

FITTING SLOT GASKET (MYLAR)

Slot Gasket - What is it?

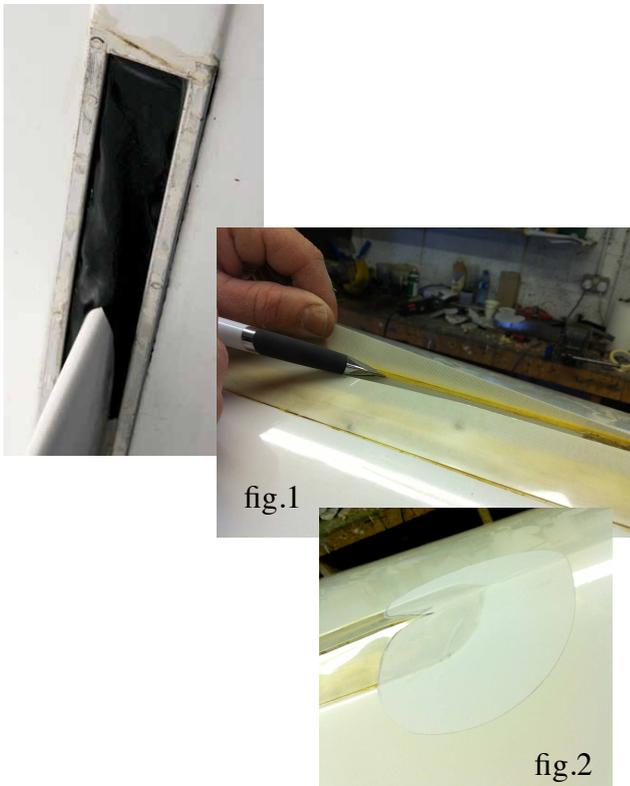
Slot gasket is made from a laminate of Polyester film and Dacron sailcloth.

It possesses rigidity, flexibility and tear resistance making it a perfect to cover your centreboard or daggerboard slot. Its purpose is to keep water out whilst allowing your centreboard or daggerboard to pass through it.

Slot gasket can also be used for transom flaps and for rudder or keel fairings on yachts.

You will need to decide whether to fit a complete piece covering the whole slot and cut a centre slit down the middle, or whether you want two separate strips (one on either side) that overlap by about 1cm.

Most boat builders fit the slot gasket from new using epoxy or Sikaflex compounds. If you are fitting your replacement yourself, use a contact adhesive.



Slot Gasket - How to fit Mylar Slot Gasket

1. Remove all traces of the old gasket and any old glue. This is best achieved by using a sharp chisel. You may also wish to use glue softener to avoid damage to your hull.

2. Lay the slot gasket in position and draw the shape required to fill the centreboard recess, keeping the shiny side to the outside.
3. Cut out the shape on the slot gasket and ensure it is a good fit.
4. Put masking tape around the centreboard slot to ensure that you don't get glue on the hull of your boat.
5. Ensure the surface of the hull that is to be glued is dry and free from dust.
6. Mark the slot down the middle of the gasket. It should be about 25mm longer than needed at both ends.
7. Cut the slot in the gasket with a sharp knife - please be careful!
8. Lay the gasket upside down on a board and pin it down at each end.
9. Apply a coat of contact adhesive to the boat and to the gasket, making sure that corners and outer edges of the gasket are covered. Leave a 10-15mm area on the inside edge dry (see fig.1) to allow flexibility without tearing the gasket off.
10. Wait until both surfaces are dry to touch. Remove the pins from the slot gasket and attach one end to the boat.
11. Apply plenty of pressure and work slowly to the other end and push the gasket firmly into place.
12. When you are happy with its position, go over it with a small roller to ensure good contact.
13. Apply tape to the edges to ensure it stays down firmly whilst it dries. You could also use a dacron disc on fore and aft end of the gasket to prevent peeling of the gasket edge (see fig.1)
14. Leave for 12 hours to cure before removing the tape.

If using 2 separate strips (one on either side) omit instructions 6 and 7 above.

Please note that these instructions only apply to Mylar and not slot gaskets made from sail cloth.