



Tank Sealer

Application Information

GOLD
STANDARD
TANK SEALER

Gold Standard Fuel Tank Sealer is a superior, single component, ready-to-use sealer specifically formulated for coating the inside of new or repairable steel, aluminum & fiberglass tanks. Widely recommended & easy-to-use, this single coat application cures into a tough fuel impervious seal and prevents the return of rust, corrosion and clogged carburetors. And yet amazingly, this rock hard interior seal remains flexible enough to withstand vibration as well as the repeated expansion & contraction of the tank! Other sealers on the market are little more than paint or adhesive-type coatings which have poor sealing abilities especially when exposed to today's fuels. Gold Standard is unique in that it will penetrate and galvanize itself to the tank walls forming a moisture proof barrier.

Use Gold Standard in conjunction with KBS AquaKlean (a water-based, heavy-duty, cleaner/degreaser) and KBS RustBlast (a powerful rust remover/phosphoric acid metal etch) to obtain a permanently sealed, rust-free fuel tank. KBS prep products are formulated with a unique Oxygen-Block Technology which reduces the occurrence of flash rust by over 80% and extends rust-free storage times by leaving a temporary protective coating in addition to a zinc phosphate film.

ALWAYS WEAR PROTECTIVE GLOVES AND SAFETY GLASSES. ALWAYS WORK IN A WELL-VENTILATED AREA. Please heed all warnings and caution notices.

TANK PREPARATION:

To achieve expert results, please take the time to carefully read and understand the following directions before you begin your tank sealing project. Ideal Tank Sealer application temperatures are 55° - 82°F (13° - 28°C). Gold Standard Tank Sealer is a moisture-cured urethane therefore use only in moderate to dry atmospheric conditions. Avoid sealing tank in rainy or humid conditions. If the Sealer cures too quickly, surface bubbling will occur as a direct result of gas entrapment beneath the top surface layer of the Sealer. (**NOTE:** *If you are sealing a Fiberglass Tank, please refer to additional instructions provided. Gold Standard Tank Sealer is **not recommended for plastic tanks** because of the many different types & varying levels of porosities available.*)

All tanks, **whether old or new**, have oils, residues and contaminants that require thorough removal before sealing. The KBS 3-Step System is a specific process formulated to ensure superior adhesion of the coating & its long-term performance. Sealing a tank without proper prep will cause the new coating to fail. **If a tank was previously sealed, remove the old coating first then proceed using the KBS 3-Step System.** Choose a paint stripper containing Methylene chloride for the most effective removal. Please refer to additional Tank Stripping instructions provided below.

STEP #1 - AQUAKLEAN - CLEANING:

1. Drain fuel from tank. Proper fuel tank sealing also requires that the tank be removed from the vehicle. Remove any fittings such as floats, sending units and filters.
2. Seal all openings with duct tape or cork-like stoppers.
3. Using a 1:1 dilution ratio, mix AquaKlean with hot water and pour mixture into tank. Let tank soak but always rotate it at intervals to ensure AquaKlean covers all surfaces. (**NOTE:** *Heavy gum and varnish build-up may require extended soaking times up to 24 hours or more and/or the use of a pressure washer. Placing some nuts & bolts or loose chains inside the tank, along with frequent shaking and rotation, will help knock away loose rust and contaminants.*)

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4. Empty tank and repeat as often as necessary ... remember the cleaner the tank, the stronger the adhesion of the Tank Sealer.
5. After a thorough cleaning, rinse generously with water until the solution runs clear. Drain tank and let dry.

STEP #2 - RUSTBLAST - SURFACE PREP / RUST REMOVAL:

1. Pour entire amount of RustBlast into a dry tank. Do not dilute. Continually roll tank around to ensure all surfaces are kept wet. Repeat rolling and tipping tank every 5 minutes for a minimum of 20 minutes but no longer than 1 hour. RustBlast is an acid metal etch that will neutralize existing rust & also create an anchor pattern ideal for Sealer adhesion.
2. Important: **Do not allow RustBlast to dry on surface.** This avoids too heavy of a zinc phosphate buildup which can adversely affect the sealing process. After sufficient wet contact, drain RustBlast and rinse tank thoroughly several times with water. (**NOTE:** *It is not necessary to remove every last bit of rust before sealing. Gold Standard Tank Sealer is very capable of bonding to & permanently sealing any remaining rust or corrosion.*)
3. After rinsing, allow tank to **dry completely** before proceeding. Drying is best accomplished by introducing forced air into the tank by using a shop vac, blow dryer, or fan. A white powdery residue may appear after drying. This is the zinc phosphate coating advantageous for Sealer adhesion. (**NOTE:** *Drying is a critical step. If the tank is not completely dry, the Sealer will not adhere properly.*)
4. After a good cleaning & prep and depending on the condition of the tank, any existing pinholes could become larger and/or some new holes may appear in your tank. If these holes are indeed larger than a head of a pin, now is the time to repair them with NuMetal Epoxy Putty. (See more info below.)

