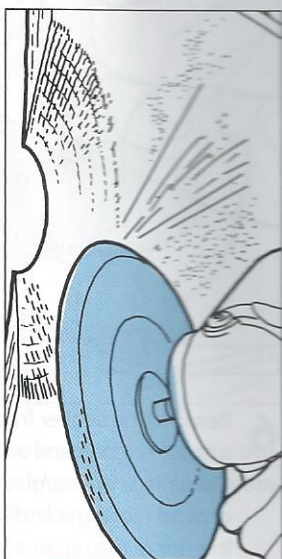


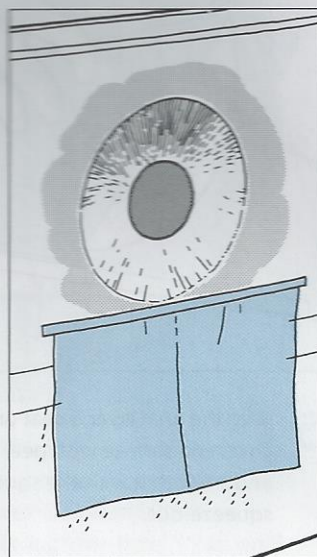
OUTSIDE REPAIR

If you are going to paint the repair rather than trying to match gelcoat, make the repair from the outside. Working outside is somewhat easier and a lot more comfortable—you're not engulfed in resin fumes or wedged into some impossible corner. If you're not going to finish the repair with gelcoat, you should also use epoxy for its superior bonding strength.

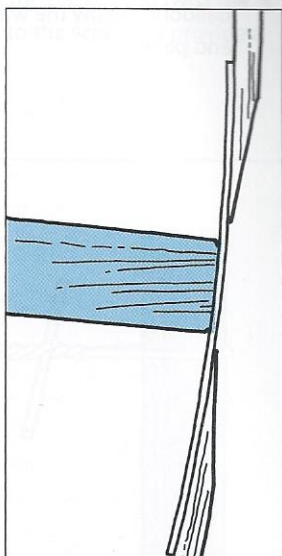
Dewax around the hole and grind the edge into a 12-to-1 bevel.



2 Wax the exterior surface of the skin around the hole, taking care not to get any wax on the bevel. Mask the area below the hole.



Wax and release-coat a scrape of smooth plastic laminate or thin acrylic and brace it tightly against the hole from inside. If the hull is flat or curving in only one direction in the damage area, the backer will assume the correct curve. If the hull is spherical, lay up a backer using an adjacent section of the hull as the mold.



4 If you are using epoxy resin for the repair, cut all your repair pieces from 10-ounce cloth. Mix a batch of epoxy and wet out the first layer of cloth. Use a squeegee to smooth the cloth into position and to remove trapped air. Apply the second layer and wet it out. Squeegee. Repeat this process a layer at a time, mixing fresh epoxy as needed, until the repair is slightly below the surface.

