



Creating Custom Ice Bases

By Voodoo Chyde

First, I soak the base in hot*, soapy water for a couple of hours to loosen/disintegrate the sticker. Usually the time it takes for the water to get cold is sufficient.



***Make sure the water is NOT boiling! This will melt and warp some of the newer bases!**

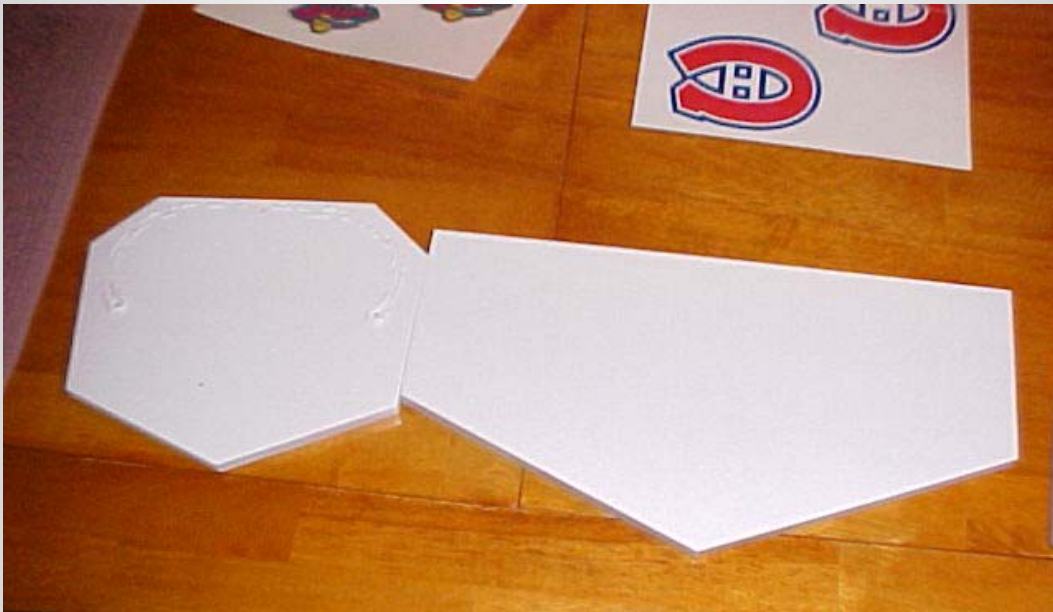
Next step, pull/rub/scrape as much of the paper as you can off. Don't worry about the adhesive; that comes next.

To get the glue residue off, I use a product called OOPS! that you can get just about anywhere (Wal-Mart, Target, ACE Hardware, Kmart, Loews, Home Depot, etc.) just look in the paint/hardware section. Make sure you get the original formula and not the new water-based one. Let it soak for about a minute and wipe it off with an old rough towel or paper towel. Make sure you let it dry thoroughly.

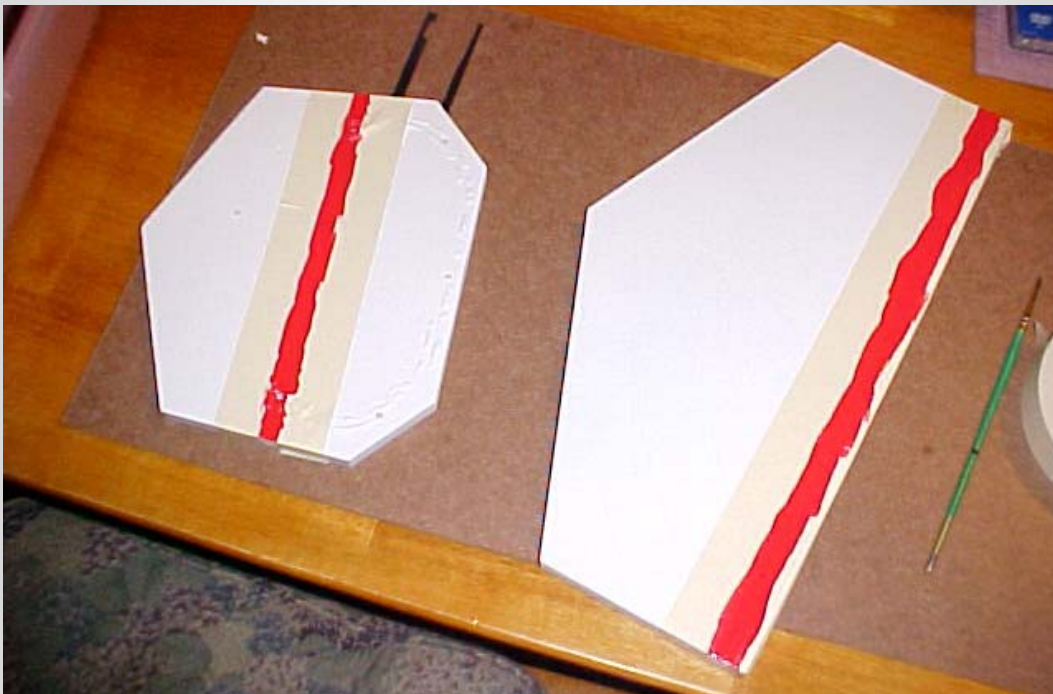




Next I prime it with white primer. I use Krylon because it dries faster.



