

CHOOSING THE RIGHT FIBERGLASS FABRIC

TYPES OF EVERCOAT POLYESTER RESINS:

FIBERGLASS MAT (100940, 100941, 100945)

Non-woven glass fibers are bonded together to form a mat. The mat is fairly stiff when dry, but is easily wetted out with resin and becomes pliable. When it is wet with resin, mat is particularly good for the first laminate against the gel coat because it is strong and can be easily shaped to complex curves and contours. Each layer of fiberglass mat will provide a thicker and stiffer laminate than fiberglass cloth. Mat is sold by the square foot in various weights from $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce to 3 ounces. For starting out $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce or 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce is most common.

FIBERGLASS CLOTH (100903, 100904, 100906, 100911, 100912, 100917, 100918)

Fiberglass cloth is woven from glass thread. Fiberglass cloth is thinner than either mat or woven roving, therefore, it will take more layers to build-up thickness. A glass cloth laminate equal in thickness to a glass mat laminate will be much stronger because it contains a higher percentage of glass. Consult the “estimating resin and cloth amount” for help when determining the amount of resin and cloth needed for your project.

Because of its woven construction, the glass cloth will be difficult to mold to curved surfaces without wrinkles. Several small cuts must be made in the cloth when applying it to a curved surface so it will lie flat before curing. Glass cloth is sold by the square yard in various weights from 4-12 ounces. Most commonly used weights are 5 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ounces. Glass cloth is available in various lengths in packages for small jobs and in long rolls for larger applications. It comes in widths up to 60”; the wider, of course, requires more skill to work with.

FIBERGLASS TAPE (100920, 100922, 100923, 100924, 100932)

Tape is available in 2” to 12” widths by 50 yards long. It is designed for covering seams, edges and corners. Fiberglass Cloth Tape is not adhesive. It is called tape due to its finished edges preventing the cloth from unraveling. Also, the strips of tape are easier to control during application and wet-out.

WOVEN ROVING (100946)

Woven roving is very heavy woven fabric of untwisted, parallel strands of glass fibers ranging from approximately 16 ounces to 45 ounces per square yard. A high glass to resin ratio is obtained thereby imparting greater strength to large objects such as boats, camper bodies and trucks.

ESTIMATING RESIN & CLOTH AMOUNTS

<u>RESIN</u>	<u>CLOTH</u>
1 Pint Resin	1 Sq. Yard of Cloth
1 1/2 Quarts Resin	1 Sq. Yard of Mat (non-woven matted) 4 oz. resin/oz. mat)
1 Gallon	50 sq. foot of cloth

- This guide is for the first resin coat only!
- Additional coats will use half as much resin per square yard of cloth or mat.
- The additional coats are necessary to hide the fabric pattern.