



Shrink-to-fit covers & marine shrinkwrap



Marine shrinkwrap

Boat shrink wrapping is an easy to learn and low cost way to cover boats of all sizes.

The benefit of protecting boats during delivery or storage is immediately obvious. Tarpaulins or custom covers are used with varying degrees of success; often they won't withstand long periods at road speeds or successive winter storms, coming off and causing damage to the boat.

Boatcoat shrinkwrap is a specially designed marine-grade plastic film which is draped over and heat shrunk tight against the boat.

Unlike a tarpaulin, shrinkwrap fits drum tight so it can't flap around and destroy itself – this is the secret to its durability. Because sheets of shrink wrap can easily be joined together there are no limitations as to the size or shape of boat that can be protected. And unlike a custom-cover, it doesn't have to be expensively stored and maintained every year.

Becoming a Boatcoat installer

Shrink wrapping is a profitable service that complements other marine activities including valeting; storage; boat sales; maintenance and servicing. To establish a shrinkwrap service requires only a small capital investment which is quickly returned.

We work with installers in over 15 countries; what we gain from the arrangement is a 'local' contact who knows the customers or potential customers in their area.

What we offer in return is a top quality product, available from stock at a great price; training and support when you begin; and ongoing support as you take on different work.

Boatcoat supply direct to the marine trade throughout Europe. Our typical customers are: boatbuilders; boat dealers & brokers; boatyards & marinas; and companies who provide maintenance or valeting services.



Dieter Peschkes, Director, Global Yacht Services.



Boatcoat applications



Storage

Shrink wrap is often used for boat storage. Unlike a tarpaulin it won't flap about in the wind and ropes won't chaff your boat.

Shrink wrapping will also provide the following benefits:

- Clean and ready for next time you need it
- Protects teak decks and gelcoat
- No more seagull droppings to contend with!
- Access for maintenance as an option
- Ventilation to suppress mildew
- Minimises depreciation
- Saves you time, effort and money
- Minimises risk of opportunistic theft





Transport

On long road and sea journeys, shrink wrapping prevents damage from extended exposure to heavy weather and road grime. Unlike a tarpaulin, because the shrink wrap fits so tightly, it cannot flap or chafe, which is the secret of it's durability. Whether you are transporting your asset by low-loader, trailer or as deck freight it will become exposed to the elements, environmental factors and other hazards.

Shrink wrapping will provide the following benefits:

- Protection from pollutants e.g. oil, dust etc.
- Protection from rain and spray from wet roads
- Added security from opportunist theft
- Ensures it arrives in the condition it left
- Shows your clients that you care





Repairs

Whilst shrink wrapping services are mainly required to protect boats during road transport and storage the material is often used for creating work shelters and tents.

Shrink wrapping will provide the following benefits:

- Work when you need to and not dictated by weather
- Custom "tent" stretched over a framework
- Added security from opportunist theft
- Protects your asset from external contaminants
- Protects nearby assets from your work, dust etc.
- Can be ventilated for moisture control







Under the 'Tufcoat' brand we also supply coverings to protect industrial items against weather damage during transportation or storage. Our shrink wrap comes in widths up to 14 metres, lengths up to 70m, and since sheets can be easily heat welded together even the largest industrial products can be protected. Tufcoat shrink wrap products are used across a diverse range of industries including aerospace, automotive, oil & gas and rail.

Construction

Tufcoat scaffold wrap is a strong and durable plastic scaffold cladding which is heat shrunk to create a 'drum tight' and tear resistant covering over roofs and façades of any size or shape scaffold structure. Because sheets of Tufcoat are joined together by heat welding, Tufcoat creates a continuous skin around the scaffold structure without the holes or gaps typical of traditional sheeting. This makes Tufcoat highly effective for applications where a high level of containment or weather protection is required.



We weather-proofed a scaffold quicker than if we had used corrugated roof sheeting and traditional scaffold sheeting. We found you to be extremely adaptable and cost effective"

> Martin Forsythe, Director, Pro-Access Scaffolding Limited



Combining the ease of fitting a standard boat cover with the exceptional fit of shrink-wrap, Boatcoat's shrinkable fabric covers can be fitted in just a few minutes! Shrinkable fabric is a unique alternative to conventional shrink-wrap, with a shrink-film outer layer and a non-abrasive, fabric inner layer, it virtually eliminates warranty claims on boat finishes.

