BOOM COVER

POINT NORTH
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BOOM COVERS

The purpose of a boom cover is to protect the sail from UV light degradation. The best material to use is acrylic canvas and the fitting on this should be not too tight so as to allow air to circulate, but also should not cause excess windage.

If using an old cover as a pattern, remember to allow for any shrinkage that may have occurred. If replacing a cover for a new sail, also remember that a new sail does not compact as much, so greater allowance should be made for this.

To take the measurements for a boom cover follow the diagram below taking measurements as shown. Once taken the circumferences of the sail, should be halved and 5cm added to this to ensure an easy fit. The end shape is approximately L shaped, with a central seam running along the boom and with an extra piece for a collar around the mast. For ease of use on the boat, the method of construction here allows for shockcord and lacing hooks along the underside of the boom, and a wraparound at the mast, secured with webbing and quick release buckles.

Winches
If you have winches on the mast, it is possible to make cylindrical tubes of canvas which are positioned accurately where the winches are in the cover. However, the nature of the wrap around in this cover means that the winches are just enclose in the cover with reinforcement sewn where abrasion make place. Remember to ensure that the circum of the mast allows for the height of the wines when measuring.

ITEMS REQUIRED FOR A BOOM COVER

Uncoated acrylic canvas, (AC11), this also gives minimum wastage
Grommets, (approx 9.7mm)
Shockcord (5mm) & hooks
Rope for pulling taut along boom
Thread
Side Release Buckles RSR25
Webbing WPP25

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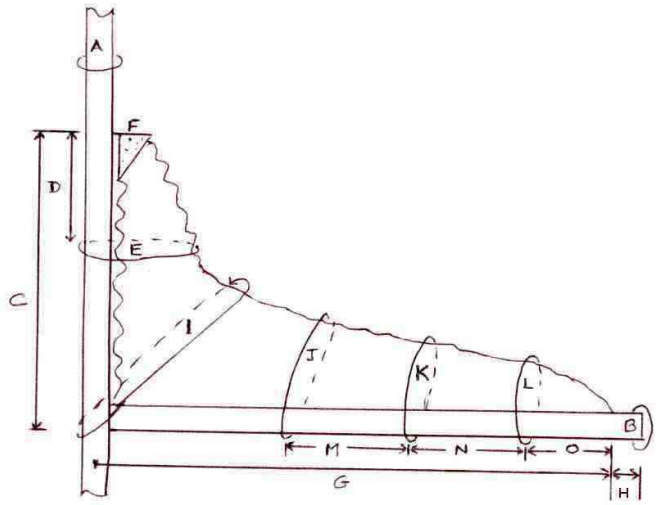
MEASUREMENTS REQUIRED



SAILCOVER FOR MAINSAIL WITH LUFF SLIDES

PREFIX	DESCRIPTION	MEASUREMENT
A	Circumference of the mast at collar height	
B	Circumference of boom	
C	Height of sail from underside of the boom to the top of the headboard at the mast	
D	Height of maximum circumference of sail at the mast	
E	Maximum circumference of sail at the mast	
F	Distance across the headboard	
G	Length of sail from mid point of the mast to the clew of the sail	
H	Distance from Clew of mainsail to aft end of boom	
I	Circumference of the sail at the mast, including the m	
J	Maximum circumference of Sail at distance M …….	
K	Circumference of Sail at distance N …….	
L	Circumference of Sail at distance O …….	

Lazy Jacks NOT SHOWN ON DIAGRAM
If Lazy Jack slots are required take dimensions from back of mast.
L1 .....& Exit Height ....
L2 .....& Exit Height ....
L3 .....& Exit Height ....

Method of Construction
Lay out the cloth, there is no difference between the sides when using AC11, and begin by drawing out the length. Allow a 10cm turn up for the bottom hem (this is a double turn of 5cm), then using the measurements taken draw out the port side of the cover. Once the points are all marked out, join these, fairing out the line to make as smooth line as possible with an arc about a third of the distance aft. Then draw a seam allowance parallel to this line, usually about 15mm. At the mast there needs to be a 10cm hem, plus a 10cm allowance at the aft end of the boom for a double hem as previously. Mark on any winches for reinforcement.

The starboard side of the cover needs to be the same as the port side but the mast end needs to extended by 50cm to allow for a wrap around at the mast. Draw on the hem allowance as above at the mast and the aft end.

Collar. The height of the collar should be 20cm with a 15mm seam allowance on the bottom edge and a 5cm turn over at the top. The length of the collar should be that of the length of the port and starboard pieces at the top of the mast height.

Sewing
Sew reinforcing patches form a PVC/plastic cloth over the areas where any winches are marked.
Begin by joining the 2 pieces wrong sides together and sewing along the long curved edge. Seal the centre seam with a hot knife/sealer to prevent fraying or bind the seam if preferred. Open the cover out, lay the panels flat and folding the seam allowance so that it lays on one side or other, sew the seam flat with either one or two rows of stitching.
Crease the seam allowances along the bottom edge and sew at the top and bottom.
Crease the seam allowances at the aft end of the boom and sew at top and bottom. Add a length of string in the midpoint, of length twice H to pull the cover taut.

Sew the collar onto the main panel sewing along the seam allowance marked, then seal/bind as for the main panel. Sew flat as previously making sure that the seam is folded flat onto the collar. This ensures that the water will run off seam.

Crease the seam allowances for the remaining edges and sew top and bottom.

Lie out the cover and fold the mast ends, so that it takes the circumference of the mast with the starboard side overlapping that of the port side.
Divide the finished height into +/- 40cm intervals, or the nearest fit and mark on the port side 5 cm back from the finished length of the starboard overlap each point. On the starboard side sew a 35cm length of webbing and on the port side sew the RSR buckle.

Mark along the underside of the boom, at 40/50cm intervals or so that the length is equally divided. Remember to begin from the aft of the mast and to make allowances for any kicking straps or main sheets that may protrude from under the boom from the cover. Sew the shockcord hooks on to one side and put in 2 eyes on the other side, so that the shockcord loops out between these to hook on the other side.

Winch Covers
Once measure these should be made 2" larger in diameter than the actual winch and 25mm longer.

Jackstays cut outs.
When measuring the cover, measure the distance aft from the mast of each jackstay and the height it requires. Mark these on the cover allowing an extra 30mm height. Cut along the line marked and bind with either sailcloth or PT25, polyester binding tape. Cut out a strip of acrylic the length of the marked cut, and 15cm long. Seal/bind to prevent fraying as previously, and along one long edge sew a length of Loop Velcro. Sew this onto the cover so that the flap closes aft and then mark where the Hook Velcro needs to be and sew. Repeat for all other jackstay cut outs.