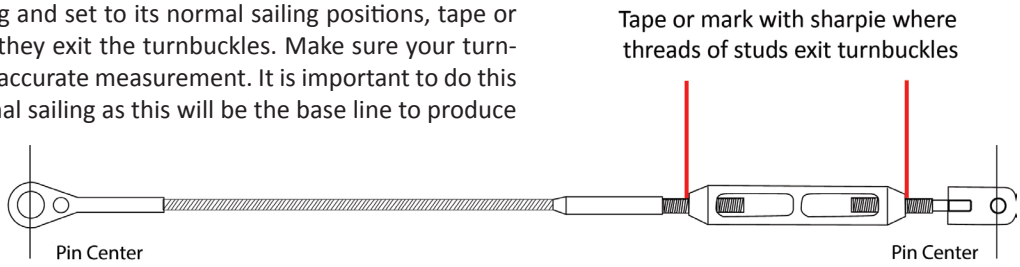
How to Measure Standing Rigging

1. With the mast and rigging still standing and set to its normal sailing positions, tape or mark all the threads of the studs where they exit the turnbuckles. Make sure your turnbuckle is centered between the studs for accurate measurement. It is important to do this while the mast is still up and set for normal sailing as this will be the base line to produce your new rigging.



2. Label all wire segments indicating their position. For example, port upper shroud (fig 3) or forestay (fig 1). See rigging diagram labeled Continuous Rigging on page 5.

3. Unstep the mast and remove the rigging from the boat.

4. At this point many of our customers choose to ship their rigging to our shop in Miami Florida where we will duplicate it exactly. This is our highest recommendation to make sure your rig fits properly. If you would like to measure your rigging yourself proceed to step 5.

5. Find a flat surface large enough that you can fully stretch your rigging out for measurement.

6. Lay out the wire and attach one end of your wire segment to a secure fixed point. You can use a large nail or screw on the dock.

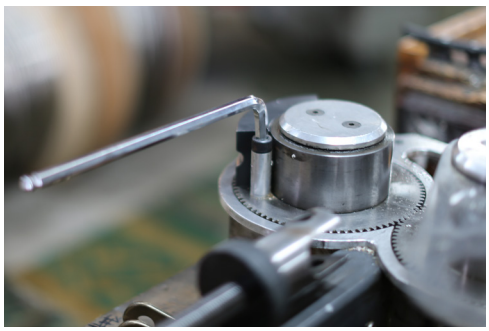
7. "Stretch" the wire straight and ensure there are no bends in the wire. You may need to apply pressure to "stretch" the wire straight, you may find it helpful to use a line or block and tackle.

   If your rigging terminal contains a pin remove the pin and use this as your attachment point. This also serves as your pin center measuring point.

8. Using a fiberglass or steel tape measure, measure the distance from pin-center to pin-center or bearing point to bearing point as applicable. It is important to use a tape measure under tension and that does not stretch.

9. Record your measurements in our handy Standing Rigging Order Form or email your specifications to us at sales@sailingservices.com. We will review your specifications and send you a bid for your rigging project.

We highly recommend you hire a professional rigger if you are not familiar with this process. We do support educated do-it-yourself sailors if you are confident and understand the rigging process. Many of our do-it-yourself customers with continuous rigs order their rigging with a swaged terminal at the top of the mast and a Sta-Lok or Hi-Mod mechanical fitting for the bottom so they can fit the rigging on site. Please feel free to contact us with any questions; our highly experienced staff is here to help. Please contact us before you take your rig down to ensure your measurements are taken properly.



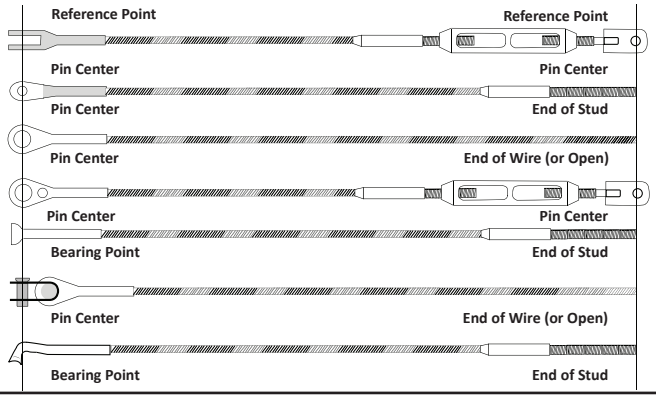
Standing rigging has been our specialty for over 40 years. We use only Type 316 stainless steel wire and fittings to ensure a strong, reliable, and aesthetic termination.

