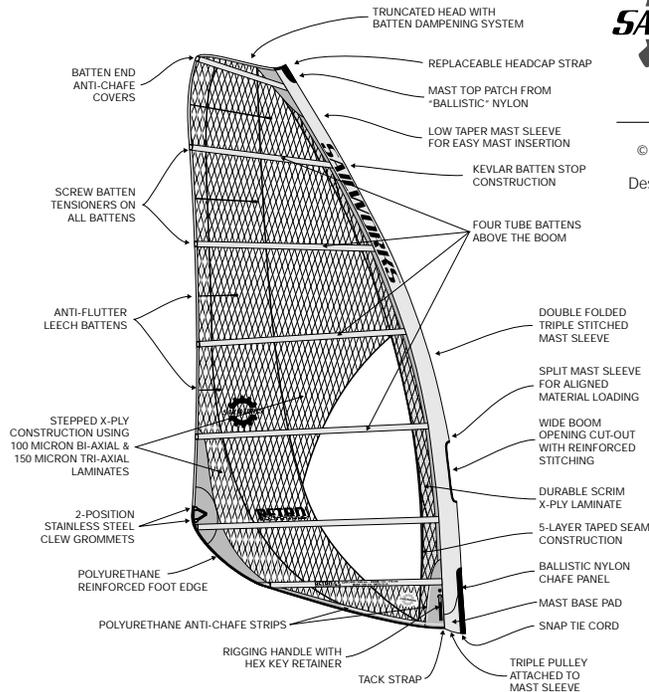


- Shake the sand off before rolling up your sail at the beach, as this will help keep the monofilm clear. Most scratches to the monofilm are caused by sand and grit abrading the sail while it's rolled up.
- Prevent creases in the monofilm by rolling your sail tightly and use the bungee Snap Tie to keep it rolled tightly and store the sail where it won't get flattened.
- Rinse with fresh water occasionally, including inside the mast sleeve, to avoid salt and sand buildup.
- Avoid rigging on hard or abrasive surfaces.
- If left rigged for extended periods, release the outhaul and downhaul.
- Store your rigged sail out of direct sunlight. UV degrades monofilm.
- Repair tears promptly through a qualified sail repairperson. Make temporary repairs to the monofilm with Mylar packing tape or a sticker on both sides.
- Do not use solvents for cleaning near seams, as this will dissolve the seam tape adhesives. Use water and mild soap. To remove tar spots or sticker adhesive residue use a citrus based cleaner.
- When leaving your sail unattended on the beach, secure it from blowing away.
- Avoid getting sand or dirt inside the mast sleeve and batten pockets. This reduces sail performance by increasing friction and wear on the mast and battens.
- Loosen the batten tension if you are not going to use the sail for an extended period.
- Check the non-skid texture on your board for excessively distributed or very coarse non-skid on the rails around the mast step and at the nose. Coarse non-skid in these areas can badly damage the sail. Use some fine sand paper and gently sand the texture down so that it is less abrasive to the sail.

