

## Tools Needed:

- (1) Gatorback Coating kit available at Gatorback Coatings.com
- (1) Pint of Gatorback Fuel resistant top coating w/catalyst for fuel filler panel. (Cladded Avalanche/ and Avalanches with GM factory running boards)
- HVLP Sprayer with a 1-1.3mm tip, and adjustable pressure setting on the gun or use a turbine system for more control of material available at Gatorback Coatings.com
- (1) In-line Water separator
- (1) 5 gallon(minimum) Air compressor with regulator.
- (1) Paint respirator with filter rated for Organic Vapors.
- (1) Pair, Safety glasses
- (1) Pack, 3M Double stick Automotive Tape (Cladded Avalanche Only)
- Flat head Screwdriver
- #3 Phillips Screwdriver
- (2) Paint stirring sticks
- (6-8) Gray Scotchbrite pads
- Assorted masking and taping materials. Paper/plastic sheeting, 1-2" masking tape.
- (1) Plastic putty knife
- (1) Razor knife
- (1) Pack, Microfiber towels
- (1) Gallon Denatured alcohol
- (1) Air gun nozzle for the air Compressor
- (1) new package of Microfiber towels
- (2) disposable paint strainers
- (1/2) gal. Lacquer thinner
- Disposable Gloves





# *How To Apply Gatorback Coating Kit:*

## **Directions:**

These instructions are written in steps. Each step must be completed in it's entirety before starting the next one. It is VITALY important that you take your time and do each one very well. It is best to apply Gatorback Coating between 50°F-90°F without direct sunlight in a very well ventilated area without any chance of rain during the application period.

## **Step #1: Wash Your Truck**

Wash your truck with a commercial automotive soap. Clean the paint and the cladding. Scrub well on the cladding to loosen up any debris imbedded into the texture of the cladding. Dry the truck thoroughly. If any water is on the truck it will prevent the Gatorback from adhering. Use the air gun nozzle with the air compressor to blow out all of the nooks and crannies to assure all of the water is 100% removed.

## **Step #2: Masking procedure**

Since there are two types of Avalanches masking will be a lot easier for the WBH's. The coating is designed to adhere to the body side cladding bumpers, tailgate plastic hardware, bed covers, cargo boxes, and sail panels. Gatorback holds no liability for application to surfaces other than those listed above. All other areas should be masked to prevent overspray.



Use your masking materials, to mask the truck well as shown above. It is important that you get the tape under the cladding when possible.



## How To Apply Gatorback Coating Kit:

Remove the following pieces of cladding from Avalanche:

1. Rear Bumper Plastic diamond plate (Lower Body Hardware Vehicles)
2. Corner Screens under the sailpanel
3. Locking devices in the cargo boxes. Push holder pin twist left and pull to remove them.
4. Phillips head screws on the inside corner of the rear bumper ( Lower Cladded Vehicles). Remove Tailgate: Mask off all sheet metal as shown below.





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Tape off third brake light, back window, exhaust pipe(s), tires, under the doors/door edges, the Fog/FogDRL's, and behind where the locks were in the cargo boxes.

Remove Sail Fasteners as well. If you have any kind of decals or details on any of the cladding you should remove then mask the inside area of the bed.

Remove the Cargo Covers and lay them out flat. Tape around the seals and insert the edges of the tape into the gasket if possible.

Mask the inside of the cargobox. Look at some of the pictures posted below to reference how the truck should look after it is taped off.





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## **Step #3: Preparation for Coating**

The Gatorback coatings kit contains a 19 oz can of Gatorback Coatings Textured Cladding Cleaner. There is enough to completely clean 1 fully cladded Avalanche. **However, we recommend the use of Denatured Alcohol in addition to the Gatorback Textured Plastic Cleaner.** The reason we recommend this extra step is because non professionals may be attempting to apply this product. Professional painters know that the cleaning and preparation of the parts to be painted is the MOST important deciding factor in the success of the paint job. **The addition of this extra cleaning step will assure the best chances for adhesion of the Gatorback Coating to the TPO material.** The Preparation for Coating step will in itself be done in 4 steps.