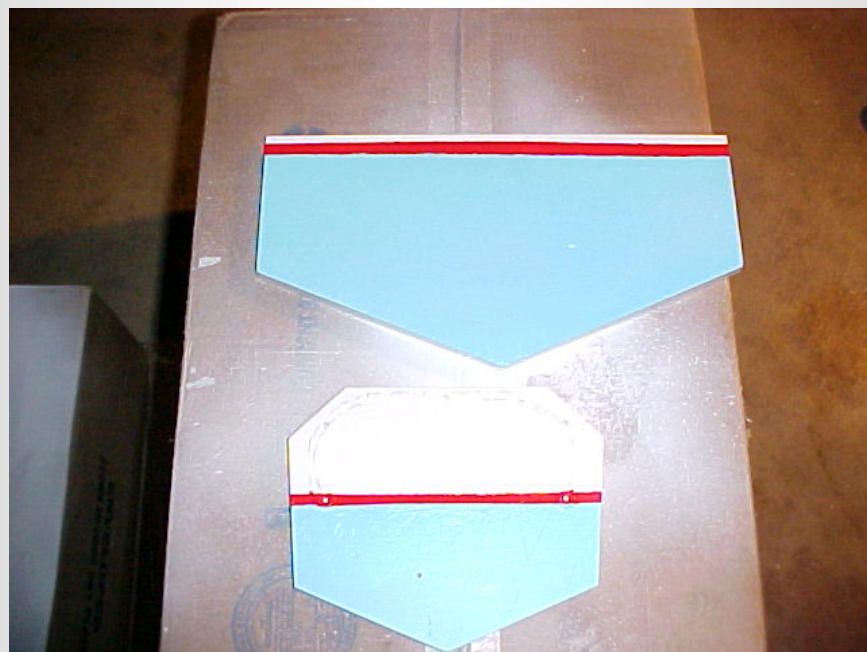
I mask off the goal line and paint it with a regular brush. For this I use Apple Barrel Red Apple paint (Number 20784) Make sure you press the tape down good especially around the post holes.





After the paint dries, remove the masking tape and spray the entire base with Testors Gloss Cote or Krylon Crystal Clear gloss. Let it dry a couple hours. This is to keep the red line from bleeding into the blue crease or the white under the net. Don't worry if it seeped under the tape in a few places... This gives it a more realistic effect.

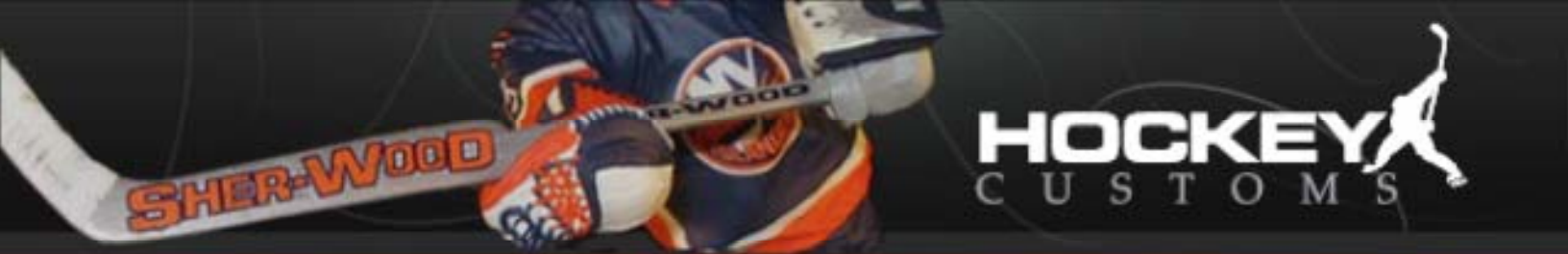
Once the clear coat has dried, you can paint your blue crease area. I use Liquitex Brilliant Blue, some Liquitex Matte medium and Apple Barrel White, though most any bright blue should suffice.





Once the blue crease paint has dried, apply your decals (player's name and team logo). I use clear decal paper for this. Of course you know to use decal softener after it dries. Note that on a 12" base white decal paper should be used and the background of your image should be set to match the bright blue paint used on the base.





After the whole thing has dried i.e. your decals have been softened and dried, the crease is dry, mist the whole base with white primer. I go over the blue with more coats than the white so the name looks hazy, but readable. Just make sure you do light coats. You can always apply more, but you can't take it back off without starting over. If you do apply too much, I would just mask off the area you're happy with and redo the area you messed up.





After the prime has dried apply Testors Dull Cote.

Let it dry and admire your bases the way they were supposed to look. ;-)



It sounds like a lot of steps but trust me, it's so easy you will end up redoing all your bases in your personal collection as well as those for customs. (I'm halfway through.)

I can't say enough about that "OOPS!" product; I use it for everything. Removing mold release; sticker residue; paint mistakes; decal mistakes; package tag goop; everything! It's only about \$2-\$3 a can, but it more than pays for itself with the first use.

Enjoy!



HOCKEY
CUSTOMS

A white silhouette of a hockey player in mid-air, performing a jump shot or slapshot, positioned to the right of the 'HOCKEY' text.