Mainsail Measurement Form

Ver: 2025.01

Boat Name:	
Sail No.:	
Class/Model:	
Owner:	
Sail Desc.:	
Sail ID No.:	
Data Entry Units:	**Meters** (●) **Feet** (○)
Loft:	
Measurer Name:	
Date:	
Signature:	
Notes:	

		Meters	Feet
Top Width	**MHB**		
Upper Width (7/8)	**MUW**		
Three Quarter Width (3/4)	**MTW**		
Half Width (1/2)	**MHW**		
Quarter Width (1/4)	**MQW**		
Weight (not req'd)	kg/lbs		
Area - ORR & EZ			
Area - ORC			
Rated P			
Rated E			

Sail plotted below from input data.

Extreme square top sails may not plot correctly.

Sail shape is approximate.
Area calculated when rated P and E entered along with all sail dimensions.

How to Measure a Mainsail

Remove the battens and lay the sail flat. All measurements are taken in a straight line. The sail should only be stretched enough to remove any wrinkles that cross the measurement line. Wrinkles parallel to the measurement line are okay.

When measuring to a rounded or notched corner of a sail, the measurement point is the intersection of the projected sail edges.

P & E MEASUREMENTS
These measurements are taken from the boat's rig.
P is the distance from the top of the level boom to the bottom of the contrasting band at the top of the mast.
E is the distance from the aft face of the mast to the forward edge of the contrasting band on the level boom.
The leech, luff and foot lengths are not directly measured on a mainsail.

HEAD POINT
The Head Point is the intersection of a line from the highest point on the sail, drawn perpendicular to the luff. The luff is the forward extent of the sail, including the bolt rope. The Head Point is always in line with the luff. This is important when folding the sail.

HEAD WIDTH - MHB
If the sail has a headboard or square top, measure MHB as the distance from the Head Point to the aftmost point on the top edge.
If the sail has a grommet or eye at the head, measure MHB from the Head Point, perpendicular to the luff, to the intersection of the leech projection.

Exception to above: If any part of a batten pocket falls above the Upper (7/8) leech point, then the leech projection shall be drawn from the 7/8 leech point, up through the tip of the aftmost batten pocket, to the intersection with a line level with the Head Point, perpendicular to the luff. This intersection shall determine MHB.

SAIL WIDTHS – MUW, MTW, MHW, MQW
The width measurements are taken from each leech point as the shortest perpendicular distance to the luff. Swing the tape measure in an arc over the luff to find the shortest distance.

Find the leech points by folding the sail as follows:
1) Fold the Head Point (at the luff) down to the Clew Point. Mark the leech fold as the Half (1/2) leech point. Carefully keep this fold in place for the next step.
2) Fold the Head Point back up to the 1/2 leech point. Mark the leech fold as the Three-Quarter (3/4) leech point and mark where the fold of the sail crosses the lower leech as the Quarter (1/4) leech point.
3) Finally, fold the Head Point down to 3/4 leech point and mark the leech fold as the Upper (7/8) leech point.

SQUARE TOP MAINS
An extreme square top sail may cause the 7/8 leech fold point to fall above the top of the leech (i.e., on the square head). In this case, MUW shall be taken as equal to MHB.

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