## **INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS**

## **BOSTON WHALER 3 PIECE RUB RAIL KIT**



## Recommended tools:

- Clamps to hold L-molding and receiver in place; at least four.
- Masking tape
- Miter saw, razor blade, or box cutter
- Drill
- Pop Rivet tool and pop rivets
- Rubber mallet to persuade components reluctant to assemble.
- Utility knife
- Remove and identify the 3 components that make up the rub rail kit from the box. There is a
  rigid receiver (hard plastic), a small flexible rubber "L" shaped trim, and a flexible rubber
  "insert".
- Uncoil the rigid receiver <u>carefully</u>, as it is under very high tension. It is a good idea to ask for help
  when uncoiling this component. Hold the coil with both hands and have someone cut the tape
  free, and slowly allow the coil to unravel. Avoid working on concrete as the coil can be
  scratched.
- 3. Identify the small "L" shaped trim, this is the first of the 3 components that will be installed. This trim is held in place by being "sandwiched" between the rigid receiver and the gunnel of the boat. Starting from the stern (back) of the boat, and moving forward, place the "L" shaped trim on the edge of the gunnel, making sure that the longer side of the "L" trim is on the TOP of the gunnel. You will need to use masking/painters tape, spaced every 10"-12" to "temporarily" hold

the trim in place. It's important to use masking tape so that it does not leave adhesive residue when removed.

- 4. Once you have the "L" shaped trim in place all the way around the boat, it's now time to install the rigid receiver. You will need two clamps for this process in order to hold the receiver in place while drilling and fastening to the gunnel (usually referred to as bar clamps and are very inexpensive). You will also need a rivet gun (these can be purchased at any hardware or home improvement store and are \$5 \$10). Lastly, you will need a drill with a 13/64" drill bit. The receiver is very rigid, so heating it during, or just prior to installing will make it more malleable and easier to work with. You can heat it with a variety of methods such as letting it sit in the hot sun for 30 minutes or so prior to installation, soaking it in hot water, or using a heat gun or blow dryer to heat the area you are working with.
- 5. It is highly recommended to ask for help during this step. Starting from the stern of the boat, uncoil the receiver enough so that you can clamp a 12" 18" section of the receiver tightly to the gunnel, it is normal for the receiver to "bow" a little bit between the clamps, however keep in mind that when you are fastening it be sure to push it firmly against the gunnel so that the receiver doesn't come out too "wavy" once installed (some waviness is normal and unavoidable)
- 6. Once you have a 12'' 18'' section of the receiver clamped in place, you will need to drill holes every 6". Using a 13/64" drill bit, drill holes through the receiver (centered within the small channel you will see in the center of the receiver), and into the gunnel of the boat.
- 7. Once the receiver is clamped and the holes have been drilled, it is now time to fasten the receiver to the gunnel with the rivets provided. It is a good idea to use a sealant such as silicone/caulking etc. to inject into each hole to prevent water intrusion. Using a rivet gun, insert the rivet with the side that looks like a nail inside the gun, and insert the opposite end into the hole. Then pull the trigger several times until the rivet "pops" free. You will want to be <u>pushing very firmly</u> while fastening to ensure the receiver is very tight against the gunnel to minimize any gaps or waviness as mentioned above. If you make a mistake, you can drill out the rivet using the same 13/64" drill bit. Repeat this process all the way around the boat, lessening the distance between rivets to 3" 4" around the bow area where it curves. Use a hand saw to cut the receiver so that it is flush with the transom of the boat, as there will be extra. This also applies to the "L" trim, but NOT the receiver (explained in next step). You can also remove and cut the masking tape that was holding the "L" trim in place at this time.

- 8. It is now time to install the insert. You will want to leave  $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " 3" of the insert hanging beyond the transom. To install the insert, start by inserting the bottom hook on the back of the insert into the bottom of the receiver, then squeeze it so that you can get the top hook to insert into the top of the receiver. You will then want to use a rubber mallet to tap it so that it is fully clicked into place. Repeat this all the way around the boat and leave another  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " 3" hanging beyond the transom on the other side.
- 9. In this last step, you will need a sharp box cutter, miter saw, razor blade, etc. to shape each end of the insert. Using the blade, carefully cut the small "hook" portions off of the back of the insert (these are there to hold it inside the receiver). Once you have cut the backing off, determine the length you will want the end of the insert to be, either by using the location of the end of your old insert, or by using aesthetics (looks) as a guide. There is no "set" length, as long as there is enough to wrap around the end of the rigid receiver and onto the back of the transom. Once you have determined the desired length and it is cut, round off the end of the insert with the blade or with a pair of scissors. Lastly, drill a hole with a 1/8" drill bit (approx. 3/8" from the end of the insert) through the insert and into the transom. Then, using the #12 x 1 ½" screws and finish washers provided, fasten the end of the insert to the transom. Repeat this for the other side. You have now completed the installation of your rub rail, enjoy!