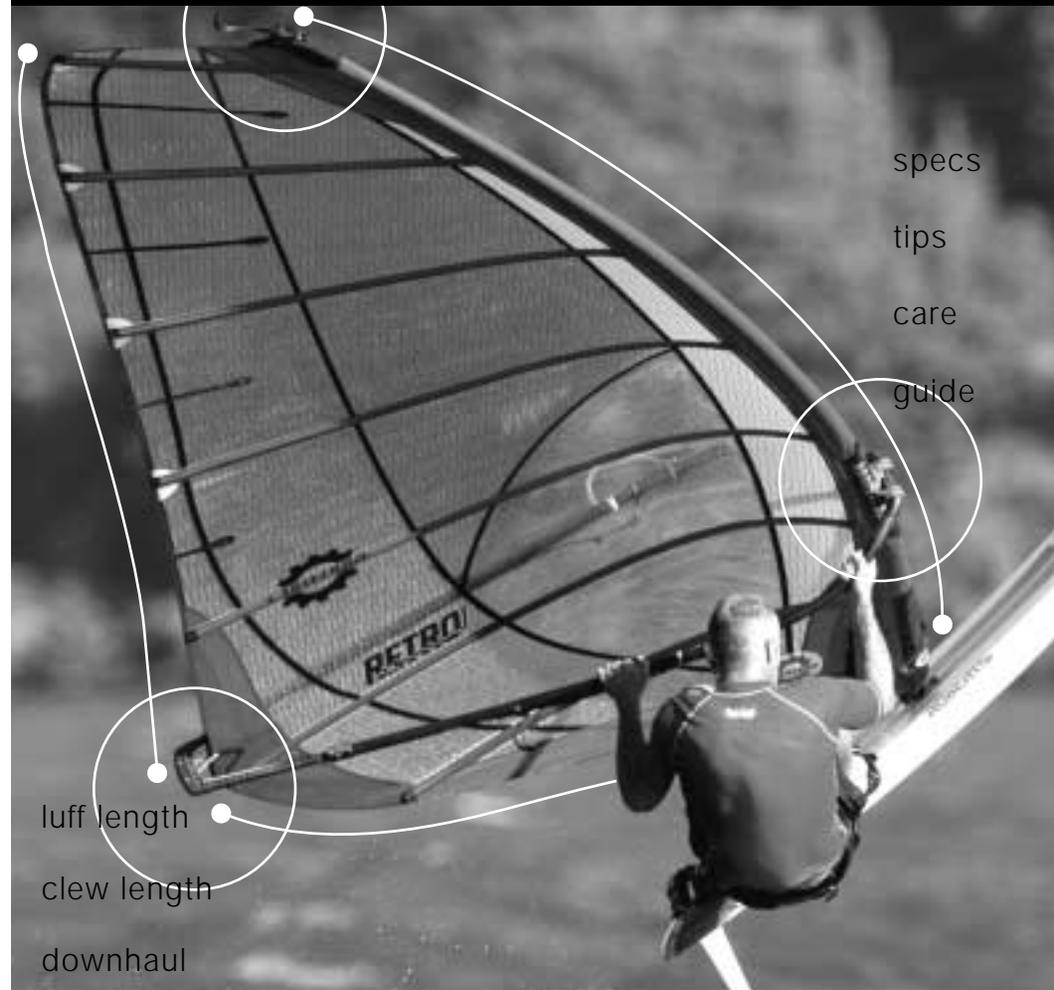
sail graphic



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 Design: Bridgeworks UK
 Printed in Canada
 Photography:
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1. INSERT THE MAST

Pull the sail down the mast in sections using first the tack handle and the boom opening to assist you. Working the mast tip to the top of the sleeve before trying to pull the tack all the way down to the base of the mast. To prevent excessive wrinkling and creasing of luff panel, try to avoid laying the sail down on the ground before the mast is all the way in. Keep the battens all rotated to the under-side of the mast. Check that the headcap is seated completely in the mast cap and that the two-piece coupling of the mast is joined completely **before** applying downhaul tension.

2. INSERT THE MAST BASE

If your mast is shorter than the sail's luff length, estimate the amount of mast base extension needed (luff length minus mast length), and adjust your base extension. Your downhaul pulley system should have 6:1 purchase and enough line to make lacing easy. The triple pulley on the sail works best with 4 or 5 mm line. Lace the downhaul line, in accordance with one of the two lacing methods shown depending upon whether your mast base pulleys are in-line or 90 degrees opposed the sail pulley.

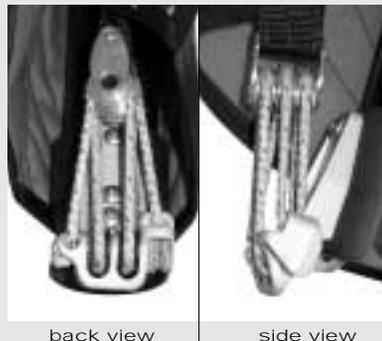
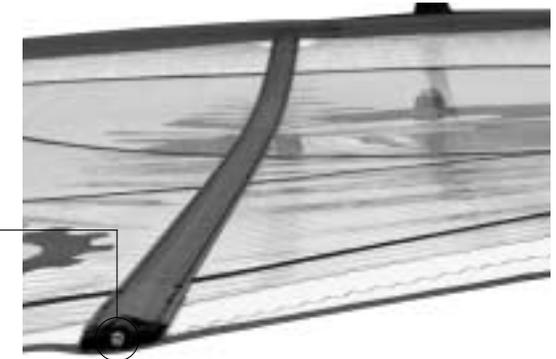
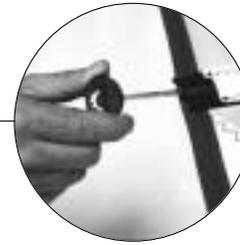
Do not fully downhaul the sail yet – leave the downhaul just “hand-tight”, or at 50% maximum tension.

