

## CATALINA 42 MAST TUNING

To optimize performance and minimize the chance of mast failure your mast should be tuned properly.

First, set mast at 0° rake to ensure proper performance of the raked spreaders. Increasing rake will allow the spreaders to fall aft of the chain plates & neutralize their proper function.

Determine rake by hanging a weight from the main halyard and adjust the headstay turnbuckle so that the weight falls just to the aft edge of the mast.

Make sure the boat is level and there is no bend in the mast.

You have a keel stepped mast with mast wedges; the wedges should be positioned after adjusting the rake.

Then tighten the backstay to give a slight aft bend in the mast (1" - 2"). Next, the shrouds should be adjusted. Using a tape measure, measure the distance from the first spreaders to the starboard and port chain plates. Tighten or loosen the lower shrouds at the turnbuckles until the distances are equal and the mast is straight. The intermediate or upper shrouds should be adjusted next and slightly less tight than the lower shrouds. Check for mast straightness by sighting up the sail track and adjust the shroud turnbuckles accordingly. The shrouds should be fine tuned while sailing to weather in a moderate breeze. Always adjust the shrouds starting with the lowers and progressing up and be sure to check for mast straightness on both tacks. It is normal for the leeward shrouds to slacken slightly.