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SAIL & CANVAS

Tie-In Catamaran Batten Installation Guide

Battens are flexible rods that are inserted into pockets in your sail to form a foil shape, making your sail more durable and efficient.

This guide is set up to help you install battens if you've bought a new sail with battens from SLO Sail and Canvas. These concepts can also be used to help you with other batten installations.

Tools

Knife

Lighter

Materials

RBS Batten Set

Polyester Leech Line (included with sail/batten set) approx. 3/32" diameter

Step 1

Remove the battens from packaging and sort the battens by number. Numbering starts at the head (top) of your sail and ends at the lowest batten near the foot (bottom) of your sail.



Figure 1 – Arranging battens by number

Step 2

Unroll your sail and lay flat on a clean surface.

Step 3

Each batten will be tied into the batten pocket with a 24" piece of Polyester Leech line. If your cutting your own: use a hot knife for best results or cut leech line with any knife and burn ends to prevent fraying.

Step 4

Using a Bowline knot, tie one leech line to the bottom grommet of each batten pocket. Do not tie off thru the upper grommet, just the bottom grommet. See figure 2.

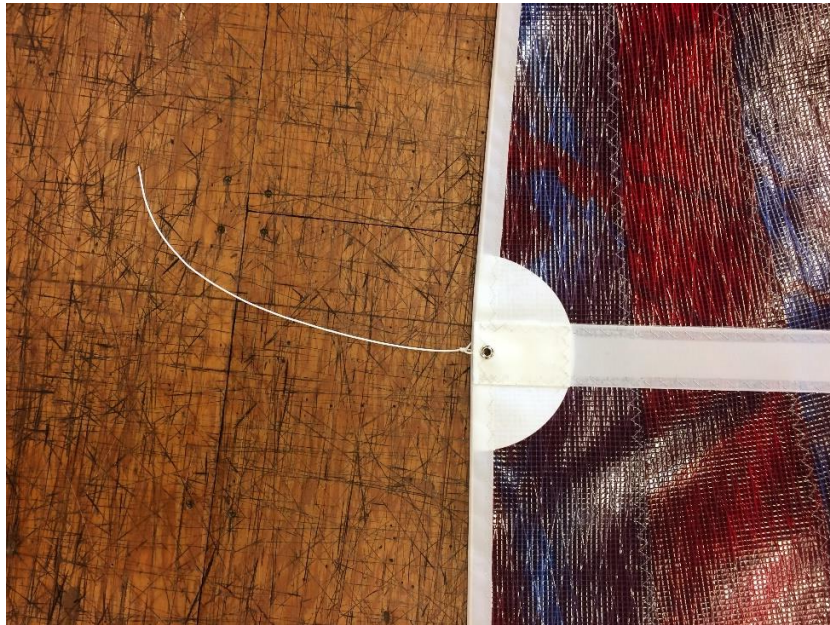


Figure 2 – Tie Leech line to bottom grommet

Step 5

Slide each numbered batten into the correct batten pocket. Each battens' end with drilled holes will extend a few inches outside the leech (back) of sail. *Make sure that all battens are fully inserted into the batten protector at the luff of the sail.* See figure 3.

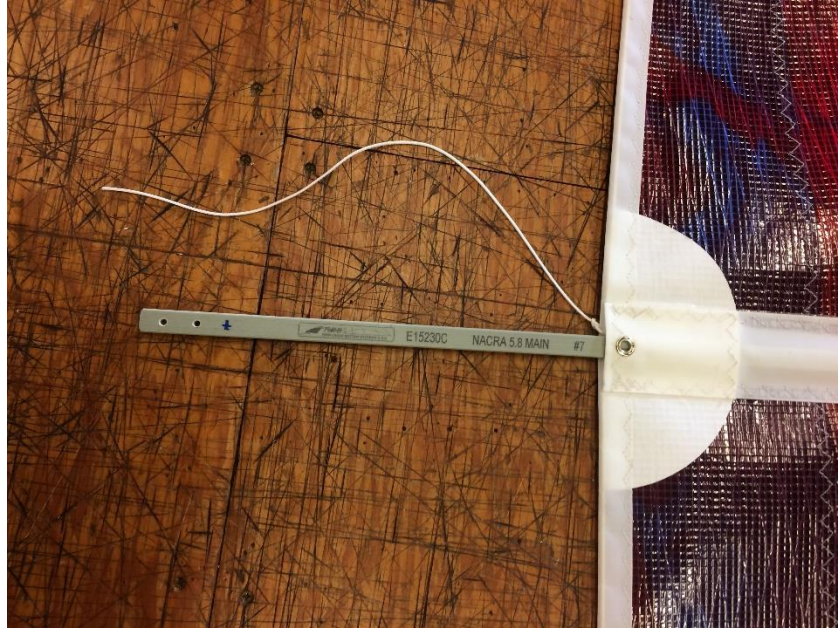


Figure 3 – Insert batten into pocket

Step 6

Feed the loose end of leech line from the bottom grommet, up thru the closest drilled hole then up thru the top grommet, down thru the outer drilled hole, up thru the bottom grommet, then back up thru the outer drilled hole (as shown) in the batten and pull to desired tension. See step 8 for more details on tension. See figure 4.

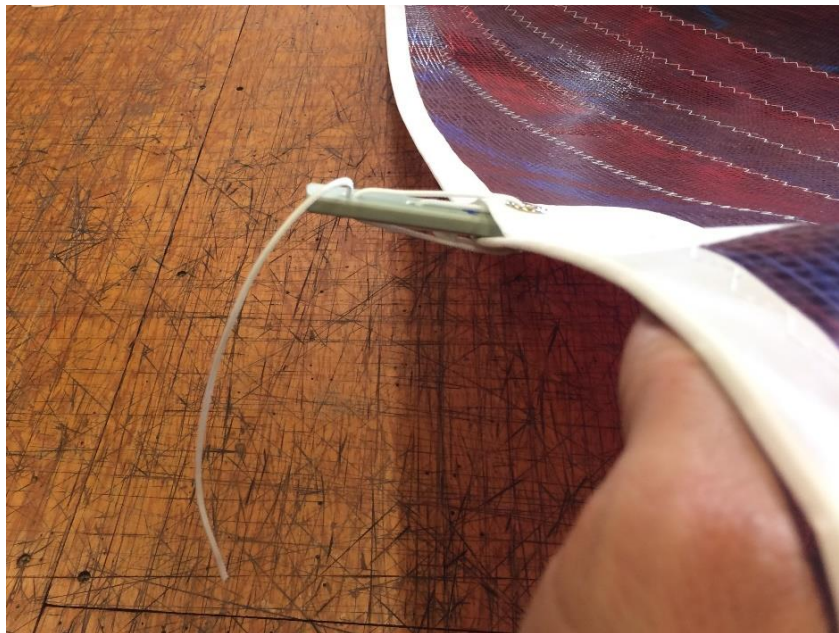


Figure 4 – How to feed leech line thru drilled holes in batten

Step 7

Tie three half hitch knots around the two Leech Line segments (that are above the batten) to preserve the batten's tension in the batten pocket. See figures 5-6.



Figure 5- Tie a knot to keep leech line tight



Figure 6 – Double and triple the leech line knot

Step 8

Double check each batten to ensure full insertion into the very front of each batten pocket towards the luff (front) of the sail. Double check that each batten is properly compressed (until the sail's wrinkles are gone) and triple knotted in place. Tuck tail of leech line into batten pocket. See figure 7.



Figure 7 – Correct installation of a batten

Note:

You may need to remove the top batten to roll and store certain square top sails. See figure 8.



Figure 8 – Remove top batten to roll sail