



Capri 22 Tuning Guide

Forestay

In order to achieve winning results, your boat must have the rig properly setup and tuned. First, it is important to set the forestay turnbuckle to the desired length of 25'6". This will leave enough thread showing on the turnbuckle to allow a ring-ding to be placed in the holes on the ends of the threaded screw post. If your boat has a wing keel, you should have zero rake. The best way to determine the rake you have is to hang a 3lb weight off the main halyard to the boom gooseneck. Step off the boat and sight the distance off of your black band at the boom. This should be about 4.5" for a standard keel boat and just touching for a wing keel boat. In order to get an accurate measurement, the best time to do this is when there is little or no wind.

Upper Shrouds

After you set the forestay at the desired length, the next step is to tension the upper shrouds. Before you begin, attach a 50' tape measure to the main halyard shackle and hoist to the top of the mast. Using the tape measure, measure from the top of the mast to the chain plate on both sides of the boat, making sure that the mast measures the same length on both sides. Now you can tighten the upper shrouds. Start by tightening one side three or four turns, and then tighten the other side three to four turns. It is very important that the mast is exactly even on both sides, so keep checking your tape measurement.

Using a Loos Model A tension gauge, set the shroud tension so the gauge reads between 30 and 32. Sighting up the back of the mast, you will notice the mast will have 2" of pre-bend when the upper shrouds are at the proper tension. After the upper shrouds have been set, place the ring-dings back in their proper holes, then wrap with rigging tape to prevent any sail damage or bodily injury. If you think you will experience a heavy air day and you have the uppers set at 30, take a couple extra turns on the upper shrouds to prevent the mast from bending to leeward when the upper shrouds load up and stretch. If you are tuning a new boat or a new set of standing rigging, remember the wire will stretch some. After a day or two of sailing, you should re-measure your tuning setup.

Lower Shrouds

After tightening the upper shrouds, the next step is to set the tension on the lowers. First, tighten the lower shrouds to take the slack out of them. Then hoist the mainsail and pull on the backstay to the point you would set it at in moderate wind. It is best to fine tune the lower shrouds while sailing. The primary function of the lower shrouds is to control the amount of bend in the lower part of the mast. If the lower shrouds are too loose, a large over-bend wrinkle will develop across the mainsail from the clew to about 4 feet above the boom on the luff. The more you bend the mast with the backstay, the more noticeable the wrinkle will become. If you have this wrinkle, tighten the leeward lower shroud, tack, and look at it again. Then adjust the other side to get the same result. The goal is to get 1.5" of bend in the mast and have it straight side to side. On the Loos Model-A tension gauge, the lower shroud tension should be around 5. When you finish sailing, be sure to sight the rig and make sure things have stayed straight. We recommend having 1.5" of prebend in all conditions.