It is an ideal solution for boat manufacturers, the cover can be fitted quickly and easily at the factory; stock inventory is easily maintained as there is simply one per boat and no wastage.

At the dealer, the cover can be removed and a complete inspection of the boat carried out, before putting the cover back on for the customer who should get at least two winter seasons storage out of it.

The shrinkable fabric cover is made-to-measure and is easily installed over a boat by one or two people in just minutes.

Shrinkable Fabric Benefits:

- Removes and reinstalls quickly & easily
- Breathable fabric expels moisture
- Soft fabric inner layer protects boat finish
- Reusable, often up to two seasons, can be reheated each year to maintain a tight fit
- No waste



Bruce Fox, Sea Ray Boats





Shrink wrap cost calculator

Metre	Feet	Roll Size	Boats/roll	Cost/boat	Example
5	16	5m x 70m*	11	£18 / €20	
6	20	5m x 70m*	10	£ 20 / €22	
7	23	6m x 60m*	7	£ 28 / €30	
8	26	6m x 60m*	6	£ 33 / €35	
9	30	8m x 50m	5	£ 39 / €42	
10	33	8m x 50m	4	£ 49 / €53	
11	36	8m x 50m	3	£ 65 / €70	
12	40	10m x 40m	2	£ 98 / €105	8
13	43	10m x 40m	2	£ 98 / €105	BRIDGEND BOAL
14	46	10m x 40m	2	£ 98 / €105	
15	49	12m x 50m	2	£ 185 / €198	
16	52	12m x 50m	2	£ 185 / €198	
17	56	12m x 50m	2	£ 185 / €198	
18	59	12m x 50m	2	£ 185 / €198	
19	62	12m x 30m	1	£ 195 / €208	
20	65	12m x 30m	1	£ 195 / €208	
21	69	12m x 30m	1	£ 195 / €208	
22	72	14m x 50m	1	£ 425 / €454	
23	75	14m x 50m	1	£ 425 / €454	
23	7.5	14111 X 50111	ı	2 420 / 6404	

The boat shrink wrap process

Step 1 – To begin, 19mm strapping is run tightly around the boat, normally at or just below the water line to create a 'perimeter band'.

Step 2 — The roll of shrink wrap is placed on a stand at the stern of the boat so that it can be easily unrolled. The shrink wrap is then pulled over the boat to the bow, cut from the roll and unfolded.

Step 3 – A hand held hot air gun is used to heat weld the shrink wrap film around the perimeter band. This is accomplished by flipping the wrap around the strapping applying heat to form a 'weld'.

Step 4 – Once the perimeter band has been 'welded' and any pleats sealed, the entire cover may be shrunk. Begin at the bottom and shrink upward using strokes similar to spray-painting.

Step 5 – Once the cover has been shrunk, use adhesive tape to install zipped access door and apply self adhesive air vents.

Step 6 - The finished job.

Training

A detailed step by step shrink wrapping guide is available free of charge when you purchase a Boatcoat 'start up kit'. Our experience has shown that with this guide and a little practice, the shrink wrapping skills are easily learnt. However, 'on site' training days can be arranged if required.

A typical training session includes;

- Equipment familiarisation setting up and disconnecting the heatgun, hose and regulator.
- Safety Personal, equipment.
- Instruction and practice of key boat wrapping skills heat welding, shrinking, repairing a hole.













Materials & equipment



Heat Gun Powered by propane gas, the heat gun is designed to give a tight, consistent finish to the shrink wrap covering. This tool is very reliable and is supplied with a regulator and 8m hose. We also supply the Ripack 2200 heat gun which has a range of extensions available to allow an operator to safely reach up to 2m. A heat gun extension is essential for shrinkwrapping larger fly-bridge type boats.



