



TIPS ON THE CARE OF YOUR NEW NORTH SAILS

Proper sail care is easy and takes very little time, but it can make a BIG difference in the life and performance of your new NORTH sails!

STORE SAILS DRY AND FOLDED When not in use, your sails should be stored dry and folded in their sailbags, much as they were when you received them. Don't fold them on the same creases every time, as you will have eight or ten permanent creases instead of many light ones which will generally shake out by the time you reach the starting line. Avoid high temperatures. Bolt ropes occasionally shrink if stored in a hot place, such as the trunk of a car which is parked in the sun.

Dacron and nylon sails have only two real enemies, sunlight and abrasion. Direct sunlight will eventually rot the cloth (roller furled genoas must be covered if left up). Abrasion will cause threads to part, and eventually the sail will tear. When sails are left on, or in your boat, make sure they are dry and covered from the sun. DON'T leave them up, flapping in the breeze at the dock, while you have lunch. Cover any part of your rig which constantly rubs on a sail with leather or tape to prevent chafe.

CLEAN ONLY WHEN NECESSARY To remove salt and surface dirt, hose your sails off with fresh water at the dock and go sailing until they are dry. This will help prevent bolt ropes from shrinking and is probably the best way to get salt out of spinnakers. Don't store spinnakers wet for any length of time, as the darker colors will bleed onto the lighter ones.

Should your sails get so dirty that you absolutely cannot stand it, soak them in lukewarm water with a mild soap or detergent. Rub the dirtiest areas gently with a sponge or soft brush to loosen what dirt you can. Then rinse thoroughly in fresh water. It's best to dry your sails by sailing with them, but in lieu of this they can be spread out on a lawn, but don't let them flap in a breeze.

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Prevention is the best way to keep sails clean...wipe shrouds down, don't lower sails on a dirty deck, and don't let them drop into dirty puddles or brush across greasy fittings or dirty muddy ground.

NEW VINYL NUMBERS A new vinyl number material has virtually eliminated wrinkles caused by uneven shrinkage or rathered stitching. Should a corner or an edge of a number lift up, simply press it back down and rub that area firmly. Avoid folding sails across the numbers.

FOLDING VS. STUFFING Sail changes while racing a M.O.R.C. or ocean racing boat often leave several crumpled headsails in the forepeak. These can be stuffed into sailbags without doing the sails any harm. After the race, when it's convenient, they can be dried and folded on a lawn or dock (so that they take up less space aboard the boat, and will be smoother when hoisted for the first time the next weekend).

WIND SPEED LIMITATIONS Any sails, even NORTH sails, can be permanently hurt by carrying them beyond the wind strength for which they were designed. These limitations vary depending on the size of the yacht (and hence loads imposed on the sails), but here are rough guidelines for the medium sized ocean racer, with maximum wind velocities given in miles per hour of wind across the deck (apparent wind):

CLOTH WEIGHT	3/4 Dynac	1.5 Dynac	2 & 3 oz.	4 & 4.5 oz.	5 & 5.5 oz.	6 & 6.5 oz.
APP. WND VEL	3-4 mph	5-6 mph	7-8 mph	11-12 mph	15-16 mph	20-22 mph
	7 oz. & Up					

Any wind (except really large boats)

Because the 3/4 and 1.5 ounce Dynac sails can so easily be overstretched, we do not guarantee them against shape changes or damage caused by wind loading. If you take care of them and get them down when the wind comes up, they will give you excellent service for several seasons...but one mistake can ruin your new sail! Be careful, and your Dynac sail will win many races for you.

WE ARE HAPPY TO DO ANY REPAIRS OR RECUTTING FOR YOU AT ANY TIME, BUT IF YOU CAN BRING YOUR SAILS IN FOR GENERAL SERVICE AND REPAIRS AFTER THE SAILING SEASON (SEPTEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER) IT WOULD HELP US, AND YOU CAN TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR TEN PERCENT DISCOUNT OFF OUR REGULAR REPAIR RATES.

GOOD SAILING!

NORTH SAILS MIDWEST