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Why Do Bass Boats Have Sparkly Glitter Paint?

Anyone who's spent a lot of time around popular fishing lakes will have seen the classic glitter-painted expensive bass boat. I did some research to uncover why these paint finishes are so popular on modern bass boats.

Why do bass boats have such sparkly glitter paint? **The answer is both by manufacturers to attract fishermen buyer's to a good-looking boat and to hide the scratches and scuffs associated with hard fishing the boat will endure. There is also some belief that the reflection of the**

ABOUT US

I am an avid angler and outdoorsman. I grew up fishing for anything that swims but really cut my teeth fishing for trout, chain pickerel, bass, and bullheads in my teenage years. Since then, I've lived across the country and have really taken that passion for fishing to a new level.

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glitter will attract fish.

Don't get me wrong, selling more bass boats is certainly a primary reason for this particularly flashy paint job. But it is not the full picture.

Before assuming bass boats are finished with sparkly paint merely to lure prospective fishermen into spending huge money on their boats, let's take a deeper look into all the legitimate factors at play here.

I know this is a bit random, but if you ever wanted to go on a guided or chartered fishing trip in freshwater or saltwater, you should check out Fishing Booker. They are the leading database of certified and professional fishing guides at the guaranteed lowest prices. They have countless listings for such dream destinations as the Florida Keys, Corpus Christi, Great Lakes, San Diego, Central America, Montana, and many more. Click here to visit Fishing Booker and book your trip of a lifetime at very affordable prices.

Reasons Why Many New Bass Boats are Coated in Glitter Paint

1. Glitter Paint Helps Conceal Scratches and Scuffs

From a practical standpoint, this is the most credible reason. Serious bass fishermen are going to get a lot of use out of their investments for years or even decades.

They will fish them hard in some bad locations with debris, rocks, and trees. It's not uncommon for bass fishermen to drift right into overhang branches.

The glitter paint finish does offer some concealment to scratches and scuffs. The sparkle makes these blemishes tougher to see.

I've personally seen fishing boats without glitter paint

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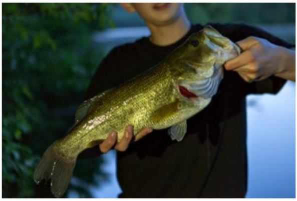
finishes and the blemishes are obvious. The sparkle of the paint does a pretty good job concealing these.

2. Glittered Paint May Draw In Fish Under Right Conditions (Debatable)

This is the most referenced and scoffed at reason given by fishermen. I think both responses have their merit here.

The belief is under the right light conditions, fish are attracted to the glittery reflection of light in the water. It could signal bait in the water or changing current flows.



Most likely, the flecks of light look like fish scales falling in the water column. This natural condition certainly does attract fish in both fresh and saltwater.

Some trolling fishermen, for example, will rig flashers to their lines to attract in fish from further away to the baits. Shiny spoons or spinners also draw fish in. It's not uncommon to see lures with glitter patterns built right in.

But the question we all want to know remains unaddressed. Does the reflection of the glitter boat attract fish?

As far as I can tell, no scientific studies have been conducted on this topic. Some fishermen will swear by the glitter paint job for drawing in fish.

It is true, the glitter paint does reflect specks of light into the water. My opinion is that to a degree, under the right light conditions, fish could be attracted closer to the boat by the reflected light.

That said, I don't think it makes a difference most of the time. I'd argue that on sunny days, too much light could be reflected in the water and actually repel fish.

I will say that the light reflecting off the paint will keep the sides of the boat a little bit cooler than if there was no glitter-based reflection.

There could be some merit to the glitter paint being beneficial. There is also room for the naysayers to poke holes in these theories too.

Selecting the right gear and bait for bass is vital. For a comprehensive breakdown of the best rods, reels, electronics, line, and baits for bass fishing, check out my recommended bass fishing gear list. Always be the most prepared and equipped angler on the water.

