

1.0 Purpose

To define the proper care of marine grade vinyl, as defined by vinyl manufacturers.

2.0 What is Vinyl

Vinyl's simplest definition is that it is a PVC plastic (like a credit card) with a softening additive called plasticizer. The plasticizer gives the vinyl flexibility & durability.

There is not a true bond between the plasticizer and the plastic so it is always trying to escape. As it escapes the vinyl will degrade more rapidly.

Marine grade vinyls also (usually) contain mold and mildew inhibitors which can also be lost with poor care.

Marine grade vinyls also (usually) contain a top protective coating that can be easily damaged with incorrect care and cleaning.

Proper care of your vinyl will help minimize the release of the plasticizers and prevent premature loss of vinyl quality.

3.0 General routine care

- Sunlight
 - When not in use cover the vinyl
 - Day long sunlight on a covered unit may "burn/discolor" the vinyl. Place unit in an area which sees partial sun/partial shade throughout the day.
- Stains
 - Wrong chemical use can permanently ruin your vinyl – Review the stain removal section before attempting to remove ANY stain from the vinyl.
- Cleaning - Frequency of Use will impact how often cleaning is needed but it is recommended to clean at least every (3) weeks.
 - Warm water and small amount of ivory dish soap. Clean water rinse –or–
 - Vinyl cleaner following the directions for use on the container.
 - Use a soft bristle brush or washcloth

- After cleaning only use a MARINE vinyl treatment product per directions on container.
- Allow to fully dry before covering

4.0 Stain cleaning

- Stubborn stains
 - Formula 409 sprayed on spot and rubbed with damp soft cloth, rinse clean
- Liquid spills
 - Wipe clean immediately with soapy water and rinse.
- Unique stains (I.E. tar, urine, blood, lipstick, etc.)
 - Refer to Morbern care & cleaning solutions ([WE-115](#))
- Never use abrasive cleaners, powdered cleaners, steel wool, hard bristle brushes, wax, citrus cleaners, or other non recommended products.
- General discolorations or mold
 - Clean following routine care & stubborn stains & Unique stains. Leave the dry boat in sunlight for a full day.
 - If persistent the vinyl may have been permanently discolored

5.0 Additional references

- Seasonal storage ([WE-103](#))
- Mold & Mildew ([WE-110](#))
- CSI Unique environmental literature section of web site

6.0 Additional Source Materials

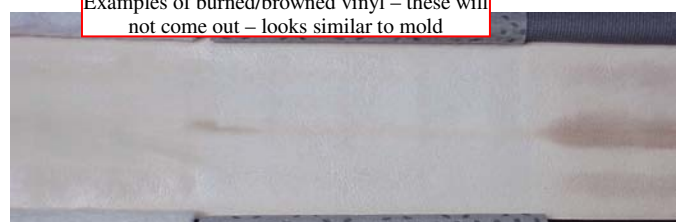
- Morbern.com
- Lakesidecanvas.com



Browning on knit lining of cover – Will not harm vinyl



Discoloration – mold – cleared after day long sun – if left uncared for it could become permanent



Examples of burned/browned vinyl – these will not come out – looks similar to mold