

by **Thinkenstein** on June 21, 2009

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## intro: PATCHING RUBBER WORK GLOVES

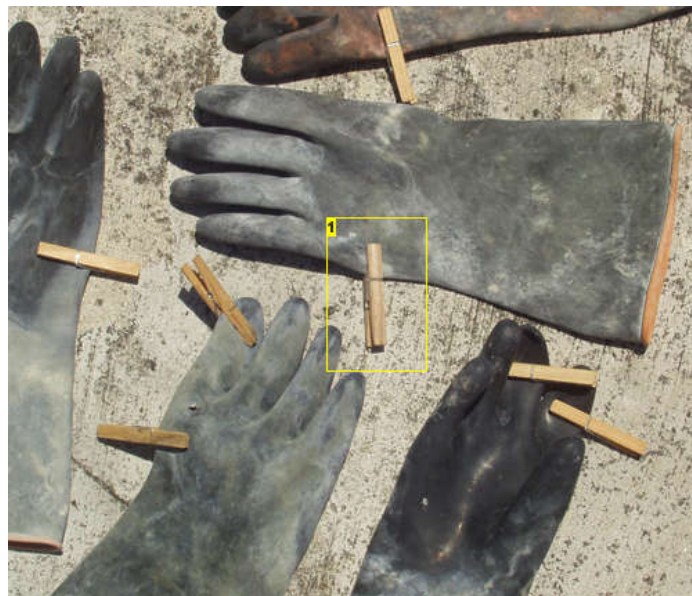
I do a lot of construction work with cement and need to protect my hands with rubber work gloves. Invariably there are accidents, where the gloves snag and tear on wires, or sharp areas of cement. Leaks in the gloves are not good, because cement can dry out and eat little holes in your skin.

When one glove in a set goes bad, I use the remaining good glove in combination with other remaining good gloves. The bad gloves eventually get repaired or thrown away. This instructable shows the way I repair them.



### Image Notes

1. See how the glue foams up and expands.



### Image Notes

1. Clothespins temporarily help mark the holes.

## step 1: CLEAN THE AREA

To get glue to stick to anything, you need to get the surface clean. I use sandpaper to clean the area around areas to be patched.



## step 2: CUT THE PATCH

Some gloves are beyond repair, but still good for donating patch material. Flat patches can be cut from the cuff area. Finger tip patches can be cut from the thumb, or fingers larger than the diameter of the finger to be patched.

Remember to clean the patch with sandpaper also where the glue needs to stick.



## step 3: SELECT YOUR GLUE

After experimenting with the other glues I have, this is the glue I use now. To avoid promoting a commercial product, the name of it escapes me at the moment -- Ape glue, or something like it.

I have tried contact cement, rubber cement, epoxy, and silicone without great success. This stuff sticks well, is waterproof, and has some flexibility, but nothing is perfect. This glue foams up some, expanding when it hardens.

If the hole to be repaired is in an area of the glove that is used for spreading cement (edge of the palm), you might want to cover the patch with a piece of wax paper and hold it in place while the glue expands and hardens. That way the glue will harden up flat. The wax paper can later be removed.



#### **step 4: APPLY THE GLUE**

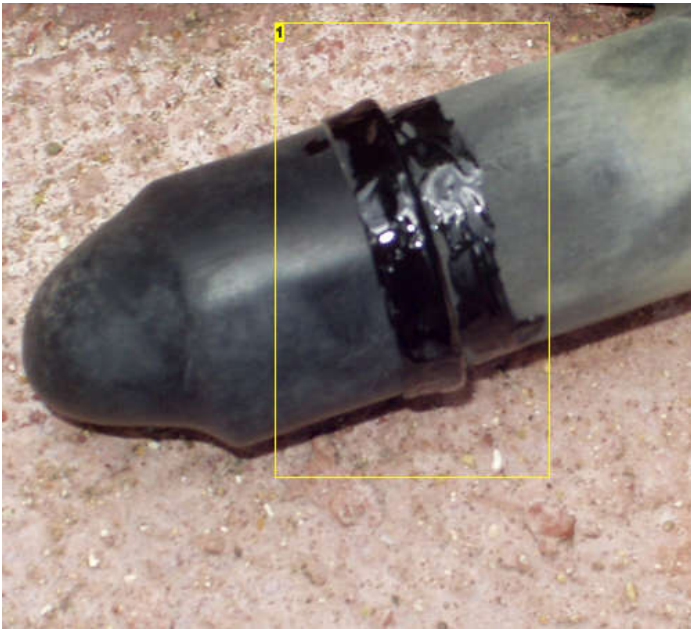
The glue applies easily from its squeeze bottle. Rub a small amount on both the patch and the area to be patched and stick them together. Weight the patches down or use clothes pins as clamps, if need be, while the glue sets. Use wax paper as a barrier to protect things from the glue.

