



# SKYLOFT

SKYL-5200

3FT. X 9FT. (3 SQ. YDS.)

SKYLOFT is a continuous filament spun-bonded nylon. It is light, tough, and unaffected by common solvents of finishing materials. It has been specially treated to fill completely with just a few coats of dope.

SKYLOFT has one property that is a big advantage in covering models. It is moisture sensitive. That is, SKYLOFT expands when you wet it, then contract back to its original size as it dries out. Notice we said contracts. It doesn't shrink as we think of cotton or silk shrinking. It simply changes dimensions with changes in moisture content. So, SKYLOFT should always be applied by the wet method. Then when it dries out you have a nice smooth covering.

Try this method for covering and finishing for a fast and easy way to the slickest finish you have ever seen:

## COVERING

1. Sand surface smooth and seal with 2 or 3 coats of dope. Sand lightly with 320 grit paper.
2. Cut a piece of SKYLOFT for the area to be covered allowing couple of inches all around.
3. Lay the SKYLOFT over the surface, smooth out and spray with water using a Windex sprayer.
4. Pull out wrinkles and smooth with a damp sponge. If you keep the SKYLOFT wet, it will cling to the surface or frame work and stay where you put it.
5. Now dope a 1" wide strip around the perimeter of the surface, doping through the SKYLOFT. Use dope thinned to a normal brushing consistency. Rubbing the doped area with your finger will push dope through the SKYLOFT, improving adhesion and speeding drying.
6. Trim around the edge. Dope the trimmed edge using your finger to force the SKYLOFT in contact with the surface.

## ADDITIONAL COVERING INFORMATION

It has come to our attention that a few modelers have experienced wrinkles when covering the SKYLOFT. Remember that SKYLOFT is 100% nylon and is moisture sensitive. This can be used to advantage in obtaining a good smooth covering, but can also cause wrinkles if SKYLOFT is improperly applied. For best results, please read the instruction sheet and, in addition, observe the following:

1. After wetting SKYLOFT allow 5-6 minutes for complete moisture pick-up. You will notice the SKYLOFT "grows" as it absorbs moisture. Some modelers tell us they even dip SKYLOFT in a bucket of water to thoroughly wet it before applying it to the surface.
2. Seal only the perimeter of the covered area. Allow the interior area to dry completely (several hours or preferably overnight before proceeding further. Notice how tight the SKYLOFT becomes as it dries.
3. Seal the interior next using thin dope (1/2 dope - 1/2 thinner) for the first coat or two.
4. Allow each coat of dope to dry before proceeding.

## FINISHING

1. Apply two or three coats of dope. This is usually enough to fill the SKYLOFT.
2. Sand lightly with 400 paper. Don't worry about a little fuzz or a few loose filaments at this point, but if you have an excessive amount, put on another coat of dope.
3. Spray two light coats of automotive primer. You must plasticize the primer with FLEX-ALL or an equivalent or the final finish will craze. Sand most of the primer off using 400 paper, leaving a smooth surface. Don't worry about a little fuzz, well get rid of that later.
4. Spray four coats of automotive acrylic lacquer. The acrylic must also be plasticized with FLEX-ALL. Allow to dry over night.
5. WET sand with 400 paper. Now the surface is really getting slick. We finally got rid of all the fuzz and loose filaments.
6. Clean the surface thoroughly and spray one last coat to bring back the gloss. If you do a good job of spraying you won't even have to rub out the finish.
7. Apply additional trim colors as desired. Don't get carried away with the spray gun and you will end up with a very light but smooth and glossy finish.

Other finishing methods such as conventional brushed dope will work very well on SKYLOFT. In fact, the special treatment to reduce porosity will in turn reduce the number of coats of dope required. One note of caution - remember that SKYLOFT is moisture sensitive. Don't dope in very humid weather or in a room with high humidity. The SKYLOFT may wrinkle and besides the dope will blush. After the finish has dried, moisture is no longer a problem.

SKYL-5200  
MADE IN USA

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