

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

FLEXIBLE RUB RAIL

Removal of Old Rub Rail and Hull Preparation

- 1) Remove the end caps.
- 2) Remove the insert and the stiffening strip if there is one.
- 3) Remove the screws or rivets that attach the rub rail to the hull. If the rub rail is fastened with pop rivets, drill out the rivet head and push the shaft in, to prevent rattling.
- 4) Remove the rub rail.
- 5) Use a putty knife to scrape off any old sealant, being careful not to scratch the gelcoat (it is unnecessary to remove all the old sealant, just the excess).
- 6) Fill all holes with sealant/3M 5200 (you will be drilling new holes for the new rub rail).
- 7) Let the sealant cure according to the manufacturers suggestions.

Flexible Vinyl Rub Rail Installation

Flexible Rub Rail kits are available in 50' and 70' kits and include the rub rail, insert, truss head or oval head screws and end caps.

- 1) Place masking tape above or below where the rub rail will go. Mark where the new holes are going to be located. Be sure to avoid the old filled holes. Space the holes a maximum of 6" apart. **Note: this should be the first step in all rub rail installations.**
- 2) Mark the midpoint of the rub rail with a piece of tape and soak the flexible rub rail in a tub of hot water (maximum 120°F) or outside in the sun on the grass or pavement. Avoid sliding or dragging the rub rail on the pavement, as it will scratch. Either process should take at least 20 minutes to properly heat the rub rail.
- 3) While it is warm, lay out the rub rail (following the gunwale of the boat) with the mark at the bow.
- 4) Drill 2 holes through the rub rail about 2" apart on one side of the bow and install the truss-head screws. Use silicone on the threads to create a water tight seal. **Note: review Taco Pro Tips for further instructions on installing screws.**
- 5) With the two fasteners installed at the bow, go to the stern and stretch the rub rail by pulling it from the bow, towards the stern. Drill and install two screws at the stern position (this must be done while the rub rail remains warm and pliable).
- 6) Quickly do the same stretching and fastening procedure on the opposite side.
- 7) Install the rub rail along the transom and install a screw 1" back from the center line. Trim off the excess. Repeat the process on the other side (use a heatgun to bend on tight corners).
- 8) Go back to the bow and begin drilling the holes according to the marks you made on the masking tape. Put silicone on the threads and install the screws.
- 9) Repeat the process until the entire rub rail has been installed.
- 10) To install the insert and end caps, see the following sections in this brochure.

Flexible Vinyl Insert Installation

Install inserts beginning either at an end cap or at the transom.

- 1) Using a heat gun, heat approximately 3' of insert until it compresses with a pinch.
- 2) Flatten the insert between your fingers and insert it into the rub rail until the heated section has been installed.
- 3) Repeat in maximum 3' increments until the entire insert has been installed.

End Cap Installation

There are two types of end caps.

- 1) In-line end caps are installed on the same surface as the rub rail.
- 2) Corner end caps are used when a rub rail ends at the transom. Corner end caps are installed on the transom with the cap extending out the side to cap the rub rail.



Step 1



Step 2



Step 4



Step 3



Step 5



Step 6

Tools Needed

- 1) Tape measure
- 2) Variable speed, reversible drill with appropriate drill bits for removal and installation
- 3) Putty knife
- 4) A tub or bucket of hot water
- 5) Garden pruning shears



Step 4



Step 5



Step 8

TACO PRO TIPS:

To ensure a straight and consistent installation when installing flexible vinyl rub rail, it is best to stretch the rub rail during the installation process. Two people make this job much easier!

With flexible vinyl rub rail, the opening for the insert and fasteners may be narrower than the screw head. During installation, have something handy that can spread the opening until the screw head has passed the front opening.

Use caution - the drill chuck can damage the rub rail if it touches during drilling of the holes.

To avoid insert shrinkage, always screw down each end of flexible insert. The screws will be hidden from view once you install the end caps.