Marine Grade Shrink Wrap Roll Choose from 5m, 6m, 8m, 10m, 12m or 14m widths and a range of lengths up to 70m. Films range from 190 microns to 300 microns thick, with added UVI and EVA.



Strapping Reel 600m x 19mm reel. Used to form the 'perimeter band' which is a more robust alternative to taping shrink wrap direct to the hull. Strapping is also used to form a support structure, where required, under shrink wrap covers. Refer to the Boatcoat process and safety guide for alternative shrink wrapping techniques.



Patch Tape Rolls 100mm wide, high tack adhesive, waterproof. Used for repairing small holes and holding seams and large patches in position. For smaller boats, tape can also be used for securing the shrink wrap to the hull of the boat rather than using a perimeter band.



Safety Gloves Essential personal protection equipment when shrink wrapping. Safety gloves are used when using the heat tool, particularly when creating welds and shrinking the cover.



Safety Knifes Designed to safely cut shrink film without scratching the boat.



Gas Cylinder Trolley Using a trolley is safer, less tiring and allows shrink wrapping jobs to be completed quickly. Holds cylinders up to 47Kg.

Mobile Roll Stand / Dispenser The roll stand consists of a spindle which is passed through the centre of a shrink wrap roll which sits on a wheeled frame. It is used to move rolls around the work site and store rolls when not in use. Using a dispenser also allows the wrap to be pulled easily over the boat and prevents the film picking up dusty debris from the ground. Easily disassembled for mobile shrink wrapping operations.



Strapping Dispenser The strapping dispenser keeps strapping clean whilst allowing it to be quickly unwound without knots or tangles.



Air Vent During long term storage vents are used to help eliminate moisture and condensation under a shrink wrap cover by allowing a cross flow of air throughout the cover.



Zipped Access Door These are taped on to the finished shrink wrap cover to enable access to the boat. Three heights are available 0.91m (36"), 1.22m (48") and 1.83m (72"). All are 0.76m wide (30").



Starting your boat shrink wrap service

Boatcoat supply everything you need to provide a boat shrink wrap service to your customers. Our low priced start up kit will easily pay for itself after 4-5 completed shrink wrap jobs. A basic start up kit consists of simply a gas heat gun, a roll of marine grade shrink wrap, woven strapping, self adhesive patch tape, safety gloves and safety knifes, however, a range of equipment is available depending on your exact requirements. All start up kits include step by step instructions plus free telephone / email support. To keep our prices as low as possible we do not include 'on site' training as standard but this can be arranged at an additional cost.

Basic Kit

Heat Gun Safety Gloves Shrink Wrap Roll Strapping Tape Safety Knives

Options

Zipped Door Air Vents Roll Stand Gas Cylinder Trolley Strapping Dispenser



We have inspected the boats you have covered and are pleased with the result which has kept our products 'as new' until time of despatch."

> Bill Barrow, Sales Manager, Princess Yachts International.





As an ISO9001 accredited company and a member of the British Marine Federation, we aim to ensure customer satisfaction. From our warehouses in the UK and Holland, we specialise in supplying shrink wrap materials, accessories and equipment to the European marine trade.

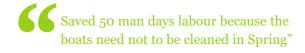
Boatcoat shrinkwrap is specially formulated with additives to prevent degradation by UV or brittling on cold weather. Our flame retardant shrink wrap is classified to ISO EN 13501 with a level of fire resistance that gives it approval by European building regulations for permanent installations.

Each production run is tested for consistency of thickness and shrinkability to ensure that the quality of our product is always maintained. Our quality systems are independently audited by Lloyds Register Quality Assurance.

Environmental concerns?

All Boatcoat shrinkwrap is made in Europe, so it hasn't been transported halfway around the world to get to you. Although shrinkwrap is an oil based product, its carbon impact is small as it is 100% recyclable; after being used on boats, it is highly valued by recycling companies due to it's purity and subsequently gets turned into plastic products like drainpipes – there really is no excuse for it ending up in landfill sites.

It is even used to prevent environmental damage; often being demanded by organisations like the UK Environment Agency to contain dangerous contaminants e.g. Anti-foul dust or shot-blast residue.



Barry Philpott, Powercat



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