### **Step #1: Denatured Alcohol Cleaning**

Take a microfiber towel and wet it with Denatured Alcohol. Going from panel to panel wet it with the alcohol soaked cloth allowing it to soak for a minute then go back with another cloth and wipe. You should go from panel to panel repeating this process until you wipe and the cloth is clean after you wipe it on the cladding. As each cloth becomes dirty replace it with a new one.

By the time you are finished you should be able to wipe any cladded surface with a wet alcohol soaked cloth and it should come back clean. Be sure to remove any adhesive from the rear bumper on the cladded AV's. It is very vital to the success of the application of Gatorback.

### **Step #2: Gatorback Textured Plastic Cleaner**

In this step you will essentially do what you did in the previous step. Spray a heavy wet coat of Textured Plastic Cladding Cleaner. Allow it to soak into the cladding for a minute then wipe it with a clean Microfiber towel.

If you did a good job cleaning with the alcohol the cloths will come back clean. You should be able to move through this step quickly. If the cloth comes back dirty repeat the cleaning procedure until the cladding is 100% clean.

### **Step #3: Scuffing**

In this step you will prepare your cladding to receive the paint. Your cladding should always have a certain shine to it. Your objective in this step will be to scuff the shine off of the cladding with the gray Scotchbrite scuff pads. You want to scuff hard enough to buff the shine off, but not too hard where you are damaging the texture or removing it.

### **Step #4: Double check/Clean Off**

Take a look at your truck. Is it evenly scuffed? Are you 100% sure those towels were clean when you started the scuffing stage? This is your opportunity to second guess yourself. **The previous 3 steps are designed to set the Gatorback Coating up for success.** If you are sure your truck is clean and well scuffed, wipe the cladding once more with GatorBack Textured Plastic Cleaner to remove scuffing dust.



# How To Apply Gatorback Coating Kit:

## Application of Gatorback Coating

Just like before there will be 4 steps to the application of Gatorback Coating process

### Step #1: HVLP Spray gun setup

Fill the air compressor tank and set the regulator to 35 psi using the manufacturer's instructions. Install the 1-1.3mm tip onto your HVLP spray gun as shown. Then connect the gun to the air hose from the tank. The gun should now show pressure on the regulator of the gun. Set the pressure on the gun to 10 psi. The gun is now ready to shoot.

### Step #2: Mix the paint

Put on your Safety glasses, and gloves. Using a paint stirrer mix 1qt of paint thoroughly until an even consistency is obtained. Then using the paint strainer strain the paint as you fill the gun. Place the cap over the can of paint and the spray gun. You are now ready to paint.

### Step #3: Painting

Put on your Respirator. Remember to spray in one direction NEVER change direction when you are spraying. Shoot each section individually do it well, do it evenly, and do not overcoat the section. Once you shoot a section move onto the next.



### Spray materials in this order:

1. Cargo Covers
2. Removed pieces Plastic Diamond plate, Corner Screens
3. Sail Panel by the third Brake Light
4. Starting from the Left side. Shoot the inside of the sail panel then the outside. Lift the Cargobox lids and shoot those.
5. Shoot the Right side next. Inside then Outside.
6. Clean any footprints you may have made getting in and out of the bed and shoot the rear bumper. (Cladded Avalanche Only)
7. Then shoot the cladding down the Left side of the Body (Cladded Avalanche Only)
8. Shoot the Nose of the truck (Cladded Avalanche Only)
9. Shoot the Right side of the Truck (Cladded Avalanche Only)



## *How To Apply Gatorback Coating Kit:*

**Go ahead and apply a second coat.** On the Cargo Covers you need to shoot in opposing directions for the second coat for the best results.



**Once the second coat is complete, evaluate your truck.**

Do you have enough paint for a third coat? Does it Need a Third Coat? If you have lots of paint left over maybe you do need to apply a third coat.

Decide the best course of action.

**This next step is for Avalanches with GM Running boards.**

The Gatorback Coating will adhere to the plastic used on the factory running board. There is some concern about the durability of applying Gatorback Coating to this surface. Gatorback is a Coating so it is possible for it to be damaged or worn through on an area like a running board that takes abuse like flying sand, gravel, footprints, and road debris it is impossible to guarantee the durability of this product in that application..

### **Step #4 Unmasking/Cleanup**

When you are done with your last coat of paint, allow to cure for 60 minutes at 70 degrees Fahrenheit before removal of masking materials.