

Spray-Up vs Hand Lay-Up: Process Selection Checklist

Questions to answer before you choose an open-mold process, from BLG Fiberglass

Define the part

1 What loads must the part carry?

Structural parts favor hand lay-up; cosmetic or low-load parts can use spray-up.

2 Is one face hidden?

A hidden back face is a good sign spray-up will serve.

3 How thick and contoured is it?

Thick or highly directional sections favor hand lay-up.

Define the program

1 How many parts per year?

Repeat moderate-strength quantities favor spray-up speed.

2 What is the unit cost target?

Spray-up lowers labor per part; hand lay-up raises it but adds strength.

3 Is this a prototype or production?

Prototypes and low volume suit hand lay-up and open molds.

Specify performance, not process

1 Set a target glass-to-resin ratio

This drives strength more than the process name.

2 Ask how consolidation is verified

Void content and roll-out quality decide real strength.

3 Confirm the resin system

Polyester, vinyl ester, or epoxy by chemistry and cost.

Have a custom fiberglass or FRP project? Talk to the BLG fabrication team.

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