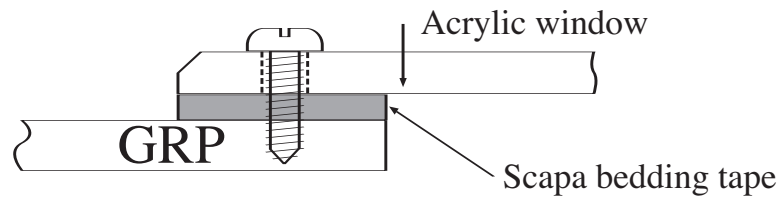


A guide to applying screw fixed windows using wide Scapa 3507.



It is important not to stretch the Scapa tape as it will shrink back and not give a watertight seal. Scapa 3507 has the backing paper on the non-adhesive side. Leave it in place while you are applying the Scapa and it will prevent the material from stretching.

If the window is new and there are no screw holes around the aperture the holes need to be drilled before applying the bedding tape. Max 100mm apart, minimum 12mm from edges of acrylic and grp.

Holes drilled in the acrylic and ready to go? Do not remove the protective film from the acrylic yet.

First position the window exactly where you want it to be, and hold it while you mark its place using strips of masking tape on the grp.

You can then take the window off and check that there is equal space all round the aperture. Using masking tape makes it easy to make any adjustments.

When you are satisfied, hold the window in position again and drill the first two fixing holes, one at either end, through the pre-drilled window. You can then screw the window in position using these two holes and drill the rest of the holes without fear of the window moving out of alignment.

It is important to make sure that you are drilling the holes perpendicular to the surface so that the heads of the screws will contact the acrylic all around.

Now draw round the window with a soft pencil before removing it. Slightly countersink the holes you have drilled to protect the gelcoat from cracking when the self tappers are screwed in (not necessary if you are using machine screws and nuts or interscrews).

Never use a power screwdriver on acrylic windows, it will crack the perspex before the seal is compressed enough to be watertight.

Mask up the area outside of the pencil line because the Scapa glue is quite sticky and time spent masking will more than compensate for the time spent cleaning off the residue once the window is fitted.

Make sure the surface is clean, dry, dust and grease free and apply the tape to the boat so that it covers the whole of the inside of the pencil line.

Once the Scapa is in the correct position you can remove its backing paper.

Now you are ready to attach the window onto the boat, screwing the fixings through the bedding tape.

Wearing untaled disposable gloves to prevent finger prints remove the protective film from the acrylic and make sure the window is absolutely clean (use an old lint free tea-towel

or glass cloth) because anything trapped between the acrylic and the Scapa will show from the outside.

Pierce two holes through the bedding tape into screw holes, one at either end of the window with a pointed implement (e.g. bradawl or nail) so that you know where to insert your first two screws (you can do this from the inside if you are bolting through).

Screw the window into place but don't tighten it down yet. If the surface the window is going on to is curved, work from the middle out to the ends (this is not important on a flat surface) piercing the bedding as you go with your pointy thing and then screwing the fixings until they are just tight.

When you have them all in place you can trim off the excess bedding tape with a sharp knife and go around tightening all the screws until the tape is compressed to about half its original thickness.

If you do find any screw heads are slightly at an angle because the hole in the window is not aligned with the hole in the boat take the screw out and carefully enlarge the hole in the acrylic so you can refasten the screw so that it sits comfortably.

Screw Sizes

If using self tapping screws use size No10 and drill 4mm pilot holes in GRP with slight countersink to protect the gelcoat from cracking. 6mm holes in the acrylic will allow for expansion/contraction.

If using machine screws use metric size M5 with 5.5mm holes in GRP (if using nuts and washers) and 6mm holes in the acrylic. Interscrews will need to be pressed home into 6.5mm holes in the grp (never in the acrylic). Fit the interscrews before applying the Scapa and make sure they are square in the holes.

General tips

Use a new blade to cut the Scapa tape. You can screw through the Scapa tape without using a sealant, the tape will keep things watertight, but if you drill fixing holes through it, it might be a good idea to put a blob of clear mastic on the screws as you insert them.

Recheck screw tightness at the end of the first season.

We no longer recommend that for fixing unframed windows the tape is stuck onto the window but advise that it should be stuck to the GRP so that the tape's adhesive does not show and is protected from sunlight. This makes fitting slightly more complex but should stop the tape from creeping.

Never use acetone anywhere near acrylic and make sure any solvents you do use are suitable.