3. ATTACH THE BOOM

If you plan to use the on-the-fly adjustable outhaul system enclosed, set that up on your boom before attaching the boom to the mast. Follow the instructions enclosed with the adjustable outhaul for setup and use.

Adjust your boom to the length specified for the sail. Attach the boom at your preferred boom height. If in doubt as to where to place the boom, attach it to the mast at the middle of the boom opening and re-adjust it after the sail is fully rigged. Be careful not to attach it too high in the boom opening, as you must account for the sail to be downhauled further. Also be careful not to pinch the mast sleeve or your uphaul line under the boom clamp.

Do not set the outhaul yet.

INLINE PULLEYS**OPPOSED PULLEYS****4. TENSION THE STREAMLINED BATTEN TENSIONERS (SBT's)**

The battens are tensioned using the hex-key tool found under the Velcro tab above the tack handle. Insert the hex-key into the cap screw inside the end of each SBT at the leech end of each batten. Turn the hex-key to the right (clockwise) to tighten. Tension the battens **JUST** until the small wrinkles across the batten pockets disappear. Look for continuous smooth shape to the sailcloth adjacent to the batten pocket (see photos). You should see a smooth reflection, with no wrinkles alongside the battens. Batten tension should be tightest on the lower battens and looser on the upper battens.

▲ needs batten tension ▼ perfect batten tension

**CAUTION: DO NOT OVER-TENSION THE BATTENS – POOR ROTATION, EXCESSIVE FOIL DEPTH AND DAMAGE TO THE SAIL CAN RESULT.**

Replace the hex-key tool back in its pocket above the tack handle. The batten tension will need to be re-tightened after the initial one or two uses as the sail stretches and sets into its final shape. Once the batten tension is set, it's not necessary to release batten tension after each session.

5. TUNING THE DOWNHAUL

There are two key indicators of correct downhaul tension. One is the position of the batten tips (front ends) relative to the mast, particularly the batten just above the boom. The other is profile angle of the upper battens and tension distribution around the head and leech. The downhaul is the primary controller of the sail's shape and performance. With the boom on, but no outhaul pulled, discover the downhaul's effect by slowly pulling and releasing the downhaul line a few times. Watch the change in depth and tension of the leading edge (front 1/3 of the sail), and the flattening and loosening of the head and leech area as more downhaul is pulled. Specifically notice the change in the angles, or twist, of the upper battens. The top batten should twist open to leeward the furthest - called “progressive twist”.

5. TUNING THE DOWNHAUL (continued)

Twist is cut into the panel layout and seam shape of the sail, but is ultimately controlled by the downhaul tension. More downhaul induces more twist; less downhaul allows less twist. Twist improves sail efficiency by lowering the center of effort and making the sail easier to control. The head and leech looseness that creates the twist in the sail's shape is a drag-reducing feature that improves the overall aerodynamic efficiency of the sail. Note that it is more significant how far IN from the leech looseness extends, rather than how far DOWN the leech it extends.

The optimum downhaul setting gives a tight luff with a lean entry. The leech area between upper battens should become loose in arced lines from the ends of the battens around the front of the teardrop ends of the mini battens. The front end of the batten above the boom should be at or very near the back edge of the mast.

Use less downhaul to increase foil depth for more power, to tighten the leech for better pumping; and to reduce twist and increase power in the upper part of the sail. Use more downhaul to tighten and flatten the leading edge of the sail, to lower the center of effort and to induce more twist.

