

Hello Eddie,

As you know, I have been very happy with my 49

As I was lucky enough to purchase the last teak interior boat you made, I have “dressed up” the teak significantly. (high gloss varnish on all trim, re-finish all flat panels with satin), etc. Along with the custom upholstery etc., the boat looks great.

But.. there was one area that always stood out as less than stellar; that being the stbd aft cabin wall. It was covered with the vinyl foam, which was bulging and wrinkled from day one. Honestly, it looked horrible.



As you can see, there is a lot of wrinkling on the wall, and it is impossible to get rid of. It just moves around like a mid-age bulge.

So, it was time for a change. The first thing I had to do was get rid of my problem, so, off it came.



Ok, so the vinyl marginally looked better... Time to fix that.

First problem to deal with was that the wall was at different levels, and to put on a backing surface, I needed to attach stud points, that could be built up to level with additional shims glassed on.



Nice thing about 5200; it never comes off. Bad thing about 5200.. it never comes off.

With the studs in place, I made a full size template of the wall, and cut 3 pieces of 3/8 marine plywood, with the back side ripped with saw cuts to make it flexible enough to take the hull curve.

I was able then to screw it directly to the core material and the stringers, with adhesive smeared behind it so it wouldn't creak as the boat flexed.

Fitting the backing took some muscle, but it worked quite well.



So, paint or wallpaper? Maybe some Ash planking.

The trick was with a curvature of the hull, and the port window not on true level, how do you put in planking which will not appear askew?

I took the midpoint of the port, subtracted 1", (plank width /2), and lasered a beam on the wall, moving a plank around to determine best optical compromise. Even a 2 degree shift will be dramatic at the ends of a 9 foot plank.



That looks about right. Ok, time to add a few more planks. (hmm,,, I guess now would be a good time to figure out if we actually have enough wood)



So far so good...

And now for the beauty show. Here is how it all worked out.









We spent a lot of time laying out the planks looking for best running match, etc. I believe the result was first rate.

I would like to thank the folks at Hunter for all their help and support with this project. To have a builder that encourages and supports its customers in these sorts of endeavors makes it possible to upgrade and enhance them to extra-special status.

I would ask if you have a gallery of customer upgrades to please include theses photos. As well, should you wish to offer this as an option on the 50, I can supply jpeg files.

Lastly,,, a cost saving suggestion. In the course of this renovation, I needed to pull down the overhead curved headliner structure. Firstly, really nice piece of work. It is incredibly solid, with the gusset, curved ply, and laminate glue-up. The point is.. this is a fairly pricey piece of carpentry. Now that you have the form of it, lay it up in glass, and just cover it with the vinyl. You will save a bundle in labour. Just a thought.

Best regards,

Arthur Boas