

Wingtip Wheel Installation Recommendations

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For application in Australia, refer also to GFA document AIRW-D026 "Guidance on Skids and Wheels on Sailplanes and Powered Sailplanes" and to the www.gliderwheels.net document "GFA AIRW-D026 Compliance Guide".

Equipment needed: Marine Sikaflex 291 (white) or similar with gun, 180 grit wet-and-dry paper, 240 grit sand paper, Sepatone wax and grease remover (or similar), white spirits.

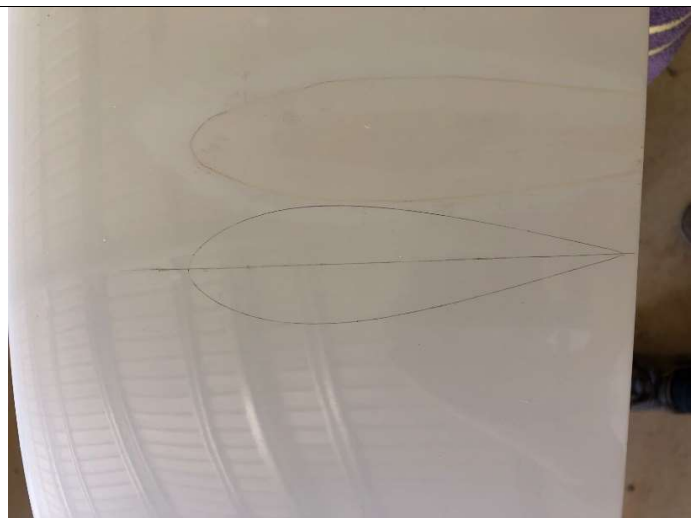
1. Remove the old skid.

It may peel off if bonded with weaker materials. Stronger glue may need cutting through, parallel to the wing surface, sanding and removal of the residue.

2. Marking

Mark the centreline of the wheel on the wing using pencil and mark the front and rear extend of the wheel housing.

Place the wheel housing on the wing and draw around it.



3. Shaping

Shape the wheel housing by placing wetted 120 grit wet-and-dry paper on the wing and rubbing the housing over it, parallel to the wing spar (80 to 240 grit will also work).

Ensure that rubbing does not favour one side of the housing and cause the wheel to tilt inwards or outwards.

Ensure that rubbing is not taken so far as to allow the wheel to touch the wing.

Gaps of up to about 2.5mm will be accommodated by the Sikaflex.



4. Roughen the wing surface

Using about 240 grit paper within the pencil marking, sand the wing area under the housing to ensure a good bond. Re-apply the pencil markings if needed.

5. Apply Sikaflex

Wear “rubber gloves” and degrease the bonding surfaces with “Sepatone wax and grease remover” (or similar). Squeeze the Marine Sikaflex (white) onto the wheel housing, providing sufficient to ensure that it squeezes out all round when the housing is pressed onto the wing. Also apply some in the middle of the front area and rear area. White spirits can be used to clean off any mess while the Sikaflex is wet.

6. Fix to the wing

Slowly lower the housing onto the wing using the guides to provide accurate placement.

Squeeze down until the Sikaflex is squeezed out all around, using the pencil markings to keep the housing in position.

While holding the housing carefully in position, wipe off the excess Sikaflex, using white spirits for final clean-up.

It is helpful to have a second person to hold the housing in position while the clean-up is done.



7. Cure the Sikaflex

Leave to cure for about 12 hours.