

# Mast Stiffness Measuring

When ordering a new mainsail, you'll need to give the sail maker the mast stiffness numbers. You'll end up with a number taken at the spreaders and another taken at the spinnaker halyard box. The distances are from those points up to a string drawn taut along the length of the mast.

- Position mast so that the mast track is facing down.
- Mast should be rigged, with halyards on spin ring, halyards and shrouds taped to mast
- Put mast on sawhorses, one sawhorse at top black band, the other just below the vang attachment
- Put a taut string between the black bands. Mast will sag beneath the string.
- Measure from the string to the mast in two locations—at the spreaders and at the spinnaker halyard exit box. Give those two numbers to the sail maker.

Some reference points:

Stiff masts will run around  $1 \frac{5}{16}$ " at the spreaders and  $1$ " to  $\frac{7}{8}$ " at the spin halyard box

Softer masts will run between  $1 \frac{3}{4}$ " to  $2$ " at the spreaders and  $1 \frac{3}{8}$ " to  $1 \frac{1}{2}$ " at the spin halyard box