

# Small Anchor Riding Sail Kit

#90011A

## Assembly Instructions

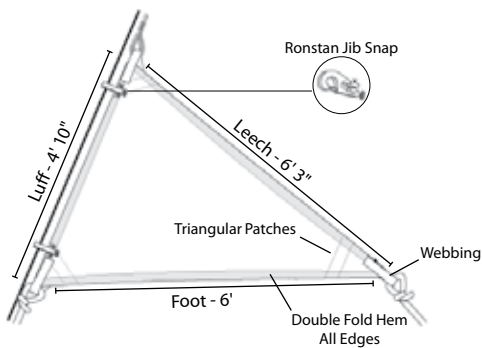
### Materials Needed:

- Top Gun Fabric
- #2 Ronstan Snap Pistons
- Thread
- Seamstick
- Twine
- Hand Sewing Needles
- Tubular Webbing
- Finished Sail Bag

An anchor riding sail keeps your boat pointed in one direction instead of swinging from side to side. Hank it onto the backstay with two Ronstan snaps and sheet it to any handy point forward.

This kit makes a 12.5 sq. ft. sail and uses #2 Ronstan Snaps (suitable for wire to 5/16" diameter) for attachment to the backstay. Effective on boats up to 35 feet. Materials included: Top Gun fabric, #2 Ronstan Snap Pistons, thread, seamstick, twine, hand sewing needle, tubular webbing, finished sail bag, and Sailrite logo.

The fabric provided is a Dacron cover cloth called Top Gun. It comes pre-cut and is remarkably durable and UV and abrasion resistant. The only tools needed are a sewing machine, scissors, and a Phillips head screwdriver.



### Overview

Lay out the triangular sail "blank" and note that there are lines drawn just inside all three edges. The line on the "luff" edge is more than twice as far from the edge (2-1/2 inches) as the other two lines are from their edges (1 inch). The luff edge will run up the backstay, i.e., the aftmost edge of the sail. This may be confusing since most sails present their luff edges forward. Nevertheless, this is the edge of the riding sail that will be stretched tight with a halyard.

There are patch sets stapled to each of the three corners of the sail blank (Figure 1). The primary purpose of these patches is to provide extra bulk and security to the webbing straps that will be sewn in each corner. Stress is better distributed over more area, but it becomes more concentrated as it moves closer to the corners. The extra layers of fabric will help compensate for the extra stress in the corners.



Figure 1

After the patches are secured, the edges will be folded and sewn down using the lines along each edge as a guide. These hems will further reinforce the corners, add strength to the edges, and cover the raw edges of the patches. Patches should be positioned on the side of the sail where they will be covered by hems, a common practice in all sails.

### Installing the Corner Patches

Using the double-sided tape provided, baste the Dacron patches to the corners of the sail one at a time starting with the smallest patch (Figure 3, dotted lines indicate smaller patches underneath larger ones). The patches are stiff enough that gluing only the edges is sufficient (Figure 2).



Figure 2

Sew the patches in place carefully along the inner edges. If using a zigzag stitch, only one row of stitches is necessary. Place the outer part of the zig very near the edge of the patch (Figure 3). If using a straight stitch, two rows of stitches should be placed along the inner edge of each patch, one along the edge and the other from 1/8 to 1/4 inch inside. Regardless of what stitch is used, stitch length should be 3/16 inch (Figure 3).



Figure 3

### Sewing the Hems Along the Edges

Carefully fold the edges over twice and on top of the corner patches. The first fold should be TO the line on the fabric, and the second fold should be ON the line itself. The result will be a 1-1/4 inch hem on the luff edge and 1/2 inch hems on the other two edges.

For the narrow hems (not the luff edge), run a strip of basting tape along the inside of the line (toward the center of the sail). Leave the paper backing in place for the first fold. Then make the second fold (on the line) and peel off the paper backing of the tape while creasing the fold to hold in place. Use a stapler if necessary to hold everything until it can be sewn.

Run a row of zigzag stitches (two rows if straight stitch) along the narrow hems with the folded edge facing down as it goes through the machine. Most machines (not the Sailrite Ultrafeed walking foot machines) will pull fabric only from the bottom. If the folded edge is facing up, it will tend to get pushed forward by the sliding presser foot creating a bubble of cloth along the edge of the sail. When the fold is down, the feed dog tends to pull the edge tight as it is sewn resulting in a smoother edge (Figure 4).



Figure 4

The wide hem along the luff of the sail is handled with a slightly different technique. Put a strip of basting tape along the outer edge of the line. Peel back the paper while folding the edge over to the line. Place a row (or two if straight) of stitches along the inner edge of the folded edge. As before, keep the folded edge down as it goes through the machine, feeling for the edge to keep the stitch row properly positioned.

Repeat this process with the second fold. Place a strip of basting tape along the outer edge of the folded hem. Peel the paper from this tape while folding the hem over on the line. Crease it well and staple if necessary. Once again, run a row (or two if straight) of stitches with the folded edge down as it goes through the machine. Remove all staples as they will cause rust stains on the fabric.

#### Webbing Loop Installation

Use a 9-inch length of tubular webbing to create attachment points at each of the three corners of the sail. If the ends of the webbing are not sealed, seal with a soldering iron, wood burning tool, or candle flame if possible. Fold the webbing in half along its length and mark the webbing 1 inch from the fold on both sides.

Sandwich it over the corners of the sail so that one leg of the webbing runs along one edge of the sail and the other leg along the other edge (Figure 5). This reduces the number of layers that need sewn together at one time. Place the marks (on the webbing) at the corner of the sail to create a loop (Figure 5). Use basting tape (and staples if necessary) to hold in place before sewing. The pattern of stitches

is not important but be sure to sew each leg of webbing securely in place. If the sewing machine balks at sewing the webbing, use the hand needle and waxed twine included in the kit to hand stitch it in place.



Figure 5

#### Snap Installation

Ronstan Jib snaps are installed along the luff to secure the sail to the backstay. Place a snap near each luff corner about 4 to 6 inches inside the webbing. The snaps come with self-taping stainless steel screws. Press through the cloth of the sail (create a small pilot hole with an ice pick or awl if needed) and draw up tightly enough to eliminate the need for additional reinforcement. It is normal to position the snaps so that they open with the right hand which can be helpful if working in the dark.

The Sailrite logo should be sewn in place.



Figure 6



Finished Anchor Sail

#### Rigging the Sail Properly Makes All the Difference

Hoist the sail on the boat's backstay. If the backstay is split, it is perfectly fine to hoist the sail on the "windward" leg of the backstay. Then sheet the sail forward to the side of the boat so that it is actually sailing the boat to one side of the anchor rode. Do not set the sail right down the center of the boat.



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