Small pin holes need no patch, just a dab of glue over them.

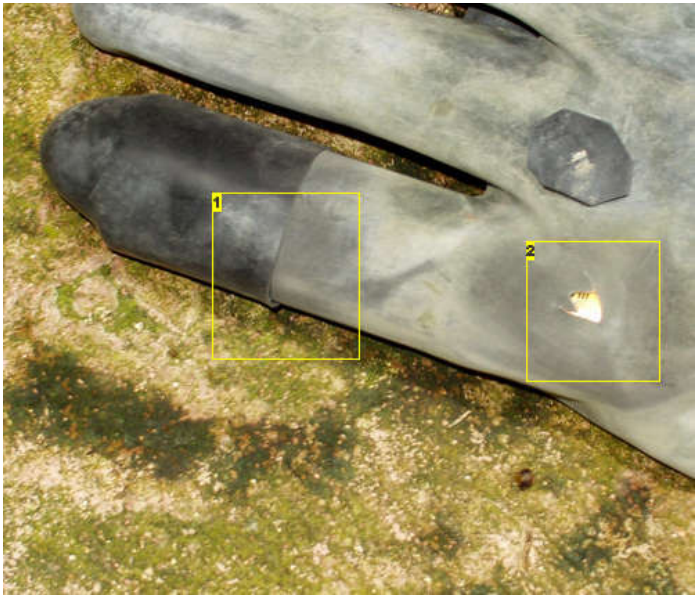
To put on a finger tip patch cut from another glove (kind of like a condom), it helps to fill the finger of the glove to be repaired with something to keep it inflated. In the picture below, I used a small plastic container that fit inside the finger nicely. The end of a broom stick might work, or something else finger-shaped. With the finger stuffing in place, the patch will fit better until the glue hardens.

Let the glue set and you are done.

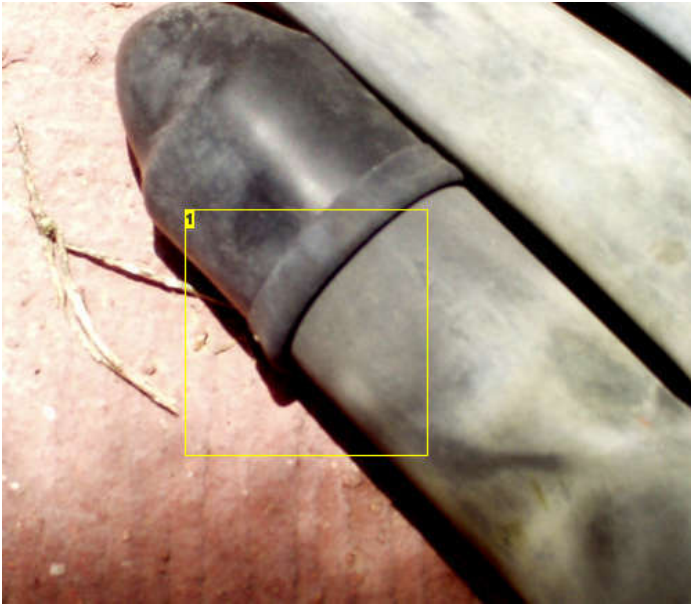




**Image Notes**  
 1. I rolled the edge of the finger cover patch back like a cuff to apply the glue.



**Image Notes**  
 1. Just testing. No glue applied yet.  
 2. The flat patch will go here.



**Image Notes**  
 1. The edge of the finger tip patch is rolled back for glue application.



**Image Notes**  
 1. The glue is freshly applied.



**Image Notes**  
 1. See how the glue foams up and expands.

# Related Instructables



**Patch a Leaky Air Mattress, Inflatable Boat, etc.** by TimAnderson



**Create a Custom Cement Cigar Ashtray** by b13ed



**Ruggedize your flash drive.** by orangesrhyme



**Simple way to make ultra glue** by redx475



**Patch a Wetsuit** by TimAnderson



**Mini Rubber Duck USB** by kingjacob



**The Living Severed Hand!** by a grain of alt.



**Cement Wallet** by turkey tek