ZIPPERS, SNAPS AND HARDWARE - CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Snaps, zippers and fittings will freeze up if they're exposed to dirt or salt air for long periods. The salt from spray or splashes will work its merry way into these simple devices, causing them to jam at inconvenient moments.

Zippers – Care an maintenance

1. When zippers are new they can be a little difficult to zip. Zip carefully without forcing, they will loosen with use

2. To reduce strain on the zipper, always use two hands when pulling on the zip slide. Zippers may be damaged if they are placed under excess stress.

3. The most vulnerable part of the zipper is the start. Use care when starting zippers.

4. If zippers stick, lubricate with silicon. Never force a zipper that has material caught in it, as this will bend the slider and prevent the zipper from closing.

5. Continual use in a sandy environment can cause the slider to erode and fail to close the zipper.

6. Lubricate zippers periodically using a clear silicone spray. Spray silicone on to the zipper and work the zipper back and forth. A zipper lubricant such as Zip Tech™ or Max Wax™ may be used to help new zippers as well as for maintaining long, trouble-free service.

7. Avoid spraying waterproof coating on zippers, as this will prevent zippers from operating properly.

Snaps and Hardware – Care and maintenance

1. Never remove canvas by pulling roughly on one edge of the material.

2. If the snaps become difficult to unsnap, the most common recommendation is to rub candle wax or paraffin around the stud or inside the socket. The hard action can also be lowered by many lubricants, such as oil, wax-based lip balm or silicone sprays. **Whichever method is used, care must be taken that the lubricant does not stain the canvas or other surfaces it may contact.**

3. Lubricate fasteners periodically using a clear silicone spray to keep corrosion to a minimum.

4. Replace any missing fasteners or fasteners that show signs of corrosion.

5. Do not use petroleum based products; i.e. petroleum jelly.

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