STEP #3 - GOLD STANDARD TANK SEALER - SEALING TANK:

1. It is recommended to seal your tank within 10 days of cleaning & prepping it. When ready, open Sealer and stir can thoroughly. Touch bottom & lift when stirring to raise & disperse any settled silver pigment. DO NOT WHIP OR SHAKE can as this will introduce air, create bubbles in the Sealer and adversely affect the sealing process.
2. Carefully pour entire contents of can into tank and slowly rotate and roll tank until **all sides are evenly coated.** Patiently work with it for up to 30 minutes. Please note that our Tank Sealer is formulated for use as a **single thin coat application** so make sure you take the time to thoroughly coat the entire tank well paying particular attention to leaky weld seams & pinholes for optimal coverage & seal.
3. **IMPORTANT:** After a thorough coating, patiently **DRAIN ALL EXCESS SEALER** from tank for at least 30 minutes or more before placing it down for full cure to eliminate the occurrence of pooling & puddles. If the design of the tank makes complete draining difficult, rotate the tank frequently into different positions during this time to help minimize excess accumulation in any single area. Foaming & bubbling are signs of excessive Sealer accumulation and gas entrapment due to ineffective drainage. In some cases, this may cause the Sealer to not adhere properly and eventually break loose. Be aware that if this situation should occur, the only recourse is to strip the tank and repeat the process.
4. Immediately use any left-over Sealer for **exterior painting and patching** to reinforce repair of pinholes & weld seams. (*see further patching info below*)
5. Immediately remove any excess Sealer from threads and fuel lines before curing. Cured Sealer cannot be removed by any solvent. When job is complete, place drained Sealer in can with lid off and let harden. Drained Sealer cannot be saved & re-used as it has been exposed to atmospheric conditions and will cure & harden in the can. (**WARNING:** *Do not put lid on can before curing is complete as pressure may build within can and pop lid. Dispose of any hardened Sealer properly in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations.*)
6. Allow tank to air-dry naturally in a well-ventilated area. Do not heat or place in hot sun. **Allow 96 hours for maximum cure** and before re-filling with fuel.

EXTERIOR PATCHING: (if necessary)

Use KBS BackBone Reinforcing Mesh for exterior repair of pinholes or weld seams. Prior to patching, prep the *outside and inside* of the tank by using AquaKlean and RustBlast and allow all surfaces to **dry completely**. Begin by sealing the inside of the tank as outlined above. After sealing, immediately use any remaining Sealer to paint a thin layer on the exterior pinhole area(s). Using a suitably sized piece of BackBone Mesh, embed it directly into the wet Sealer and apply another thin coat of Sealer painting outward from the center. Let cure.

For exterior patching of holes that are larger than pinholes, use KBS NuMetal Epoxy Putty. Clean & prep the inside and outside of the tank using AquaKlean & RustBlast as stated above. Let dry. Scuff up area to be patched with 320 grit sandpaper then follow NuMetal application instructions. (**NOTE:** *Allow NuMetal to cure for 12 hours before proceeding with sealing the inside of the tank.*) After sealing & draining the inside of the tank, immediately use any remaining Sealer to paint a thin coating on the exterior patched area for reinforced coverage.

CLEAN UP:

Use KBS #1 Thinner for **immediate** clean up. **IMPORTANT:** *Gold Standard Tank Sealer must be cleaned up before it dries as it cannot be removed by any solvent once cured. Always wear protective gloves to avoid skin contact and temporary staining. If skin contact accidentally occurs, immediately remove with #1 Thinner or lacquer thinner followed by soap and water. If Gold Standard should stain your skin, only the course of time will remove it.*

STRIPPING TANKS: (if necessary)

Choose a paint stripper containing Methylene chloride for the most effective removal of an old failed coating. Pour some stripper into tank and carefully rotate tank to allow contact with all sides. It may take multiple applications of stripper to finish the job completely. Old Sealer may come loose in big chunks or small pieces so use a long tweezers-type tool to help remove it from the tank. After stripping is complete, rinse tank generously with water and proceed with the KBS 3-Step System for Fuel Tank Preparation & Sealing. (**NOTE:** *When stripping a Fiberglass Tank, surface contact with the stripping agent should be kept to a **minimum** to avoid the attack & weakening of the fiberglass resin.*)

FIBERGLASS TANKS:

The procedure for sealing a Fiberglass Tank is the same except for a variance in **Step #2 - RustBlast**. For this type of tank, thoroughly wet the fiberglass surface for **only 2 minutes** using RustBlast. Drain and rinse well with water as directed. Because you are not prepping metal or dissolving rust, RustBlast may be saved and re-used for future use. RustBlast will, however, treat the fiberglass surface by giving it a more acidic pH level & by leaving a zinc phosphate coating ideal for Sealer adhesion.