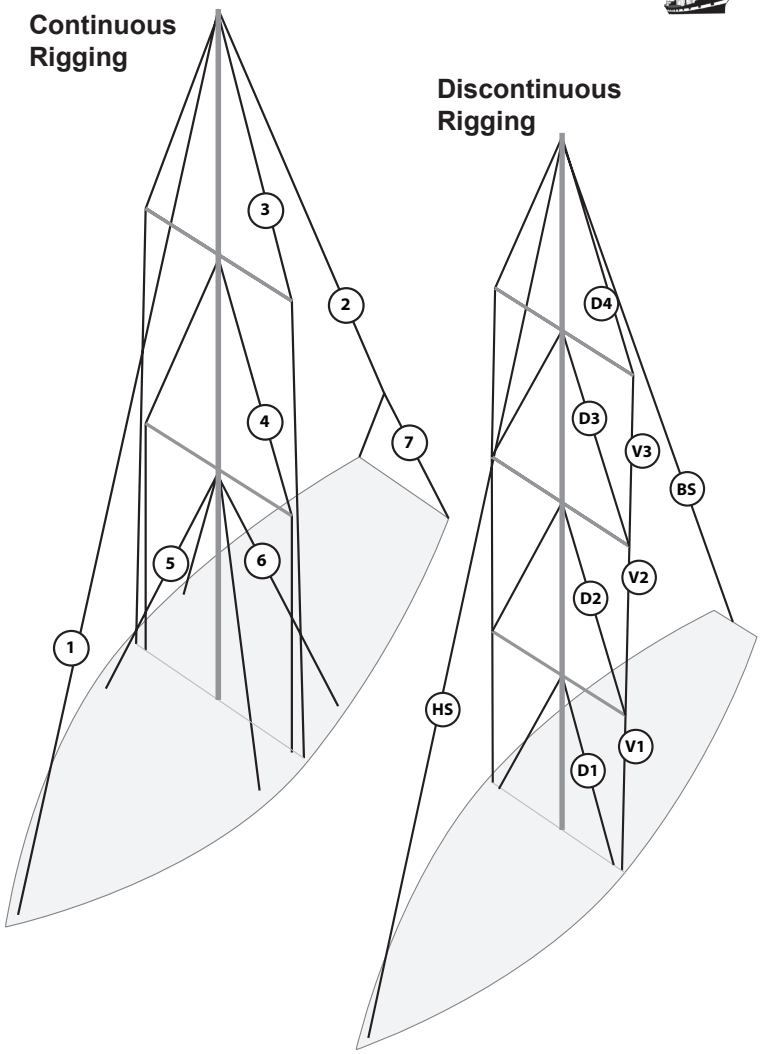
Continuous rigging is more common on older and more traditionally rigged boats, while newer boats and performance oriented sailboats more often have discontinuous rigging. As the names imply, continuous rigging is made up of single pieces of wire that run from the top of the rig to the boat, while discontinuous rigging is made up of shorter sections of wire that connect to each other at the spreader tips.

Two ways to replace your rigging:

1. Remove the rigging from your boat and ship it to us. We will duplicate it exactly and ship the new rigging to you.
2. Use our handy measurement form, found below.

When measuring rigging, the convention is to measure from pin-center to pin-center or from bearing point to bearing point. See other options below. When measuring rigging with turnbuckles, be sure they are adjusted to their previous "set" position.





Location	Qty	Wire Dia.	Upper Terminal Type & Pin Dia.	Lower Terminal Type & Pin Dia.	Turnbuckle	Distance between reference points