtlanta.Org logo.





Points to consider for doing your own boat, and what I might do different on the next boat:

- 1) Don't rush the prepwork, take your time taping, sanding and cleaning the surface prior to painting.
- 2) Don't paint the side of the boat which has been in direct sunlight. Use paint thinner when needed. Read instructions for the paint you use.
- 3) Time and effort will decide how smooth you want each coat, the "orange peel" look is probably good enough. You can sand and smooth as much as you want between each coat.
- 4) I did not use a primer on this boat, but I suspect a primer coat would be recommended. Which could help for long term to help prevent scratches and scrapes in the paint.
- 5) I painted the hull myself and I'm hoping the scouts will take on the deck next.

-Robert Forrester, Skipper

Sea Scouts Southwinds Ship 100

Canton, Georgia