

AVOIDING PINK STAINS

You pull the cover off your boat one day and are met with unsightly, blotchy pink stains on your vinyl...



It's called **PINKING** and there's two types. The most common is bacterial pinking, the other is chemical pinking.

CHEMICAL PINKING is triggered when another material such as a boat cover is left in contact with the upholstery. The vinyl is then subjected to excessive heat, and the result is chemical pinking, which **appears in more geometric patterns** than the blotchy nature of bacterial pinking.

***MIAMI PRESTIGE TIP:** To help prevent chemical pinking, don't let a boat cover rest on the upholstery while the boat is stored. If you cannot avoid this, put a towel between the vinyl and the cover material.*

BACTERIAL PINKING needs four things to establish a colony in vinyl upholstery:

- **Oxygen**
- **Fresh water**
- **Warmth**
- **Food**

In the marine environment it is hard to control the four elements mentioned above. But food requires people and this area is more controllable for you the boat owner.

The bacteria feed on the oils and sloughed-off cells from human skin.

PREVENTING STEPS FOR BACTERIAL PINKING

- **Clean the upholstery thoroughly after each trip.** If you're not washing the boat, wipe down all the vinyl with a clean towel at the end of the day.
- **Read sunscreen labels and packaging,** including the fine print, for PABA (para-aminobenzoic acid). PABA is linked to pinking stains on boat upholstery.
- Before you put on your boat cover, **towel off the boat's interior and its upholstery** to ensure it is dry.

Here at Miami Prestige Interiors we hope that the tips and preventive steps listed above will help you keep your marine vinyl free of the nuisance of pinking. If you have any questions or concerns don't hesitate to contact us.

