

# PVC Repair Guide

The Aquaglide bladder is constructed of high quality PVC, and is designed to last for years. Every hull is inflated at the factory and tested for 12 hours before shipping to insure reliability. PVC is not puncture proof, and leaks can occur. Many times leaks in the hull are caused by the valves not being tightly secured. Always test this before assuming a repair is necessary. Many leaks are caused by dragging the hull across a sharp object that puts a very small puncture hole in the bladder, causing a slow leak. The PVC bladder can split along a seam if it is abused or towed at excessive speeds. PVC is easily repaired in almost any area, even seams.

You can either use a patch method, or fill small holes with Aquaseal. The Aquaglide comes with a small repair kit that is sufficient to fix most small punctures. You can also purchase an Aquaseal repair kit that contains Aquaseal, Co-Tol cleaner and accelerator, PVC patch and instructions. This kit is better for large repairs. For faster repairs, you can use a high quality Superglue and the PVC patch.

## Materials and Tools Needed

- \* Aquaglide repair kit or AquaSeal
- \* A sponge and Soapy water
- \* Paper towels
- \* A small square of 220-grit sandpaper or similar
- \* Scissors
- \* Duct tape
- \* A piece of the vinyl repair material large enough to extend at least 1.2 cm (1 inch) to either side and beyond each end of the hole or tear

\*\* If your Aquaglide product has fabric cover you must first remove the PVC bladder follow step #1 if your product does not have a fabric cover then go to step #2

**1. REMOVE THE PVC BLADDER** - Open the zipper along the bottom of the cover. Starting at the opposite end of the cover from the zipper opening. Pick up the cover (with two people if possible) and slide the bladder to the zipper end by gently shaking the cover, so that the bladder slides to the other end, or fold the bladder over itself until it can be removed through the zipper. Remove the PVC bladder from the outer cover.

**2. LOCATE THE PROBLEM** - Inflate the PVC bladder and listen for the leak. If you do not hear the leak, wipe down suspect areas liberally - the entire bladder if necessary - with a sponge soaked in soapy water. The location of the leak will become apparent when the air exiting the PVC bladder makes the soapy water bubble. (Remember, sometimes there might be more than one hole, so make sure you do a thorough inspection) Dry the area around the hole, taking care not to lose its location. Mark a 4-cm (about 1.5-inch) diameter circle around the hole with a felt tip pen, and make a dot on the hole itself.

**3. PREPARE THE SURFACE AREA** - Deflate the Aquaglide. Place the Aquaglide in your work area so that the area to be repaired is unwrinkled and horizontal. **IMPORTANT! IN ORDER TO MAKE A RELIABLE REPAIR, YOU MUST PREPARE THE SURFACE CORRECTLY OR THE PATCH COULD FAIL.** PVC products have an oily residue that can affect the adhesion of glue to the surface. You need to remove this oil and any

dirt with sandpaper and solvent. Using 220-grit sandpaper, lightly sand the area 1 inch around the hole or tear. Blow away dust. Clean the area to be repaired with a solvent such as acetone or Cotel-240 solvent and let dry. Make sure the surface area is properly prepared. Do not touch this area with your fingers; any oil from your finger may cause the patch to fail.

**FOR SMALL HOLES** - Using the scissors, cut the piece of vinyl repair material into a circle about 2.5 cm (1 inch) in diameter) and lightly sand one side of this patch with the sandpaper and clean with solvent.

**FOR LARGE REPAIRS OR TEARS** - Cut a piece of Duct tape and place inside the hull with the sticky side up, folding the edges of the tear onto the tape so that the boat retains its original shape and that the edges of the tear are unwrinkled, horizontal and adjacent each other. Using scissors cut the piece of vinyl repair material into a shape that will extend at least 2.5 cm (1 inch) to either side and beyond each end of the tear and lightly sand one side of this patch with the sandpaper, and clean with solvent.

**4. APPLY THE PATCH & GLUE** - Use the glue from the supplied repair kit, or other glues designed for PVC to make the repair. Make sure to follow the instructions on the glue. There are several types of glue, Aquaseal requires several hours to fully dry, most contact glues require that you allow them to dry BEFORE you apply the patch. Carefully read and follow the instructions on the glue you are using.

**5. DRY** - Allow repair to dry in level position according to the glue instructions. Inflate the bladder to 25%-50% and leave overnight to insure that the repair is sound and all holes have been patched.

