



Pettit Technical Bulletin

Paint Quantity Requirements

Here are some useful formulas based on practical experience. They should help to determine how much paint you will need.

Sailboat Bottoms - Multiply the waterline length by the draft (in feet). For a keel boat multiply by 3.5 and a centerboard boat multiply by 3. Divide the final result by 300 for priming new work and by 400 for subsequent coats to give a general idea of the number of gallons needed.

Power Boat Bottoms - For boats without keels, multiply the length of the hull by the beam, then multiply that total by .85. Divide that number by (your square foot total) by the amount of coverage the selected bottom paint offers. This will give you a one-coat total.

Spars - For varnished spars multiply the greatest diameter (in feet) by the length (in feet) and multiply the result by 2.5. For new wood divide the result by 500 and for previously finished wood, divide by 750 to obtain the number of gallons required. To determine the requirements for painted spars, change the coverage factor to 325 for new work and to 500 for previously painted wood.

Cabins or Deck Houses - Multiply the height of the deck house (in feet) by the girth (in feet). Deduct the area of any large openings such as doors and windows. If the deck house is to be painted, divide the result by 325 for the priming coat and 500 for each finishing coat. If it is to be varnished, divide by 500 for the first coat and 750 for the following coats.

Decks - Multiply the length of the boat (in feet) by its greatest beam (in feet) and then multiply the result by .75. From this deduct the areas of cabin houses, hatches, etc. Divide the remainder by 325 to obtain gallons required for priming coat and by 500 for each coat of color.

Topsides - Multiply the length over all (in feet) by the greatest freeboard (in feet). Multiply the result by 1.5. Divide by 325 for new work and by 500 for old work to obtain the number of gallons required.

Product labels and product data sheets provide coverage specs for each paint.

HOW MUCH BOTTOM PAINT DO I NEED?

1 Calculate the square footage of the hull to be painted – multiply the length of the hull by the beam then multiply that total by .85.

beam

length

Length x Beam x .85 = Square Feet of Hull

2 Divide that number (your square foot total) by the amount of coverage the selected bottom paint offers. This will give you a one-coat total.

Average Paint Requirements						
Size	Pettit-Protect*	Bottom	Topsides	Deck	Varnish	Interior
10' Dinghy	2 qt	1/2 qt	1 qt	≈	1 qt	≈
14' Rowboat	2 qt	1 qt	2 qt	≈	1 qt	≈
14' Outboard	2 qt	1 qt	1 qt	1/2 qt	1 qt	≈
18' Runabout	1 gal	3 qt	1 qt	1/2 qt	1 qt	≈
20' Sailboat	1.25 gal	3 qt	2 qt	3 qt	2 qt	≈
24' Runabout	1.5 gal	3 qt	2 qt	1.5 qt	2 qt	≈
24' Utility	2.25 gal	3 qt	2 qt	1.5 qt	1 qt	≈
25' Cruiser	2.25 gal	3 qt	3 qt	2 qt	1 qt	2 qt
32' Cruiser	2.5 gal	1.5 gal	2 gal	2 qt	2 qt	2 qt
36' Sailboat	4 gal	2 gal	2 gal	1 gal	3 qt	3 qt
40' Cruiser	5 gal	2 gal	2.5 gal	1.5 gal	1 gal	1 gal
50' Sportfish	7 gal	4 gal	4 gal	1.5 gal	2 gal	2 gal
60' Motor Yacht	11 gal	5 gal	4 gal	3.5 gal	2.5 gal	2.5 gal

Amounts listed above are based on two coats, applied over existing finish. Bare wood will require about twice as much paint. Unpainted fiberglass and metal surfaces will require about 1.5 times as much product.

** Three coats of Pettit-Protect should be applied for complete protection.*