

## Re: white paste

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- *From:* Lostgallifreyan <[no-one@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:no-one@xxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sun, 23 Apr 2006 21:22:55 GMT
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Lostgallifreyan <[no-one@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:no-one@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in  
[news:Xns97AEE30026B83lostgallifreyangmail@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Xns97AEE30026B83lostgallifreyangmail@xxxxxxxxxxxx):

"I.F." <[dai.ode@xxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:dai.ode@xxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in  
[news: 5S2g.2240\\$Y6.1264@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:5S2g.2240$Y6.1264@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx):

The only problems with putting too much on are the cost of the paste and what squeezes out when you re tighten the heatsink is messy! In the years when I made my living servicing PC monitors & PSU boxes, about 4 or 5% of PSU blowups were due to insufficient heatsink compound. In every case, replacing the blown components and using sufficient paste provided a permanent repair.

I've made money from repairs too. I've seen the damage that happens when a power amp got too much paste to allow proper compression and conduction of heat. Fixed it too, with proper method. I said this twice now, because I don't want this point to get lost. If thick film was the way, there'd have been loads there already, and the Mysterieux said there wasn't.

Maestro Mysterieux, I've often left the original there like you're suggesting. Check that it's uncontaminated by even a single hair though. And smear inwards like I said in that other post. This will give it a bubble-free profile and also remove surface contaminants to a large extent. But if it's got furry while you were working, replace it for sure.

Small followup:  
Failures due to too little goop usually happen on small surfaces.

## Re: white paste

Failures due to too much goop usually happen on big ones.

PA and guitar amps usually have bigger heatsinks than the surfaces involved in the large transistors used in PSU's because they mount several devices on one plate then mount that to an even bigger one, or to the chassis.

It's easy to squeeze a little excess from small parts, but very hard to do it from between two plates of metal.

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