3. Bass Fishermen With Money Are Attracted to Glitter-Painted Boats

This is likely the primary reason why boat manufacturers paint their boats with glittering paint. It simply looks sharper and more expensive than matte paint finishes.

It has been proven in almost every industry. Shiny objects are perceived as more expensive and more valuable than dull items.

At the end of the day, boat manufacturers care most about what will sell more boats. Yes, they want their boats to perform beyond expectations and many of them succeed.

But a shiny new bass boat is on the wishlist of countless bass fishermen across the country just like the like new sports car is. The shine just makes most people want it that much more.

I'll be honest, while I don't think I'm a glitter-painted bass boat fellow, I will admit I really like the look of these boats.

The glitter paint pops and it really draws the eye. I don't think it provides a great fishing advantage but it sure looks nice. At least that's how I feel about it.

If I had the money, heck I might even be suckered into buying one.

Are All New Bass Boats Painted in Sparkly Glitter Paint?

The answer is no. Many new bass boats are going with a more retroactive look by incorporating more metal flake and less glitter gel coat into their paint finishes.

It all depends on the preferences of the fishermen. Some fishermen really like the metal flake look and will be drawn towards those type of boats. Still, many others prefer the glitter look.

As far as concealing damages is concerned, glitter paint does a much better job at hiding scratches than metal flake does. That is one definitive drawback to metal flake but a lot of serious fishermen want people to see their battle scars.

The metal flake boats may be better for bright, sunny days as they won't reflect as much unnatural light into the water. Like I said earlier, there's a very fine line between attracting fish and scaring the crap out of them.

Bass boat makers will continue making both paint finishes because they sell. There is a huge market for glitter-based paint and a growing market for metal flake paint.

Is there a Benefit to Fishing with Matte or Neutral Colored Boats?

Most freshwater fishing is done on boats without glitter-based paint. Most walleye and pike fishing up north is done in single-tone red or green fishing boats.

Heck, even most saltwater boats have white and maybe a light pastel second color. These fishermen don't need to draw fish in with artificially reflected light.

You definitely do not need a shiny boat to catch a lot of fish. I can think of more instances than not when a matte finish boat would be more beneficial for fishing.

I don’t think you need to invest in a camouflage-painted flat-bottom skiff, but just about any color boat will catch you a lot of fish.

The boat is not what catches you fish. The boat is merely the vessel by which you access the fish. It’s nothing more than your vehicle.

Glitter-painted finishes are merely the standard for the bass boat industry. Just like red-sided fishing boats for northern pike in Ontario and white boats for bonefish in the Florida Keys.

People just expect a certain look. Boat manufacturers are aware of this so they’ll continue to produce great bass boats to match what their customer base not only expects but wants.

If bass fishermen stopped by glittery bass boats, you can bet manufacturers would stop making them. Truth be told, the glitter paint is growing on me and it certainly looks better than non-glitter paint on the same boat.

If you have a bass boat or are interested in getting one, check out these great boat accessories on Amazon.

Related Questions:

Why Do Bass Boats Have Carpeted Floors?

Most new bass boats have carpeted floors to cushion the impact of standing hours at end fishing for bass. Yes, carpet is harder to clean than deck surfaces are, but many fishermen find the carpet far more enjoyable a surface to spend the day fishing on.

Why Do Bass Boats Have Huge Outboard Motors?

Bass fishermen can travel many miles a day on the lake in search of fish. Bass boats are designed to speed very fast to get fishermen where the fish are. For more stealthy maneuvering at the fishing locations, most bass boats have trolling motors that can sneak the boat into position.

Why Do Bass Fishermen Have So Many Rods?

Bass fishermen can face ever-changing fishing situations and having a handful of rods on standby could make it easier and faster to catch fish. Fishermen also just love gear so naturally, they are going to want a few rods for every situation.

To read a much more in-depth look into this question, read my blog post "Why Do Bass Fishermen Have So Many Rods?". It was an hour well-spent researching this topic and I know you'll get a lot out of it.

Eric Matechak

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