

## Tiller Cover Instructions



Measure the length of the boat's tiller. The Sunbrella fabric included has pattern lines marked to build a finished tiller cover 36", 48", or 55". Choose the pattern closest to the boat's tiller length (See drawing above. Note that 2 1/2-inches has been added to each of these measurements for seams and hems).

*If you wish to further customize the cover's length, be sure to allow for the hems and seams by adding 2 1/2-inches to the finished length desired.*

Cut out the tiller cover. This can be done with an ordinary pair of scissors since all edges will be hemmed. Even so, if possible use a hotknife (a soldering iron or a wood-burning tool will work) to seal the cut edges of the fabric and keep it from raveling.

Now fold over the two truncated top corners. Fold each corner over 1/4-inch and then again 1/4-inch. Sew this hem in place with a medium length straight stitch along the inner edge. Be sure to reverse the sewing machine to lock the stitches at the beginning and end of each pass (See Figure 1).

The wide end of the fabric piece (the one with the truncated corners) will be the draw string closure end of the tiller cover. To create the hem for the draw string fold that edge over 1/2-inch and place a straight stitch 1/4-inch inside the hem crease (See Figure 2).

Now fold the edge over again but this time 1 1/2-inches. Place the drawstring (leechline) into this hem and sew the hem in place 1/8-inch inside the inner edge. (See Figure 3).

*Be sure to fold the hems to the same side as the corner hems as shown in Figures 2 & 3. Remember to lock the stitches at the beginning and end of each pass.*

### Included in this Kit:

- Sunbrella fabric
- 2 V-69 thread bobbins
- A barrel lock closure
- Leechline
- Dacron sail tape



Self-Reliance Under Sail

Place one thread bobbin on the machine's thread post and use the other in the bobbin (*if it does not fit in the bobbin, remove some of the thread until it does or wind your own*).

If working on a home sewing machine, use a #16 needle. If using an Ultrafeed machine use a #18 or #20 needle.

To construct this cover a medium length straight stitch is recommended.



Figure 1

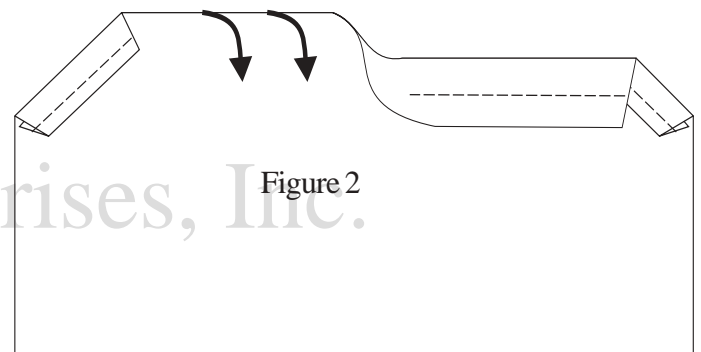


Figure 2

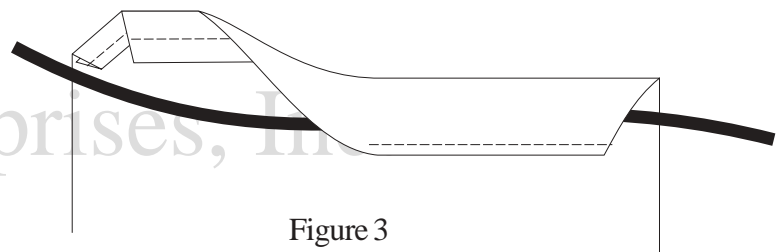


Figure 3

At the opposite end of the cover, the forward end, sew a single layer of the Dacron® reinforcement tape. Cut the Dacron to match the patterned curves. **Put the Dacron on the side without hems** (Figure 4) and sew around all edges of the Dacron to secure it in place. When the tiller cover is complete, the hem will be on the outside of the cover.

Now fold the tiller cover in half lengthwise (with the drawstring and hems inside). Sew with straight stitches 3/8-inch inside the raw edges of the fabric (Figure 5). Reverse the sewing machine to lock the

stitching at all three corners of the tiller cover. For extra reinforcement it is wise to sew another pass of stitching just outside the first.

Turn the tiller cover right side out and thread the drawstring ends into the barrel lock fitting. Once through, knot each drawstring end to keep it from pulling back through. Slide the cover over the tiller and tighten the drawstring with the barrel lock.

Congratulations, the cover is complete and will protect the tiller's bright-work for years to come.