**6. REPLACE THE BLADDER** - Roll up the Bladder lengthwise so that the valves will align with the valve openings and insert the bladder back inside the cover.

## Proper Inflation

It is extremely important to properly inflate your Aquaglide product. If the tube is under inflated the tube is dragged through the water instead of skimming on the surface of the water. Under inflating also causes stress to the tube, boat, and the tow rope. If the tube is over inflated it will increase pressure on the tube and will eventually lead to tube failure.

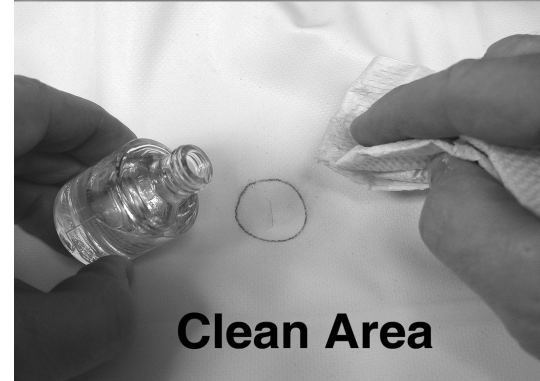
1. Aquaglide tube should be firm to the touch
2. An adult standing on the Aquaglide should only sink down a couple of inches.
3. If the Aquaglide tube has a cover, the cover should be wrinkle free and tight.

## Air Pressure

Aquaglide tubes DO NOT require a lot of air pressure. The typical air pressure for an Aquaglide tube is 2 psi. The 12v Pump used to inflate bicycle tires or car tires does not work well for tubes. This type of pump can not handle the volume of air required to properly inflate a tube. Aquaglide offers, foot pumps, 12 volt, 110 volt and a Euro 220v pumps. For more pump information visit the Aquaglide website, [www.aquaglide.net](http://www.aquaglide.net). A good pump specifically designed for tubes is extremely important.



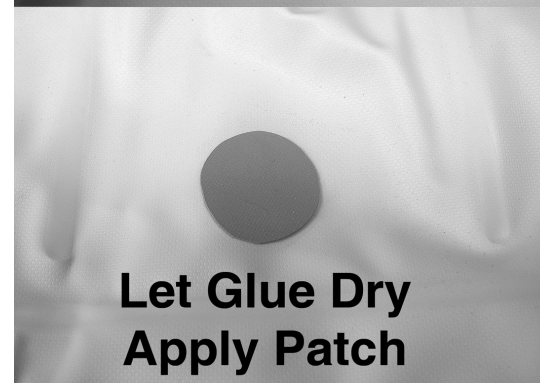
### Lightly Sand Area



### Clean Area



### Apply Glue to Hole Area and Patch



### Let Glue Dry Apply Patch

## Warranty

North Sports warrants the Airport to be free of defects in material or workmanship to the original purchaser for a period of 90 days from date of purchase. This warranty is subject to the following limitations:

1. The warranty is valid only when the warranty card is properly filled out online at [www.aquaglide.net](http://www.aquaglide.net) within (30) days from date of purchase.

2. The warranty is valid only when the Aquaglide product is used for normal recreational activities, and does not cover use in schools or rental operations.

3. North Sports will make the final warranty determination which may require inspection and/or photos of the equipment which clearly show defect(s). We require the above must be sent to North Sports postage prepaid or by email. Product can be returned only if a return authorization number (RA) is given by North Sports in advance. The RA number must be on the outside of the package or it will not be accepted at our warehouse. Upon receipt, North Sports will perform its responsibilities within (30) days.

4. If a product is deemed to be defective by North Sports, the warranty covers the repair or replacement of the defective product only. North Sports will not be responsible for any costs, losses or damages incurred as a result of loss of use of product.

5. This warranty does not cover damage caused by misuse, abuse, neglect or normal wear and tear including, but not limited to, punctures, dragging the product over the ground, damage due to excessive sun exposure or seam failure due to over inflation in the sun, damage caused by improper handling and storage, damage caused by use in waves or shorebreak and damage caused by anything other than defects in materials and workmanship.

6. This warranty is voided if any unauthorized repair, change or modification has been made to any part of the equipment. Authorization for such must come in writing from North Sports.

7. The warranty for any repaired or replacement equipment is good from the date of the original purchase only.

8. Any warranty claims must be accompanied by the original purchase receipt. The name of the retailer and date of purchase must be clear and legible.

9. There are no warranties which extend beyond the warranty specified here.

Register online:  
[www.aquaglide.net](http://www.aquaglide.net)