Once you're familiar with the correct downhaul setting, re-check the headcap length vs. mast base height. If necessary, readjust these so that the tack pulley sits very close to the mast base cleat, and the amount of mast extending out the top of the mast sleeve is minimized. Never use both mast base extension AND headcap extension – eliminate one and minimize the other.

If needed, use an easy-rig or downhauling crank so that it is easier to make the correct settings.



To ensure that the sail is tuned properly, you must make a judgment upon the wind conditions you are about to use the sail in, and tune the sail according to your size, skill and abilities to handle those conditions.

6. BALANCE THE OUTHAUL SETTING

Release any outhaul tension and allow the sail to relax naturally. For reaching conditions at medium downhaul settings, pull the outhaul a minimum of 2.5 cm (1 inch) from this neutral position. Cleat off the outhaul line. Check the foil depth by pushing on the sail area near the front of the boom or standing it up in the wind. Under pressure, the sail will increase in depth as the battens pull back from the mast. When luffing or without pressure, the sail will flatten.

Less outhaul makes the sail fuller, moves the center of effort (power) further back and creates more power for accelerating and deep reaching. This setting is harder to control when over-powered or sailing upwind. **More** outhaul makes the sail flatter, moves the center of effort (power) further forward and creates a lean, tight foil that is more efficient for upwind sailing or over-powered conditions. Whenever you significantly change downhaul, you will need to adjust the outhaul tension too.

By design, the Retro sails are exceptionally responsive to changes in outhaul settings. Use the outhaul as a throttle control for more or less power. Set the sail fuller with less outhaul for more power. Set the sail flatter with more outhaul for more stability and control in high winds. If you are not using an adjustable outhaul system, you should be. These small outhaul changes can then be made on the fly while sailing to greatly expand the wind range of the sail. Note that having and using an adjustable outhaul system does not replace or negate the importance of proper downhaul tuning. Set the downhaul first to match the wind conditions, and then adjust your outhaul settings.

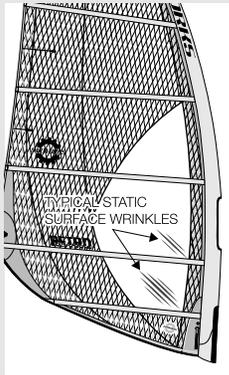
7. TACK STRAP

The tack strap at the foot of the sail should be looped around the lower edge of the mast base. This strap is used to increase the tension that runs along the foot edge of the sail and makes the foot area deeper. The tack strap is particularly useful for improving rig control when very overpowered. In these circumstances, use lots of tension on the tack strap to increase the depth and tension in the lower half of the sail. This increases the disparity of rig tension between the upper and lower sections, effectively increasing sail twist, which improves rig control by lowering the center of effort.



Q

"Why does my Retro have wrinkles in the foot area?"



A

The Retro has some diagonal wrinkles in the foot area that are visible when the sail is static (unloaded). These wrinkles are characteristic of the Retro design and are not indicative of a construction problem or error. The wrinkles emanate from the front end of the lowest foot batten and radiate back and upwards diagonally towards the clew. They are created as by-product of the very deep broadseaming profile and elastic rotation of the foil from static to loaded forms. They are associated with the flexible nature of a semi-rigid three-dimension structure. These wrinkles will diminish under wind pressure as the sail fills out to its maximum depth.

Q

"Why does the draft profile seem to move around a lot?"

A

You need more downhaul to stabilize the sail shape better. Increase the downhaul tension, then use the outhaul to create foil depth for power as required.

Q

"Why is the downhaul difficult to pull?"

A

Make sure your downhaul lines are not crossed through the pulleys, especially the last loop that goes to the cleat. Make sure your line diameter isn't too thick. Use a fresh piece of line. Try using an easy-rig or downhaul crank.

Q

"Why don't my battens rotate very easily?"

A

Check that the battens are not over tensioned, as excessive batten tension will impede rotation. Increase the downhaul tension. Insufficient downhaul impedes batten rotation.

Q

"Why can't I get planing when I feel I should be able to?"

A

Ease the downhaul slightly. Too much downhaul flattens the foil and excessively loosens the leech, which gives you more control in heavy wind, but less power in light wind. Ease the outhaul to deepen the foil shape. Too much outhaul will also flatten the sail and take power away, which is good for high wind control but not for light wind power. Use an adjustable outhaul system to be able to make outhaul adjustments on the fly.



