

## Hatch Stops

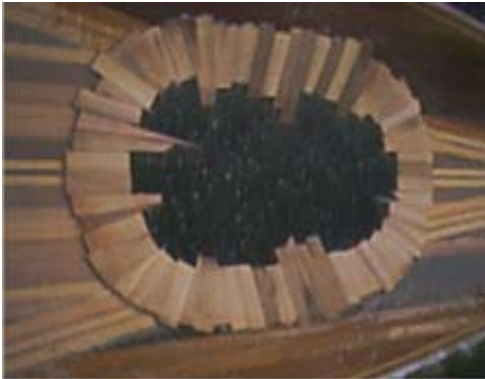
Photo #1



Photo #2



Photo #3



To prevent the hatches (**Photo #1**) from falling into the boat, you can build hatch stops from scrap pieces of cedar strips. Cut 60-70 pieces of square edge strips per hatch about 2 ½ inches long. Take about ¼ of these and cut them diagonally from corner to corner. These will assist in forming the corners of your stop. Rough up the surface on the underside of the deck with sandpaper for a good bond. Mix up some resin and thicken it with silica powder to the consistency of peanut butter. This will be used as the glue to affix the pieces to the underside of the deck. Apply a small amount of thick resin to one end of the short piece and press it to the underside of the deck extending out into the hole about 1 ½ inches. Since the pieces will want to fall off under their own weight, we advise that you glue several pieces on one day and the rest the next day. The first few pieces will act as an anchor for the rest. You can now proceed with the rest of the pieces. Thicken epoxy glues the pieces to the underside of the deck and wood glue is used to glue the pieces to each other. As you round the corners of the hole, use the triangular pieces that you created when you cut some diagonally. (**Photos #2 & #3**)

With all the pieces in place on both hatches and the glue fully cured, plane down the underside surfaces so they are smooth and there is a feathering of the edges onto the underside of the deck. Apply a layer of fiberglass and several layers of epoxy to the underside of the hatch stop extending onto the deck surface. (**Photo #4**)

Photo #4

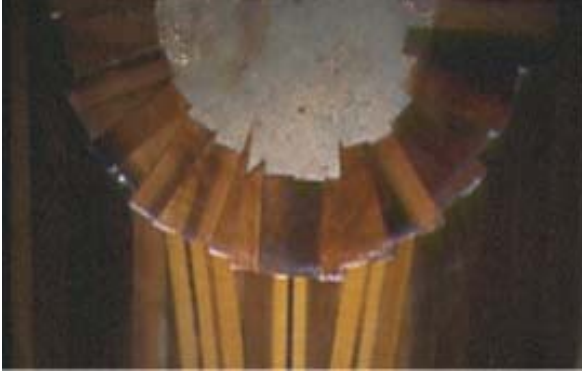


Photo #5



Once everything is sealed and cured on the underside, take a compass and scribe a mark and cut the lip so that it extends into the hole by one inch or so. Use your jigsaw to remove any excess. **(Photo #5)**

Plane and sand the top surface smooth and ensure that the hatch will sit flush to the deck or even a little lower to accommodate the gasket thickness. You may need to remove some thickness from the top of the hatch stop pieces to accomplish this. Fill any cracks with thickened epoxy then seal everything with several coats of epoxy. You should not need glass on the top side, unless you believe you will be forcing items through the opening as you store gear.