Also, it is important to make sure that the tank is **completely dry inside** before sealing. Drying is best accomplished by introducing forced air into the tank by using a shop vac, blow dryer, or fan.

(**NOTE:** *Drying is a critical step for sealing fiberglass tanks. Fiberglass tends to hold moisture and if the tank is not dried completely, the Sealer will not adhere properly.*)

IMPORTANT: It is also very critical to methodically coat the entire fiberglass tank completely & thoroughly with the Sealer. If any part of the fiberglass surface should accidentally be left exposed or unsealed, however, these unprotected areas will be very susceptible to deterioration by alcohol blended fuels and it is therefore *highly recommended that these fuels not be used in fiberglass tanks even after sealing*. After coating the tank, remember to drain well to avoid pooling and puddles.

QUESTIONS & TIPS:

Q. Does duct tape provide a sufficient seal to allow you to rotate, turn & invert the tank without the Sealer spilling all over the place?

A. Yes, duct tape or electrical tape works well. Also, a piece of cork or rubber will seal small tubes.

Q. What's the best way to prevent the Sealer from getting on the screw threads?

A. Apply a small amount of oil (WD-40 or similar) to the threads, and if the Sealer dries on those threads, it will peel right off.

Q. What's the best way to remove the Sealer from the fairly small "L" shaped protrusions on the underside of each side of the tank?

A. If you can't get to it from the inside, use pipe cleaners or cotton swabs to remove the Sealer from these tubes before it cures.

Q. Any other tips, "tricks of the trade", suggestions, etc.?

A. Just remember to be sure the tank is completely dry before using the Sealer. Apply a thin film of oil wherever you don't want the Sealer to stick. Do not allow the Sealer to "puddle" in the tank. If the tank has baffles or a design which does not allow for complete draining of the excess Sealer, keep rotating the tank (every 10 min or so) as the Sealer cures to help prevent pooling & puddles.

CAUTION: CONTAINS PETROLEUM DISTILLATES AND ISOCYANATES. KEEP AWAY FROM HEAT, SPARKS, AND FLAME. USE ONLY WITH ADEQUATE VENTILATION. TO AVOID BREATHING VAPORS OR SPRAY MIST, OPEN WINDOWS AND DOORS, OR USE OTHER MEANS TO ENSURE FRESH AIR ENTRY DURING APPLICATION AND DRYING. IF YOU EXPERIENCE EYE WATERING, HEADACHES, OR DIZZINESS, INCREASE FRESH AIR, WEAR RESPIRATORY PROTECTION (NIOSH/MSHA TC 23C OR EQUIVALENT) OR LEAVE THE AREA. SAFETY GLASSES AND PROTECTIVE GLOVES ARE RECOMMENDED DURING APPLICATION AND CLEAN UP. AVOID CONTACT WITH EYES, SKIN, AND CLOTHING. CLOSE CONTAINER IMMEDIATELY AFTER EACH USE. KEEP CONTAINER CLOSED WHEN NOT IN USE. KEEP CLOSURES TIGHT AND UPRIGHT TO PREVENT LEAKAGE. IN CASE OF SPILLAGE, ABSORB AND DISPOSE OF IN ACCORDANCE WITH FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL REGULATIONS.

FIRST AID: IN CASE OF SKIN CONTACT, REMOVE IMMEDIATELY BEFORE DRYING. IN CASE OF CONTACT WITH EYES, FLUSH THOROUGHLY WITH WATER FOR AT LEAST 15 MINUTES AND SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ATTENTION. IF YOU ARE EXPOSED TO A HIGH CONCENTRATION OF VAPORS OR YOU EXPERIENCE DIFFICULTY BREATHING, LEAVE THE AREA TO OBTAIN FRESH AIR. IF BREATHING DIFFICULTIES CONTINUE, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION. IF SWALLOWED, CALL A PHYSICIAN IMMEDIATELY. DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING. HARMFUL OR FATAL IF SWALLOWED. NOTICE: REPORTS HAVE ASSOCIATED REPEATED AND PROLONGED OCCUPATIONAL OVEREXPOSURE TO SOLVENTS WITH PERMANENT BRAIN OR NERVOUS SYSTEM DAMAGE. INTENTIONAL MISUSE BY DELIBERATELY CONCENTRATING AND INHALING THE CONTENTS MAY BE HARMFUL OR FATAL.

THIS COATING IS INTENDED TO BE USED UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS: AUTOMOTIVE AND INDUSTRIAL USE, VOC 320g/l

WARNING: Combustible. **CAUTION:** KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

USE WITH ADEQUATE VENTILATION. DO NOT TAKE INTERNALLY. SEE MSDS FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Information contained herein is to our knowledge true and accurate, but all recommendations or suggestions are made without guarantee. Since application lies outside our control, we cannot accept any liability for the results. User shall determine the suitability of the product for its intended use, and user assumes all risk and liability whatsoever in connection therewith.

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KBS INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS

View 3-Step Action Video for Sealing a Gas Tank.

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