GETTING THE MOST FROM YOUR GEAR

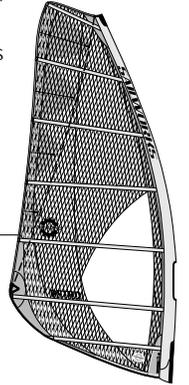
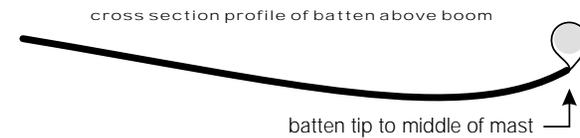
- If it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. A well-tuned rig should be effortless to sail and control. Take the time to explore different settings and make the changes necessary to balance the aerodynamic forces from the sail.
- Once you have found settings (boom length, mast base length, boom height, mast step position, downhaul and outhaul position, harness line position) that feel balanced, record the position of each adjustment so that they are easy to repeat next session. Mark the settings with a waterproof marker right on your equipment.

light wind settings

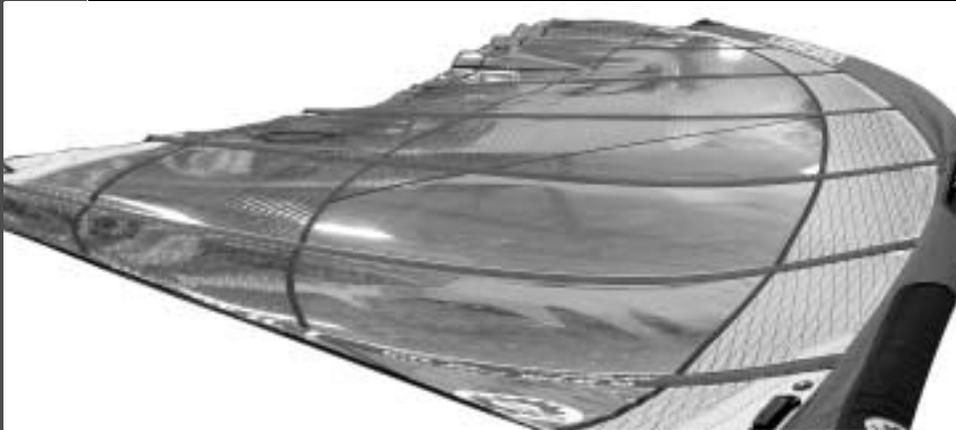


Maximum power in light winds, but unstable and difficult to control when overpowered.

- Downhaul:
- Leech shows looseness along the edge between battens and extends in to the teardrop at the end of the mini battens
 - Batten tip above boom sits beside mast, but never extends past it
 - Deeper foil, less twist
- Outhaul:
- Pull the outhaul about 1-2 cm from neutral position
 - Boom length becomes shorter

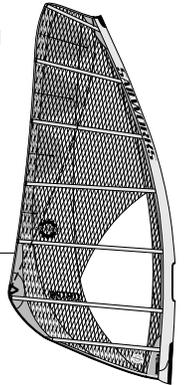
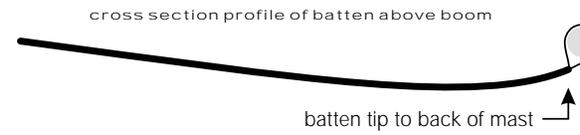


mid-range settings



Good all-round settings for maximum power and control.

- Downhaul:
- Leech shows looseness extending in 5-10 cm (2-4") beyond teardrop at the end of the mini battens
 - Batten tip above boom sits at back edge of mast with slight overlap
 - Lean foil, moderate twist
- Outhaul:
- Pull the outhaul about 2-3 cm from neutral
 - Boom set at medium specified length



high wind settings



Maximum control and stability in high winds, but not powerful in light winds.

- Downhaul:
- Leech shows looseness extending in 15-20 cm (6-8") beyond teardrop at the end of the mini battens
 - Batten tip above boom sits behind mast
 - Flatter foil, more twist
- Outhaul:
- Pull the outhaul about 4 cm from neutral
 - Boom length becomes longer

