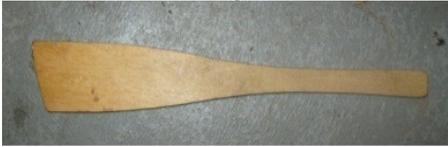


Sealing a Rim

By BearDad, Based on PianoV's Procedures

Items Needed

- Applicator (spatula, wooden paddle, etc.). The width should be more than the width of the bottom of the rim's center trough, but less than the width of the top of the trough



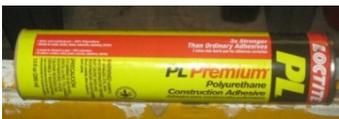
- Balancing Stand (or two sawhorses)
- Beeswax



- Bolt-in-place Valve Stems



- Polyurethane construction sealant (PL Ultimate, Liquid Nails, Sikaflex 221, etc.)



- Tire sealant (Slime, Ride-on, etc.)

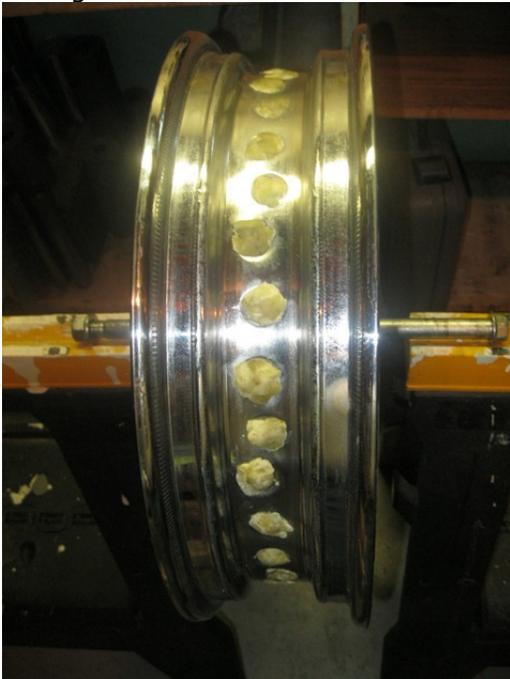


Procedure

1. After dismounting the tire, position the rim on the balancing stand (or on its axle between the two sawhorses). This will allow the rim to be spun as the construction sealant is applied.



2. Using very coarse sandpaper, scuff up the center trough of the rim, especially the sides. This will ensure the sealant's proper adhesion to the rim.
3. Install the bolt-in-place valve stem. If sealing the rear wheel, make sure the valve stem faces the left side of the rim; otherwise it might become inaccessible behind the exhaust pipes. Tighten the nut on it enough to ensure it does not move, but don't be concerned about making it airtight; the sealant will take care of that.
4. Cover each spoke nipple with a piece of beeswax. It need not be a large piece, just enough to completely cover the nipple to prevent any sealant from adhering to it. This will allow the spokes to still be tightened at a later date.



5. Apply small amount of construction sealant to a piece of sandpaper and sand the sealant into the edges of the trough. This will ensure maximum sealant adhesion to the rim.
6. Apply the remainder of the sealant into the trough. Use enough to completely cover the bottom of the trough, as well as each spoke nipple, typically one half of a 10 ounce tube. Use the applicator to evenly spread the sealant along the length of the trough, but be careful to avoid covering the bolt-in-place valve stem.



7. Allow the sealant to completely cure (5 to 7 days) in a high humidity environment. If the humidity level is low, place the rim in a plastic bag with a bucket of water or wet towel and close the bag.
8. Mount the tire, without the tube, being careful to not tear or gouge the sealant with the inside edge of the tire while mounting.
9. Inflate the tire and check for leaks by placing a small amount of soapy water where each spoke intersects with the rim. If bubbles appear in the soapy water at any point it will be necessary to dismount the tire, remove the sealant, and begin again.
10. Balance the wheel (or take it to a shop to have it balanced), reinstall it to the motorcycle, and apply the tire sealant per the instructions on the bottle.
11. Go for a ride!

Reference

<http://forums.delphiforums.com/sgmfa/messages?msg=92055.9>