

ETERNABOND & LIQUID ROOF – A DIY JOB

Narrated by “Mayfair” Donny
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I did the job over the weekend. It was WAAAAY more involved than I thought!! Not work wise, but time wise. It took me all weekend (Labor Day) to do the job. Thank God the weather held up.

Ok - Here we go

First was to inspect the roof. Here you can see just how dirty the roof was as well as just how bad the caulk was. It was literally just pulling right up. I now suspect that i DID have a leak, and that the water on the ceiling in the bathroom wasn't from condensation from the shower. I'm so glad that I caught this just in time.



[Image 7745]

Here you can see just how bad the caulk was:



[Image 7747]



[Image 7749]

It just peeled right off...



[Image 7751]

I started off by washing the entire roof. I used a mixture of Simple Green and water. It worked great!! Here's a couple of tips for you though:

1st - Jack the front of your trailer up as far as it'll go. That way the water will run off towards the back of the trailer rather than down the sides. This saved me a LOT of time come clean up time!!

2nd - Remove ALL of the covers. This will add some time to the project, but it's worth it. It's a lot easier to work around the vents with the covers off, plus you have the opportunity to clean and wax the covers

3rd - I initially started washing the roof similar to how you'd wash a car. Wash a little, rinse, wash a little, rinse, etc. This was taking a LONG time because of the low water pressure, so what I did instead was to leave the hose turned on all of the time and wash the roof in the slow steady stream of clean water. This worked a LOT better as the dirt never really got to settle again. It was washed off as quick as I was scrubbing it.



[Image 7756]

After thoroughly washing the roof, I let it sit for the rest of the day to dry and went back at it the following day. I then started with the Eternabond tape. I HIGHLY recommend this tape!! It works REALLY well!! It can get a little tricky on round corners, but once you get used to the "feel" of how you can shape it, it's really pretty easy. Just take your time. Stupid me decided to do the harder vents like the shower skylight first. This wound up taking me longer because I had never worked with the tape before. After doing the vents, and getting a better idea of how to "work" the tape, I probably could have done the skylight in 1/2 the time. Oh well ... I got it. After carefully laying the tape down, I used a 2" silicone roller to roll it out. I was back and forth about buying the roller since I'll probably only use it once, but after using it, I'm glad I bought it. It really helps!!

Tips:

1st – Use Lacquer thinner on the area where you are going to use the tape. This REALLY cleans the area up well (and is recommended by Eternabond)

Editor's note: Just wipe it around with a rag – don't let it soak into an EPDM rubber roof. It will loosen the glue that holds the rubber to the roof!

2nd - I bought a 50' roll thinking that I had WAAAY more than I needed for a 24' trailer. WRONG!! I almost had enough to do the front seam, but I was about a foot short. I may have had enough if I didn't have to do an area where the previous owner did a repair job around the antenna. I would now recommend a longer roll to anyone else. Better to have too much rather than not enough.

I thought that I had taken more pics of the tape work, but apparently I didn't - sorry.



[Image 7757]

Once I was done with the tape, I again took a break for the day as my knees were killing me.

The following day it was paint time. I used a damp towel and wiped the entire roof off. I used a product called **Liquid Roof**. I got a gallon of it. It's a two part paint where you add a catalyst to the paint. It is THICK!!! I'm trying to think of something to compare it to, and the only thing I can think of is Elmer's glue. It's really thick.

Anyway...

I used blue painters tape on all of the areas where I didn't want to get paint. I also ran a strip across the entire front of the trailer. Since I ran out of tape, I laid a VERY thick coat of the liquid roof. I hope it works ... it looks like it should. Worst case all I'll need to get is more Eternabond - no biggie

I started painting the roof similar to how you'd paint a room. I cut all of the corners first with a 3" paintbrush. After doing that, I was now ready to roll on the roof. I poured the paint into a roller pan, attached a broom handle to my roller, and got started

WRONG !!

The paint was so thick that it kept pulling the nap off of the roller, so it was back on my knees to roll it on. Uuuugh!! I started rolling it on somewhat thick but then I realized that if I kept going at that pace that I'd run out of paint, so I started running it a little lighter. Doing so left me with just enough paint to do the entire roof 1 time which should be fine.

I had to leave the A/C off for at least 10 hours as the paint can said not to use it if it was going to rain within 10 hours. Doing somewhat hourly checks, it was tacky for at least 10 hours if not more.



[Image 7760]



[Image 7761]

The following day I cleaned and put a coat of wax on all of the covers again. I climbed back up onto the roof which kinda felt like a fresh coat of paint, but it was fine. I re-installed the covers, removed the painters tape and I was FINALLY done.



[Image 7764]

The spots that you see are bugs or bees that got stuck in the paint.



[Image 7767]

It was a job and a half, but I'm glad that I took my time and hopefully did it right. The Eternabond says that it's good for 25 years, and the Liquid roof says it's good for 5. By then I'll hopefully forget just how hard it was on my knees.



[Image 7758]

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RV Forum and Dodge Owner's Forum